

Members present: President Jack Zimmer, Vice-President Larry Klotz, Treasurer Jim Voelz, Financial Secretary Heidi Beckham, Secretary Susie Rust, Pastor Chris Lake, Linda Baumgartner, Kirk Helberg, Annie Lindemann, Richard Schaper, Kevin Solberg, George Timmons

The meeting was called to order by President Jack Zimmer at 12:55 PM and the opening prayer led by Pastor Chris Lake.

A. Consent Agenda

- I. Motion: Adoption of agenda
- II. Motion: Approval of minutes (January 14, 2019)
- III. Motion: Ratify new members: Wendy Wickander (wife of Nels) and Wiederhold family (Clay, Paula and 3 sons Austin, Collin, and Jax)
- IV. **MOTION:** George Timmons moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. Jim Lemaux seconded. All were in favor and the motion **passed**.

B. Financial Report

Jim Voelz reported expenses for January exceeded income by \$3568 and this will be borrowed from Seeds to cover. Following the trends of last year, the pledge offering is up and the non-pledge offering is down. The pledged numbers came in at 100% of anticipated January income (\$28,000) and \$6000 from non-pledged. Discussion followed about the line item "Other Income": (\$570) came from free will, sanctuary supplies, and miscellaneous. **MOTION:** Vice-President Larry Klotz moved to accept the financial report. Kevin Solberg seconded. All were in favor and motion **passed**.

C. Pastoral Report

I. A dead tree from our property fell on the shoulder of Hwy 336 and we have another dead tree next to it. The church is financially responsible if there is an accident due to our fallen tree. We need to address this immediately. Discussion followed. **ACTION ITEM:** George Timmons and Pastor Chris Lake will take action.

We have an air conditioner problem for the staff offices. The church bought a new AC unit (\$25000) from Luxury Air when Pastor Chris Lake was on sabbatical. The trouble seems to be a fan installed backwards. **ACTION ITEM:** Chuck Will (Building and Maintenance Team) and Pastor Chris Lake are addressing this. They plan a meeting with the company to ask, among other things, why Luxury Air did not notice the problem upon installation. The AC unit should be under warranty.

II. Council Adoption of proposed Sexual Harassment Policy: As a guidelines requirement to be an Internship site, work is continuing on this area of the Policy Manual and discussion is tabled for another meeting.

III. Benevolence Fund Considerations for 2019 and beyond: Pastor Chris Lake suggested the ministry of "The King's Embrace" as a possible recipient. David and Linda Fischer are

members of TOL and have been self-funding this effort for several years. Discussion followed as to how the Synod Benevolence Fund works, as TOL budgets \$24,000 each year for this. Larger ELCA Synods obviously receive more funding from their churches. Half of Benevolent Funds go to the greater church, headquartered in Chicago. A possibility is to split the funds of \$24000 as TOL decides. If, for instance, we designate the local Gulf Coast Synod to receive \$12,000-\$14,000 of this amount, we might be able to give a portion to The King's Embrace (\$5,000?) and the rest to the Chicago ELCA headquarters. Pastor Chris suggests this possibility as a consideration. Pastor Chris Lake plans to go to Kenya and perhaps Bishop Mike Rinehart could accompany him. Annie Lindemann suggested that any Benevolence changes should be presented to congregation.

IV. There is a possibility of a new storage "shed". The Chaffees would like to buy a storage container for muck and gut activities. We could remove or sell the existing shed and replace it with a new storage container. We would have 2 storage containers in total and would be much easier to maintain as dedicated storage units. **MOTION:** George Timmons moved that we accept a new storage container donated by the Chaffees. Jim Voelz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion **passed**.

D. Old Business

I. Council Policy Manual Appendix Acceptance: **MOTION:** Kirk Helberg moved that we accept the Council Policy Manual Appendix. Vice-President Larry Klotz seconded. Discussion followed. It was suggested that sanctuary and hall usage fees (i.e., for weddings/funerals) seemed expensive. Research on fees at other churches was done when these prices were established and our fees were comparable. The motion was voted on; all were in favor and the motion **passed**.

II. Employee Policy Manual Update from President Jack Zimmer: progress continuing.

III. Memorial Walk/prayer path update by Vice-President Larry Klotz and Kevin Solberg

a. Vice-President Larry Klotz talked with pastors to ask them what they want on their bricks. **ACTION:** He will followup this week. Staff is working on the brochure. If we do not have a minimum of 10 bricks to engrave, there is a \$150 charge. \$150 has been donated already.

b. Plaque Update: President Jack Zimmer reported we have not talked with anyone who is related to any of these folks nor can we find a covenant to retain these names. Unless we receive new information, we will not move forward to replace the Plaque with a memorial brick.

E. New Business

President Jack Zimmer reviewed the Covenant and Fiduciary roles of Council members as established in the TOL Constitution, especially stressing the importance of Care, Obedience and Loyalty in our covenant with TOL. We should be aware of our Constitution and Meeting Minutes. We need to be aware of any conflict of interest, noting that members can be excused from vote.

The Council Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Rust, Secretary

NOTES: Congregational January 2019 Meeting: Susie Rust confirmed as Secretary (replacing Linda Baumgartner); Congregational Meeting 2018: Jack Zimmer. President 2 yr. term, Jim Voelz(Treasurer), Linda Baumgartner(Secretary), Kirk Helberg, George Timmons, Heidi Beckham (Financial Secretary); elected for 3 yr. terms: Susie Rust, Annie Lindemann, Richard Schaper, Kevin Solberg, Larry Klotz (VP). Congreg.Mtg 2017: Jim Voelz (Trea), Linda Baumgartner (Sec.), Kirk Helberg, George Timmins, Jack Zimmer (3Yr. terms), Dennis McConnell President (term expires in 2017). 2016 Congreg. Mtg.: Susan Blough (Sec.) Elected 2015 - Heidi Beckham, Matt Hannes (2nd term), Chuck Will, Lawrence Zuelke, Elected 2014 - Linda Baumgartner, Alicia Macha (resigned position January, 2015), Jim Voelz. (2nd term), John Nye. (2nd term), Julie Weeks. (2nd term)