



Council Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2016
6:00 PM

Attendees

Council Members Present: Brent Cottrell, Barbara Sappenfield, Lynn Minden, Shannon Fenner, Gary Sims, Lee Allen, Jeff Lorenz

Others Present: Greg Gordon, Kara Farrow

Absent: Pastor Alan Fox, Donna Merkle, Kin Ghylin

Opening

Opening devotion was offered by Barbara Sappenfield. The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9 by Brent Cottrell.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The minutes of the January 12, 2016 meeting were to correct 2016 budget information and then unanimously approved. The agenda for the February 9, 2016 meeting was amended to include additional new business items and then unanimously approved.

Ministry Teams

Property

- Church will care for the lawn at the gas station across the street in exchange for gas to mow this summer.
- Rooms 211 and 212 wall has been removed and those rooms have been painted.
- Started work on painting the Commons. Will have to hire someone to paint higher up on the walls (if necessary).
- Church purchased a new refrigerator (from four donations from the congregation). Will be delivered on 2/12.
- Access control system for doors near the office is scheduled to be replaced by the end of March. Anyone who has a key fob or code needs to get with Dee to get those programmed into the new system.
- Working with a company to discuss different sound treatments.
- Jeff inquired about how property sets priorities (specifically an interest in a commercial kitchen). Greg recommended Jeff get with Paul Greek to discuss.

• G Gordon/J Lorenz

Administration

- Reorganization communicated to congregation.
- Kara and Roy identified candidates for Student and Children's ministers.
- Elliot Butay has been hired as Student Minister. He started on 2/8.

- Tiffany Loflin hired as part-time Children’s Minister.
- Both attended staff meeting on Monday. Their training is underway.
- Completed work for the annual meeting and year end closeout. Still working on Synod/IRS year end reports.
- Started communications on discipleship in e-news, the Door. Featuring articles on different aspects of discipleship (authored by various members). Focus is on how we can help our community (care, worship, education) and how we can be benefitted as well.

• G Gordon

Stewardship

- Small group members will be provided a devotional/discussion tool about stewardship written by Erv Janssen.

• Pastor Fox/L Minden

Outreach

- Post cards for Easter to go out to families in the church zip code.
- Shannon to get with Julie to make sure that the post card mentions that 8:30 and 11 are traditional and 9:45 is Praise and Worship format.

• S Fenner

Worship

- Easter worship format – 8:30 and 11 will be traditional and 9:45 will be Praise and Worship (all in the sanctuary).
- Lee asked if there has been any more discussion about going down to 2 services. Greg said that the focus this year is on discipleship, but we may revisit this issue next year. Lee expressed concern that the current structure may not facilitate growth going forward.
- Worship team language adjustment from “Praise and Worship” to “Contemporary.”

• K Ghylin

Missions

- Chili cook-off raised \$1700 for the Coffee Bunker.
- Well attended by FLC and veterans.
- Mission of the month for February is Rising Village. Jennifer Guel will be here at the end of the month promoting their work in Africa.

• L Allen/K Farrow

Hospitality

- Kara and Roy Brockmeier have been working with Marcia Werner and Doe Tomasko to understand the requirements of the Hospitality chair.
- In the interim, Doe will lead funerals with assistance from Dee Fehnel.

• D Merkle

Care

- 73 care contacts since 1/1 provided by 9 care team members and 4 staff.
- Care team quarterly breakfast held on 1/23 with 20 care team members in attendance.
- Working on tracking all contacts to ensure contacts are being made.
- Grief Share Workshop to begin February 14. 10 FLC members registered to attend.

- B Sappenfield

Old Business

Annual Meeting Review

- Meeting minutes were amended based on Greg Gordon's review and then unanimously approved.
- Lynn stated that her husband appreciated Greg's budget presentation comparing projections to last year's spending. She also suggested an org chart to help explain the staffing changes.
- Brent expressed appreciation to staff for their hard work and to Council for helping to facilitate the meeting.
- Barbara expressed concern about older members not learning information that is communicated electronically because they don't use computers (e.g., staffing changes announced before the meeting via e-news was a surprise to many older members). Greg stated that each congregational mailing costs about \$75 (not counting associated personnel time).
- Kara suggested that Greg check the box in the e-news form that will automatically publish emails to Facebook.

- Pastor Fox

AR-OK ELCA Living in God's Abundance Campaign

- Synod had a \$46k budget shortfall. FLC's deficit in giving from projection was \$3,800. Decision on what to do is tabled to next meeting. Brent will seek additional information from the Synod.
- Congregation-wide letter will explain the campaign and how it will be used.
- Months with 5 Sundays, the 5th Sunday will be focused on that campaign. Recipients from the campaign will be in church to provide the message. Will also have a 2nd offering on those days to benefit the campaign.
- Gary Swarzlander will like the Finance Committee to consider adding to the budget for 2017.
- Also talked about a fundraiser specifically for the campaign.
- Projected figure based on membership \$111k over 3 years (based on 714 membership). Council suggested we think about basing our figure on attendance rather than membership.
- Greg explained membership: all baptized persons are members. We remove names when people specifically request a transfer. Voting members are members who attend, commune, and contribute in the past year.

- G Gordon/L Minden

Synod Cluster Reorganization

- Donna, Roy, Pastor and Brent attended reorganization meeting on Jan 30.
- Tulsa area congregation will be in a single cluster.
- Cluster is in the process of trying to elect leadership.
- Next meeting is Synod meeting April 29-May 1.

- B Cottrell

**Council Retreat
with Strategic
Planning
Committee**

- Pastor Fox, Ginni Young, and some other staff members will do some preliminary work on this.
 - Retreat with Council will be scheduled after this meeting.
- B Cottrell

New Business

**Date for Mid-
Year
Congregational
Meeting**

- Meeting scheduled for Sunday, August 28.
- B Cottrell

Treasurer's Report

January		Year to Date	
Income:	\$92,306*	Income:	\$92,306
Expenses:	80,194	Expenses:	80,194
Net:	12,112	Net:	12,112

* January giving is generally higher than other months because it includes one-time giving from a few congregants who satisfy their annual giving at the beginning of the year.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned. The next general meeting will be on March 8, 2016 at 6:00pm. Gary Sims will provide meal and devotion.

Minutes submitted by: S Fenner