**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Attendees: Donna Felch, Margaret Hand, Mark Sbrocco, Tom Splittgerber, Michelle Bohm, Jeff Berg, Stefanie Trakel, Jane Marotz & John Rische

Excused: Brad Ten Pas & Pr Kyle Backhaus

Guest/s: Christina Zeuner, Jeff Diener, Paul H Ten Pas, Michelle Zuengler, & Chad Berke

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| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible Party |
| Call to Order |  | President Margaret Hand called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. |  |
| Opening Prayer |  | Mark Sbrocco opened with a prayer. |  |
| Early Childhood Center Ministry Update | Preschool and 4K finished up the year two weeks ago. Despite all the COVID requirements, it was a good year with very cooperative parents. Enrollment for next fall is very good, with preschool being full and only a couple openings for 4K.  Childcare enrollment for summer and fall is very good, with waiting lists. Everyone is back in one room and the majority of covid restrictions have been lifted. Those who are not vaccinated are asked to still wear masks in the school, therefore parents are not allowed into the school at this point. This will be reassessed in Fall. There were some staffing adjustments made in the Childcare area, which have brought about many good changes and improvements.  We continue to apply for State grants as they become available. | The Council thanked Christina for all her efforts to keep the school open throughout a very challenging year. They will pray for a better upcoming year for Christina and the ECC. |  |
| Children & Family Ministry Update | Jeff shared his newest endeavor, which is Campfires. These are going very well with a variety of different families getting involved. AWANA was modified significantly this past year for Covid, and many great new things came from it, which will continue into next year. Jeff continues to focus on resourcing and encouraging parents and grandparents as primary faith developers of their kids. He’s also focused on discipleship and mentoring. As things return to “normal” we need to increase our attention on engaging members and being intentional in carrying out our mission of connecting people to Christ. | The Council thanked Jeff for his efforts throughout this challenging year. They appreciate the AWANA spotlights he has created in the newsletter. |  |
| Introductions | Our three new Council Members were in attendance to observe the meeting, Paul H Ten Pas, Michelle Zuengler and Chad Berke. Introductions were made. |  |  |
| April Secretary Report |  | A motion was made by Jane Marotz to approve the April Secretary’s Report. Michelle Bohm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. |  |
| April Treasurer Report |  | A motion was made by Jeff Berg to approve the April Treasurer Report. Tom Splittgerber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. |  |
| May Treasurer Report |  | A motion was made by Jane Marotz to approve the May Treasurer Report. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. |  |
| 2021-22 Budget | Stefanie presented the budget, reviewing significant changes. The current fiscal year is estimated to have a surplus of over $90,000 for multiple reasons, which will be spelt out at the Congregation Meeting. Discussion was held over the need to increase tuition in the ECC to try to absorb some of the costs, the budget will be adjusted for a mid-year increase. Comparisons need to be made to the prior year, since the current year was so unusual, it isn’t a good benchmark to work from. | Stefanie will reach out to Christina to discuss tuition increase options and a timeline. This will be reported back to Council, to be approved and included in the 2021-22 budget.  Stefanie will make the suggested revisions to the budget and send it to Council via email for final approval, prior to next week’s Congregation Meeting.  *On June 10, 2021, a motion was made by Donna Felch via email to increase Preschool and 4K tuition by $5 per month beginning September 2021, as well as increasing the childcare rate to $4.75/hour beginning January 2022. Margaret Hand seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.*  *On June 16, 2021, a motion was made by Donna Felch and seconded by Margaret Hand to revoke their prior motion from June 10, 2021.*  *On June 16, 2021, a motion was made by Michelle Bohm to increase the preschool rate to $100 per month and the 4K rate to $135 per month beginning September 2021, as well as increasing the childcare rate to $4.75/hour beginning January 2022. Mark Sbrocco seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.* | Christina Zeuner & Stefanie Trakel  Stefanie Trakel |
| Fellowship Hall LED Lighting Project | Stefanie would like to replace the current lighting in the fellowship hall to LED, which we did in the Worship Center several years ago. This is more energy efficient and the bulbs will last longer. It is a challenge to change the bulbs, as a lift is required. Multiple quotes were sought. Specht Electric was chosen. | A motion was made by Mark Sbrocco to approve the LED project not to exceed $10,000 to be funded from the Capital Improvement Fund, to include 2 emergency lights that would stay lit. Jeff Berg seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. | Stefanie Trakel |
| Elder Team Update | The mask requirement and all pandemic restrictions have now been lifted.  The Elder Team is working on an onboarding plan for Pr Rob.  Discussion is being held regarding the Worship attendance rate, with the goal of getting people back to worship in person. The Elders will review attendance in Fall, reaching out to those that haven’t returned to worship that were regular attenders pre-pandemic to encourage them.  In Fall there will be a rejuvenated push to join small groups. |  |  |
| Senior Pastor Report | Pr Kyle is preparing the transition from Pr Tom to Pr Rob. Confirmation was held in May, along with testing, the Seder Meal and retreats. Shut In Visitation are back up and running. Funerals and Wedding planning continues for many families. |  |  |
| Walk In Items: Pr Rob’s Welcome | The Staff and Elder Team are planning separate events to welcome Pr Rob. Margaret encourages other groups to do the same, to help him get acquainted. | Michelle and Margaret will put together a Call Committee Welcome dinner for him.  A Church Council dinner may be held in July or August as well. | Michelle Bohm & Margaret Hand  Tom Splittgerber & John Rische |
| Walk In Items: Pr Tom’s Retirement | Margaret gave an update on the retirement party planned for June 27. We are expecting over 300 people. | Mark Sbrocco will work on transportation for Pr Tom & Judy from church to the party. | Mark Sbrocco |
| Walk In Items: Follow up to HVAC Concern at the April Congregation Meeting | Upon review, the Council should have informed the Congregation the last piece of the project wasn’t going to be completed due to the additional cost and lack of benefit of the project. | This was an error on the part of the Council and a lesson learned. |  |
| Adjournment | The Congregation Meeting will be Tuesday, June 15 at 6:45 pm in the Worship Center. The July Church Council Meeting will be Tuesday, July 20 at 6:30pm. | A motion was made by Jeff Berg to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. Seconded by Jane Marotz. Motion carried unanimously. |  |
| Closing Prayer |  | Margaret closed in prayer. |  |