

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of East Bethel**  
**19001 Jackson Street NE**  
**East Bethel, MN 55011**  
**Approved Minutes of the Regular Congregation Council Meeting**  
**January 11, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at OSLC**

**Members Present:** Jan Berqual, Ben Bjornson, Holle Despen, Terry Kolodjski, Mark Kramm, Kathy Neuberger, Pastor Dan Nordin, Pastor Maria Pederson, Michelle Reichow, Karen Schrecongost, Connie Weigel.

**Members Excused:** Jim Jerylo, Deacon Glenndy Ose.

**Members Absent:** none

**Guests Present:** Cindy Delmonico, Kim Fread, Dennis Sackreiter.

President Michelle Reichow called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Treats were provided by Cindy Delmonico.

Cindy Delmonico led devotions.

**New Business Item #1 (addressed first for convenience):**

**1. Architect:** Dennis Sackreiter shared the process the building team has followed. The team interviewed program staff and polled the congregation to determine needs. The needs of the church were determined to be classrooms, a kitchen, a fellowship area, and storage. The next step is to hire an architect to help with the design. Three firms were chosen to present to the building team. Miller Dunwiddie Architecture is the firm that the building team found to be the best to engage for planning phase II. Mark Kramm made a motion to “recommend to the congregation that we hire Miller Dunwiddie Architectural Firm to develop phase II building plan options at a cost not to exceed \$35,000”. The motion was seconded, and approved.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the December 14, 2017 were approved as presented.

**Council Agenda Review:** There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

**Finance Report:** Ben Bjornson elaborated on the December 2017 Council Finance Report as well as the overall numbers for 2017. Ben shared that we had a very good December. He noted that the 2017 budget came in a little lower than our best guess budget. Pastor Dan shared that he is very glad that we did so well and came so close to the budget goals. The finance report was approved as presented.

## **Team Reports:**

- 1. Human Resources:** Pastor Maria noted that they are finishing the first round of interviews for the Director of Music and Worship Arts. After the second round of interviews, the top one or two candidates will rehearse with the band and have interviews with the music staff. People on the interview team are also visiting other churches to see top candidates in action.
- 2. Children's Ministry:** Karen Schrecongost shared that the children's ministry is going great! The Christmas auction made \$1,500. Kate is full of wonderful ideas.
- 3. Family Promise:** Jan noted that we are helping with Family Promise for January 21-28. A sign up to help will be available on Sunday.
- 4. Women's Retreat:** The women's retreat will be February 10<sup>th</sup>. The theme will be "A Divine Day Away", and will feature the author Denise Devine.
- 5. Stewardship Update:** Pastor Dan gave an update about the stewardship campaign. At this time 166 giving units responded for a total of \$435,000. Letters are in the mail reminding people to return their pledge cards. The Mortgage to Mission line has been eliminated. However, we currently have \$76,000 pledged to Mortgage to Mission for this year.

## **Old Business:**

- 1. Sewer/Water/Driveway Update:** Pastor Dan updated council on the sewer/water/driveway process. We have a bid from Classic Construction. This is broken into categories. Hooking up the sewer would cost \$45,000. Connecting to city water, including the fire suppression system, which covers the pump and a small space to house this pump, would cost \$154,000. The Met Council's WAC and SAC would cost \$70,000. We did receive an insurance adjustment for the bad pump for \$35,000. This makes the total about \$234,000. Additionally, we have 3 bids for driveway, with \$77,000 being the lowest bid, for a gravel drive. We do have a possibility of a lesser quality driveway for less money. Pastor Dan suggested that we focus on the things we absolutely must do- the sewer/water/fire suppression portion. This amount is in the proposed budget. Terry Kolodjski made a motion "to recommend to the congregation that we accept the bid from Classic Construction to do the sewer/water/fire suppression and the WAC and SAC work for an amount not to exceed \$270,000". This motion was seconded, and passed.
- 2. Budget:** Ben Bjornson and the finance team presented and explained the 2018 budget Proposal. This budget recommends a 2% payroll increase, which is less than the team would like to offer. This budget covers the payments for the money we would borrow for the sewer/water/driveway and an estimate of the monthly water bill. Ben explained the budget in more detail, and the finance team answered questions as the council discussed the budget at length. Terry moved that we accept the budget as amended. The motion was seconded, and was approved.

## **Celebration Moments**

### **New Business:**

- 1. Architect:** See notes at beginning of meeting.
- 2. Audit Team Report:** Michelle shared the audit team report. All looks good, but they do have some recommendations. Council reviewed and discussed these recommendations. More information will be gathered before the next council meeting.
- 3. Report any Sale of Stock:** 10 shares of Graco stock came in.
- 4. Installation of Council-**New and returning council members will be installed Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at the 8:30 and 10:00 services.
- 5. Annual Meeting- Sunday, January 28, 11:15:**
  - a. Parliamentarian- Dennis Sackreiter
  - b. President- Michelle Reichow
  - c. Secretary- Holle Despen
  - d. Lunch served by youth
- 6. Mail Bag:** Council read a letter from Cindy Mowan. Council discussed the letter in detail, and determined that Michelle will contact Cindy for a follow up discussion in person.

Connie Weigel moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. The motion was seconded and approved.

Minutes submitted by Holle Despen, Secretary

Upcoming meeting:

Next regular council meeting: February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

February Devotions: Staff

February Treats: Staff