

## Tree of Life Church Council Meeting

Monday, April 18, 2022 6:30 PM ZOOM Meeting

Members present: President Kevin Solberg, Vice-President Sandy McCarthy, Treasurer Jim Lemaux, Pastor Chris, Tom Gros, Pat Rowe, Mark Templet, and Julie Timmins; Visitors Jill Waldrop, Ikeria Green and John Burkwall.

Absent: Secretary Russ Bliese, Heidi Beckham, Peggy Little, Deb Zimmer.

- A. President Solberg called the meeting to order@ 6:33 PM. Pastor Chris started the meeting with a prayer.
  
- B. Jill asked whether the meeting could be recorded (to assist her in taking the minutes in Russ Bliese's absence. Jim Lemaux made motion (seconded by Pastor Chris) that all meetings be recorded going forward. Motion passed.
  
- C. Consent Agenda
  - I. Motion: Adoption of Agenda- Motion made and seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  - II. Motion: Approval of Minutes (February 21, 2022) Motion made and seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.
  
- D. Discussion Agenda: nothing to add.

## E. Financial Reports

### I. Monthly statements (March 2022)

Lemaux presented the financial report for March 2022. Total income for March was \$48,141 and total expenses were \$39,959, for a surplus of \$6,182. No funds were borrowed from SEEDS. Dedicated Funds stable. A motion was made by Timmins to accept the financial report and the motion was seconded by Templet. All were in favor and the motion passed.

There was some discussion into the increases appearing on the trash service bills. Waldrop and Lemaux will look into whether we are held to a contract and whether any other options exist.

Lemaux also shared that he, Jack Zimmer, and Dennis McConnell have been working with Liz Johnson to create guidelines and guidance for legacy giving. Lemaux would like to include Jack and Dennis at next month's meeting.

## F. Pastoral Report

Easter is DONE! We had 202 people at church on Easter Sunday. Lots of new people interested in us. We're already working on things for the fall.

Pastor Chris is traveling to Kenya this week. He has connected some church members with some of the folks that would benefit from visits, calls, etc. Bishop Mike and Scott Moore will be preaching during Pastor's absence. He's arranged with Diane Roth, Scott Moore, and Bishop Mike to be available in

the event anyone needs pastoral care (Jill has their contact info).

Kara lost about half of her students and was struggling to pay bills (including rent to us). Pastor Chris had her submit a letter canceling her contract, with intent to set up a new one at a lower rate. Pastor Chris made the motion that we allow Kara to rent space for \$75 per month; seconded by Lemaux, and approved.

## G. Old Business

- I. Discussion was held on the 2022 Retreat with it being hosted by the Solbergs' home. The retreat was tentatively set for Saturday, July 16, from 10 – 3. The July council meeting will be held at the same time (so no meeting July 18). Theme for the retreat: Getting Kids Back.
- II. Garage Sale – we need people up here to help unload the container on 4/23 from 1-4pm
- III. Project Tree Camp – Ikeria shared that we will need to provide housing and food for 9 Lutherhill counselors that will be here for Tree Camp. We'll be looking for donations for food for their breakfasts and lunches and then have individuals/families/groups provide evening meals at the church. We'll also need volunteers during the week of camp and we will be asking the other churches to provide volunteers as well.
- IV. Trailer and rental insurance, a quote was received for the trailer only and not the contents. The trailers would be insured for depreciated value, which isn't very helpful. Pastor Chris suggested looking for quotes with

other insurance companies and suggested that Ronnie Whitman may be able to do this for us.

- V. Gate update – Solberg had a guy from his school come out to look at where we want the gate. We’re looking at doing a wooden gate (not metal). We need to come up with plans. We will not need to do an adopt-a-project because Pat Voelz has already said she’d cover it. This will allow us to keep “adopt a project” asks open for other things.
- VI. Insurance and staff – Solberg shared that CISD premiums are dropping effective Sept. 1, which might make decision of “what to do” easier. TOL could put money toward the premium if John is added to Pam’s benefits.

#### H. New Business

- I. Synod Assembly is May 20 and 21 in Galveston. Pastor Chris will not be working the assembly this year, so the church will need to pay for him to attend. We also need two voting delegates to attend. Church will cover cost to attend plus hotel (about \$1,000 total). Pastor Chris suggested that Ikeria and Jill represent the congregation as voting delegates. Timmins made the motion; seconded by Rowe. Approved. (Jill will make the necessary arrangements.)
- II. Update the council terms –
  - Templet – through 2024
  - McCarthy – through 2024
  - Timmins – through 2022

Lemaux – elected in 2020 but Treasurer is an appointed position. Appointed in August 2020.

Rowe – through 2023

Gros – through 2022

Solberg – through 2025

Beckham – appointed.

D. Zimmer – through 2024

Bliese – through 2023

Little – through 2022

III. Prayer Path stones – we just got Jim's stone. Need to get it installed

I. Pastor Chris led council with the Lord's Prayer and Solberg adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Waldrop

Office Manager