

Tree of Life Church Council Meeting

Monday, May 16, 2022 6:30 PM ZOOM Meeting

Members present: President Kevin Solberg, Vice-President Sandy McCarthy, Secretary Russ Bliese, Treasurer Jim Lemaux, Peggy Little, Pastor Chris, Deb Zimmer, Pat Rowe, Julie Timmins and Mark Templett. Visitor Jill Waldrop, Ikeria Green, Jeremie Brown and John Burkwall.

Absent: Heidi Beckham, Tom Gros

A. President Solberg called the meeting to order@ 6:34 PM. Pastor Chris started the meeting with a prayer.

B. Consent Agenda

- I. Motion: Adoption of Agenda- Motion made by Pastor Chris and seconded by McCarthy. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- II. Motion: Approval of Minutes (April 18, 2022) Motion: Lemaux and seconded by Rowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

C. Discussion Agenda: J Brown provided an update on the results of the garage sale. The sale went well with around \$20,000 in sales. Brown is stepping down from the leadership role of the garage sale. The company that handled the sale does not want to do it again net year at the fee they charge (30%). The congregation will be asked if anyone would like to take over this project.

D. Financial Reports

I. Monthly statements (April 2022)

Lemaux presented the financial report for April 2022. Total income for April was \$30,495. Total expenses were \$44,217 for a deficit of \$13,721. This included the staff benefits payments of two months. No funds were borrowed from SEEDS. The Balance Sheet was OK. There was a question regarding building expenses listed and Lemaux will check with Dinklage for clarification. A motion was made by Lemaux to accept the financial report and the motion was seconded by Rowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

There was no discussion on adopt a project.

E. Pastoral Report

Pastor Chris reported that the large oak tree on the side of the education building is dead and needs to be taken down before the YMCA comes in. Pastor Chris spoke with the tree cutter for River Plantation and the cost would be \$600-1,000. Additional bids will attempted. The live stream will be discontinued and to upgrade to "Black Magic", will cost around \$850. Pastor Chris has installed this system in four other churches. The cleaning company is not doing a good job and the church will start looking for another company. The fire extinguishers all checked out and the sprinkler system will need to be pressure checked to meet safety code. Pastor

returned from a trip to Kenya to Kings Embrace. They are in need of a new water well that will cost approximately \$20,000. A motion was made by Lemaux to use SEEDS money to match up to \$2,500 raised with the motion seconded by McCarthy. A motion was then made by Pastor Chris and seconded by Zimmer to try to raise \$25,000 for Kings Embrace with assistance from other churches. The motion passed. Pastor Chris also advised that teachers cost \$800 a year at Kings Embrace and money raised could also go towards paying teachers salary.

F. Old Business

- I. The Council Retreat is scheduled for July 16, 2022 from 10:00am -3:00pm at Solberg's. Solberg will provide the meat with Bliese providing deer sausage. The rest of council will bring sides and deserts.
- II. Green provided an update on Tree Camp with dinner needed to be provided to the counselors for two days. Solberg and Burkwall stepped up and volunteered to provide the meals for those two days.
- III. Synod Assembly update: Pastor Chris, Jill Waldrop and Ikeria Green will be representing TOL in Galveston.
- IV. Kenya Recap- As previously stated, Kings Embrace is in need of a new deep water well.

G. New Business

- I. Garage Sale Team Search: Jennifer is not making enough for the work done on the garage sale. The former team led by J. Brown is burned out and a new

team will need to be found if the yearly garage sale is to continue.

- II. Financial Audit Linda Bliese has volunteered to assist on a audit. Additional help may be provided by a member who is a CPA. Timmins will help with any questions.
- III. Additional Matters: Little is learning the ropes of the job being done by Ted Dinklage so that he may retire. I Green will work 30 hours a week starting June 1 for the summer.

H. Pastor Chris led council with the Lord's Prayer and Solberg adjourned the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Bliese

Council Secretary