

Tree of Life Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 22, 2024, Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Kevin Solberg, Sandy McCarthy, Jim Lemaux, Deb Zimmer, Heidi Beckham, Jenny Jenkins, Mark Templet, Chris Lake. Staff: Jill Waldrop, Diana Frederick

Absent: Ronnie Whitman, Russ Larson

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM.
- B. PC opened with prayer.
- C. Consent of agenda and minutes
 1. A motion was made to approve the agenda by Jim Lemaux, seconded by PC. Motion passed.
 2. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mark Templet, seconded by Jenny Jenkins. Motion passed.
- D. Financial report for June was given by Jim Lemaux.
 1. June Income went from \$30,000 to \$13,000
 - i. Have budgeted YTD \$264,300
 - ii. Actual income YTD \$257,322
 - iii. Under \$6,980
 2. Seeds – no change for June report but noted a transfer of \$22,500 from the general checking account to SEEDS and put back again to use the legacy gift from Pat Voeltz will be done in July's transaction
 3. June expenses \$49,598
 - i. Have budgeted YTD \$271,527.9
 - ii. Actual expenses YTD \$285,777.73
 - iii. Over budget \$14,249.83
 4. Giving amount increased probably due to the reminders
 - i. Pledged offerings gained from \$15,347 to \$16,710
 - ii. Non-pledged offerings gained from \$7700 to \$12,000
 5. Internal Ministries comments
 - i. King's Embrace and Disaster Relief donations increased
 - ii. ELCA shows a double payment so looks high
 - iii. Electric up a bit
 - iv. Water leak (probably due to electric company breaking pipe when working where the leak is)
 - v. \$40,000 extra money given, and Jim would like to put that in a money market
 6. Motion was made to accept the financial report by Sandy McCarthy and seconded by PC. Motion passed.
- E. Pastoral report
 1. Has spent time at MD Anderson Hospital where the daughter of his secretary in Nebraska when he lived there is fighting for her life from leukemia. Pastor was there when the doctor told her the news was not good but that he had a plan. PC feels that way about the church (not such great news, but we have a plan).

2. Last week worked in New Orleans with the National Youth gathering. It gave him a chance to see where the greater church is at. He realized that our live streaming is supreme. His said this will be his last year of offering his services there.
3. New members that will be joining have been watching online for a long time, because they work on the weekends.
4. We spent a lot of money to help with the hurricane Beryl disaster. He will try to get some reimbursed from ELCA.
5. He is very pleased with the Youth Ministry.
6. He feels the need to help Livingston church because it is a dying church but has not had the time recently.
7. Bogart was in church this past Sunday. He has found a house.
8. Brenda Klotz is in Hospice.
9. Carolyn McArthur was in a serious car accident with breaking 9 ribs.

F. Old business

1. Paideia's attendance is not where it needs to be so not able to come back but would like to come in the future. They owe \$9,000 which they plan on paying off in the next 3 months. PC said that need to let us know what to do with the sign and things in storage. There is a small group of them that would like to rent the back room for tutoring.
2. Bogart discussed already
3. Financial audit is to be finalized in September says Jim Lemaux
4. Insurance Policy and Liability will be looked at the end of July.

G. New Business

1. Addendum was made to make a motion to add a tutorial room for Paideia twice a week starting in the fall by Jim Lemaux and seconded by Sandy McCarthy. Motion passed. We still need to know how much to charge (amount with or without bathroom). Jim said that he would check with them concerning their need.
2. Building Usage and Rental Policy meeting was held June 26th (Deb Zimmer, Mary Dinklage, and Angela Brown). They got a start on it and gave the info to Jill. After she looks at it and gives more needs, that committee will meet again to discuss.
3. Hurricane Beryl caused a lot of damage to members of the congregation homes and to the Cypress tree in front of the church. Sandy McCarthy and Mark Templet are still handling issues.
4. Lake Livingston Church – Pastor will be contacting them in the next week or two. Kevin said that he and Karen might try to visit there also.
5. Adopt a Projects to think about
 - i. Pastor asked for help to fund Bunny's ordination (about \$3200)
 - ii. Plumbing needs
 - iii. Sprinkler system in back room – need to find someone who will do that.

H. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM with the Lord's Prayer.