

Minutes for May Council meeting 5/21/17

Present at the meeting were: Rebecca Thomas, Kevin Visscher, Laurie Gaumer, Kerry Schiewek Fremlin, Barbara Malaspina, Joseph Shackelford, Robert Charves, Pr. Manda Truchinski

Absent: George Liao, Chuck Witschorik, Theo Olson

Action Items are in bold.

1. Joe led us in devotion.
2. Pastor Manda proposed that from here on out we change the format of how we do devotions. From here on out we will each **watch the video in advance** (as reminded by the exec. Committee at their meeting) then at the meeting we will watch the video together and have free form discussion. Thus we no longer need to appoint or establish a leader each month.
3. Approve today's agenda
4. April meeting minutes were approved.
5. Kevin gave a treasurer's report
 - a. Income is slightly below budget - but this is totally normal for this time of year.
 - b. YTD expenses are exceeding income by about 18K (2016 it was 15K)
 - c. Things to note: we haven't sold any investments, we are operating within normal expectations, we have plenty of money to cover any deficits, April was "an improvement" from March.
 - d. Question from council: has there been discussion about making a weighted budget? Conversation - with expenses that might be possible but with income that's more difficult in a congregational setting.
 - e. Question about personnel expense variance: conversation - the variance isn't great enough to be concerned about
 - f. Question about our investments and what is the best place for them to be? Suggestion that maybe we consider MIF or other things that are closer to our own mission, for all our

investments. Discussed the recent history of CGS divesting from Thrivent and going into partnership with Fidelity.

6. Committee reports

- a. Laurie and benevolences committee: **Laurie will make an announcement in worship and newsletter to invite other interested people onto the committee.**
 - b. RIC committee: have been mailing out save the date cards. Now at the point where we're ready to develop an agenda. Will be meeting Sunday the 28th after church to work out the details for our celebration. **Searching for more RIC history - please help dig out that story from the congregation and share it with Laurie.**
 - c. Joe on property: we need to remove pews for the people with mobility assistance devices. Council raised the need to also remove pews to create welcoming space for families with children.
 - d. Joe on the building project: Steve is wanting some support on meeting with architects and reviewing their bids. **Council will email our ideas for those spaces and Kerry will compile. Pastor Manda will try to find the congregation's input that we gathered at the town hall.** Pr. Manda also reported that Theo has contacted 3 groups to consult with and is waiting on their replies.
 - e. Rebecca on the Ed. Cmte.: Godly Play starts on the 28th!!
 - f. Kerry on the Synod Assembly: Turns out our greater church is a bunch of rebels. Everyone was talking about moving forward. AAMPARO was an interesting thing Kerry learned about and wondered whether or not our church could be a part of it. Also learned about Decolonize Lutheranism - which tries to divorce our theology from our Northern European cultural expectations. **Kerry will report his findings to the congregation.**
7. **Bob will write a brief announcement in the Good News letting the congregation know about the strategic plan - in the article he will write a place an opportunity for people to give their feedback and**

will be invited to talk with their council. **Barbara has agreed to review Bob's article before he publishes it.**

8. The council needs to put together a group of people to discern what to do with our Deacon money in light of our new mission and vision (all in accordance with our building into the future plan)
 - a. We put together a preliminary list of characteristics and expectations of this group:

<p>Should not be on council</p> <p>Should be demographically varied</p> <p>Should be familiar with the call process</p> <p>Should be familiar with a job search process</p> <p>Should be an active participant at CGS</p> <p>Should have a heart for service</p> <p>Should be flexible with ideas or expectations</p> <p>Should know many CGS people</p> <p>Should have time and not be too stretched</p> <p>Should be open to this idea and not have already made up their mind</p> <p>Should be aware of unmet needs of CGS and our greater community.</p>	<p>This committee will:</p> <p>Meet in person</p> <p>Finish by December</p> <p>Will not hire a person</p> <p>Decide position</p> <p>Decide qualifications</p> <p>Determine whether this will be a roster position or a lay position</p> <p>Will possibly use the MSP as a guide for their process</p> <p>Should mostly agree on their decision</p> <p>Will draft a job description</p>
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- b. We'd like to ask people to be on this committee. **We'll pray on whom and put forth names next month.**
9. Where are we with shelter cooking? - this agenda item was moved to next month
10. Start looking for someone to lead cooking for scheduled Thanksgiving Day meal - **we will all start asking around and check in on this next month.**

11. Chuck will be absent in June and need someone to take minutes for next month - Laurie will do it.
12. George has written the council a letter informing us of his resignation from council due to family deaths and needs and his uncertain next steps in life.
13. Upcoming dates
 - a. Next council meeting will be moved to June 11th.
 - b. Next executive committee will be moved to June 5th.
 - c. June 4th will be Pentecost
 - d. July 16-21 Day Camp in conjunction with Prince of Peace
 - e. July 22nd is Randy and Tim's wedding - they are emphasizing that it will be like a CGS potluck, all are welcome
 - f. August 19-20 RIC celebration
14. Closing prayer