

COUNCIL MEETING

January 11, 2018

CALLED TO ORDER: Sue at 5:32

PRESENT: Sue, Duane, Jon, Dave, Lynn, Pastor Mary Fiel, Beth, Linda
5:36 Stacy, Jason.

There were no non-council members present.

AGENDA: Add- Duane's resignation from the council. Pastor Mary Fiel has a service project to discuss it will be held during Lent. Canceling church service. Duane has information about camera.

Motion made to except agenda with additions as noted above Jon/Lynn MSC.

PROPERTY: Dave reported that the patch that was put on the gutter by the entrance stairs is not holding. The gutter will have to be replaced in the spring. Small plastic chairs have been placed in that area to alert people that the sidewalk and stairs might be icy.

Duane stated that he had some information regarding a camera to be used during church service. Linda stated Lynn would have further information on it in her Worship Team report tonight.

Sue reported that she had taken the vacuum to be repaired and it should be returned soon. She thinks that the warranty will continue to be good until 2021.

Snow shoveling – Beth called people on the T&T sheets and no one wanted to be the organizer of that activity.

Jon mentioned that in the past people have signed up week by week. Beth stated that she will make a sign-up sheet.

Harold is still doing plowing and Gene Byant checks to see if he needs to help with that.

Church sign – Beth contacted Sign Pro about an overlay. Currently the sign in the front is in need of much repair.

The quote was not ready yet.

The sign in the back is in good condition.

Picture board – Jean Johnson had not responded to message left by Beth. Beth spoke to one of her friends who might be able to do Pastor Mary Fiel's picture. Beth will check into that further. Need to decide how much the church would pay to do that picture.

Picture directory – it might be possible to do an online directory for a monthly charge of about \$20. It would be easy to update the information on that and it would be more accessible. People would be able to put their own pictures on it when there are changes in their family.

If we do a paper directory we could maybe use photos that congregational members send in rather than hiring a professional photographer.

CYFM- Linda read the written report.

WORSHIP TEAM- Lynn read written report. She discussed the possibility of using a smart phone connected to the projector to enable the congregation to view the children during the children's message. Sue Coady had emailed Christie the pertinent information. Christie and Joel will be working on this.

SECRETARY 'S REPORT- Motion to accept the report as printed Duane/Beth MSC.

No correspondence

TREASURER'S REPORT

December report not available.

PASTOR'S REPORT- Pastor Mary gave a verbal report. Council members had received an email report.

No one came for the 1 o'clock Wednesday Advent service so there will be none scheduled at that time during Lent. Bethesda will be one of the sites for the Carlton County homeless count. It is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24 and supper will be provided through CYFed.

Pastor is still working on frequency of home visits. She is going through the list that she had been given and trying to update it.

OLD BUSINESS:

Treasurer's position- we are still waiting to hear back from the lady that Sue Coady talked to about taking the

position. Sue Coady's last day as our church treasurer will be January 31, 2018.

Pastor Mary asked if she should speak to the Synod as to how they might be able to help us. The council replied "Yes".

There is a \$2009 stipend per year for that position which may not be enticing enough to some people.

Jason stated he has a friend who does bookkeeping but she is not a member of our congregation.

Sue stated that the Synod had replied to her regarding how to change the constitution to allow a non-member of the congregation to be in that position. She will give us that information under new business.

Financial Secretary's position-besides recording incoming money this person also does a quarterly report to church members as to what they have contributed. Sarah Carpenter has decided not to take the position. Sue Coady thinks she may have someone else interested in doing that job.

Lynn questioned who will now take care of our computer issues since Sue Coady has been doing this. We may need to contract Sue Coady or another company.

Proposed budget for 2018 – including interest from investments

Last year we spent only about \$600 more than the budget.

Sue discussed that the proposed 2018 budget was decided basically according to the spending last year. Income from envelope giving and loose collection was up probably because attendance was up.

Interest from investments – the question is should we continue to take this as income throughout the year?-look at this later.

Pastor's salary - increase on January 1, 2018 per Synod guidelines. Sue Coady had stated that in the past the increase was always done at the beginning of the year not according to when the pastor's contract was up.

Housing and pension – this is a specific percentage of the salary.

Pastor's mileage and Continuing Ed (CE) were increased due to the needs of a first call Pastor.

Pastor's mileage- not from her home to here but rather for her to go from the church to various meetings and visitation.

Office secretary – increased \$.25 per hour

Treasurer and Financial secretary- May need to actually pay more to fill these positions but will leave it at this amount at this time.

Administration – postage

Stacy asked of this included the newsletter and she was told that it does. She then wondered if membership once again be asked about getting it electronically as this would save some postage paper ink and the life of the copy machine.

Vanco- this is the company we use to for automatic payment of monthly offering from congregational members.

