

## Creator Lutheran Church Council Minutes

August 16, 2016

President Ron Noborikawa called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Council members present:** President Ron Noborikawa, Secretary Tammy Funk, Secretary-Elect Michelle Ketter, Treasurer Laurie Bruckbauer, Director of Operations –Elect Joanne Hall, and Pastor Heidi Calhoun.

Excused: Treasurer Elect Sheri Dunn, President Elect Gene Kneeland, Director of Operations Rich Heineman

Pastor Heidi led council in prayer.

**The council minutes:** Tammy Billings – Funk presented the July council meeting minutes. They were amended and council MSP (motioned, seconded and passed) to approve the council minutes.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor shared current pastoral care activities including the deep sadness of losing a beautiful and beloved young lady, the marriage of another, health and spiritual concerns for congregation members.
- VBS was a great experience. Many kids memorized all the bible verses for the week and earned prizes from pastor. It was a special time for pastor and was energizing for her.
- Pastor is spending time in community events including Relay for Life, the Lutheran Community Gathering with focus on supporting refugee families.
- Pastor is focusing time on stewardship

**Treasurer Report:** Laurie presented the financial narrative. The council moved seconded and approved (MSP) to accept the treasurer's report.

Education costs were higher than expected due to ordering t-shirts for VBS students and volunteers. Some costs are being recouped as donations are coming in to support that.

Gifts to the general fund for month of August so far have been close to 24,000.

Within this month a generous congregation member gave a substantial one-time lump sum.

Refund of \$1800 on insurance premium due to changing insurance companies.

Pastor suggested we look at historical data to determine cost of VBS to congregation over the past few years.

Initial review indicates VBS cost has been roughly \$2000 each year.

Pastor reminds council that a stipend of \$800 was recommended by the Christian ed. Team to be given to the VBS organizer.

Council motioned, seconded and approved (MSP) authorization to pay Danielle Reed and Christen Liedtke each a \$400 stipend for co organizing VBS.

Ministry teams have historically been allowed to budget and authorize expenditures and this is something that needs to have a protocol established for budgeting for quality programs.

Our constitution states that there must be a congregational vote in order to spend more than \$5000 for each line item.

Gene recommends we have a variance report in order to manage spending.

### **Budget**

Laurie provided copies of the proposed 2016/2017 budget.

The budget is presented to council for consideration to present to the congregation.

The budget presented this day is based on:

- \* 5-year giving trend of 420,000

- \* Targeted expenditure decreases include no cost of living raises, benevolence to synod decreased by half, restricted budgets for all ministry teams

Council deliberated on presenting a budget which is within the current giving as opposed to presenting a budget which supports Creators mission and values including tithing and fair wages.

Council will invite further input from the stewardship and finance teams.

Council will plan an ad hoc meeting with plan to decide on a budget to present to the congregation.

### **Ongoing Business:**

- Planning for 2016/2017 meeting schedule for devotions and sign up schedule for devotions and food, assigning ministry team liaisons

### **Closing Prayer / Meeting Adjourn**

Ron led the council in a closing prayer.

Gene moved to adjourn the meeting. His motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting ended at 9:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Funk  
Council Secretary