Pastor Mary said that she will check to see if another company might charge less for this service.

Community out reach – no money put on the 2018 budget as none was used from this line item last year.

Telephone – Stacy asked who our provider is and whether maybe another provider would charge less.

CYFM expenses- The amounts that are listed are how much the various supplies would cost for 2018 but most of those expenses are going to be paid from the Youth Savings Acct.

This means that the total expenses shown on this proposed budget is not the correct amount. This will be corrected on the proposed budget that is presented at the annual meeting.

At this time we re-addressed the question about whether or not we should continue to use as income the interest from our investments.

Motion was made that we will not take as income the interest from investments Lynn/Beth MSC.

During discussion it was mentioned that if we need that money for expenses during the year the council can make a motion at that time to use the interest as income.

It was also mentioned that if we don't need to use the interest for budget items we could at the end of the year use some of the interest to pay towards our loan from Memorial/Endowment.

At this time we owe \$6000 of the \$10,000 that the Church borrowed.

This amount should be on the proposed 2018 budget.

Jason and Duane question to why \$2000 from Youth Savings Acct. was given to the Synod. Linda stated that it was given to the National Youth Gathering because some of the money in that account was money left from when our youth went to the 2016 youth gathering. Beth also stated that some members of the congregation felt that since it had been donated for the youth gathering that it should be used for the youth gathering.

Question was raised as to why three different Bibles are given to our youth. Linda stated she thought it had to do with the age they were given at and how they are possibly used in our faith formation programs. She will ask CYFEd for more information.

Motion was made to accept the proposed budget with changes as noted above Jason/Jon MSC.

Dave questioned how Property is supposed to do some of the repairs that are needed since in the proposed budget they are getting less than last year. Sue mentioned that they might be able to get money when we discuss the Special Mission Savings Account.

Building use policy – re-keying ,Ryan reported by text that Hagens have been here to look at the doors and he is waiting for a quote from them.

Pastor Mary had looked into a key lock box. They are about \$20.

Further discussion was tabled. This item will be put under old business for the next meeting.

Special mission savings account – possible transfer to another account.

Motion was made to move the money in the Special Mission Savings Account to the budget line for Property Committee Stacy/Lynn

MSC. Linda mentioned that this money was from fundraisers and donations given for missions. It was suggested that in the future once an event is done there should be a follow up meeting to decide what to do with any money that might be left.

Committee minutes on the website – Linda has discussed this with Bobbie and they will work on this some more later in January.

NEW BUSINESS:

Website – Motion was made to allow Bobbie access to the website so that she can input information, such as meeting minutes Dave/Beth MSC.

Discussed how long things should be on the other website and thought that council minutes should be there for a year.

Annual meeting agenda – non-member in treasurer's position

We have been trying to fill the treasurer's position from within the church for one year with no results. At this time we are probably going to need to go to someone who is not a member of the church and we need to know how we can do that.

Sue stated that she had contacted the Synod regarding how we change our constitution to allow a nonmember to hold the position of Church Treasurer. She handed out a copy of our Constitution and the model constitution from the Synod. C11.01 deals with the officers of the congregation. The treasurer is listed as one of the officers. C11.01 b. States that the officers shall be voting members of the congregation.

A change to the Constitution needs to be voted on at the annual meeting.

A motion was made that the constitution be amended to read that a treasurer may be hired who is not a member of the congregation Jon/Dave MSC.

Duane's resignation –Duane read his letter of resignation effective at the end of tonight's meeting. Motion made to accept Duane's resignation with a great thank you for his service from the council Lynn/Jon MSC.

Sue stated that she will not be on the ballot to renew her council position.

Jon stated that he will not be on the ballot.

Jason and Stacy will be on the ballot.

Pastor Mary stated that two people have agreed to be on the ballot for council.

Pastor Mary gave us information regarding a donation project that Ginny Kortie-Castle would like to have during

Lent. It would provide socks and underwear for those who come in to agencies such as the Union Gospel Mission. Ginny is planning to use a Thrivent card to buy some articles and will be asking the congregation to donation items. Sue stated that the council doesn't need vote to approve this activity, they just want to be informed that it is scheduled.

Canceling church service – Sue stated that schools use a -40 ground temperature. Pastor Mary has information as to who to contact at the radio and television stations. It was decided to put a notice in the newsletter that if the temperature is 20 below or more people should tune in to radio or TV to find out if service is canceled. The stations will be listed in the newsletter. The decision needs to be made before Pastor Mary leaves home at 6:30 AM.

At this time the next council meeting will be February 15 at 5:30. The meeting date will be discussed after the annual meeting so that the new council members can be included in the decision.

Pastor Mary will do devotion and treats.

Motion was made at 7:46 to adjourn the meeting Jon/Dave MSC.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.