



Annual General Meeting Minutes Sunday February 12th, 2017

1.0 Welcome: *Dallas Kostna*

2.0 Opening Devotions: *Pastor Jason Zinko* – Followed the Order for Congregational Annual Meeting

3.0 Meeting Called to Order: *Dallas Kostna* – 12:43 pm

4.0 Adoption of Agenda:

Question: any new business to be added to the agenda?

- Member asked to include a discussion regarding financial assistance for Andrea and her costs towards seminary

“Motion to accept the agenda with amended addition. MSC. “

5.0 Consent Agenda

- 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes – *Appendix A*
- Pastor’s Report – *Pastor Jason Zinko*
- Congregational Statistics 2016
- Leadership Team Chair Report – *Dallas Kostna*
- Reports
 - Mission/Social Action Report – *Wendy Jarschke*
 - Prayer Chain Report & Bible Study Report – *Irene Pokrant*
 - Worship Report – *Janet Giese, Liz Wiens, Eleanor Griffiths*
 - Property Management Report – *Tim Friesen*

- **Human Resources Team Report – Rhonda Honke**
- **Youth Ministry Reports**
 - **Youth Coordinator’s Report – Lisa Van Dijk**
 - **Youth Treasurer’s Report**
- **Family Ministry Coordinator Report – Candace Kostna**
- **Faithlife Financial Chapter #33095 Report – Ted Pomes (No Report)**
- **MNO Synod Office Report to Congregational Annual Meetings**
- **2016 Financial Reports**
 - **Office Report**
 - **Treasurer’s Report**
 - **Auditor’s Report (not available at this time)**

“Motion to accept the reports as presented under the consent agenda. MSC.”

6.0 Questions and Recommendations Arising from Reports

Correction in Pastor Jason’s report: it should state Kim Gerbinski (not Kim W.) and Maure Lackman stepped down from their roles as volunteer coordinator.

Comments expressed regarding communication from leadership team with congregation and staff, which was previously brought up at the town hall meeting. Question about Leadership minutes not being updated on the SPLC website. Answer: December leadership team minutes are completed, but were not yet updated on the website, due to the transition period with our administrative assistants.

Question regarding the leadership team minutes and the committee reports, and why they are not included. Answer: The new structure of the Leadership team means there are only reports from Pastor Jason and Leadership Team chair, since there are no formal committees. Comment that previous councils did not always have committee reports either, based on number of council members and committees that were represented. Moving forward, will include any reports with the completed Leadership Team minutes.

Questions regarding family coordinator report, including vision for the position and how the coordinator is communicating with families? Answer: family ministry coordinator has been contacting families through personal phone calls, emails and social media. Shared information events that have taken place. Discussion regarding family coordinator role followed.

7.0 New Business

- **Financial Assistance for Seminary**

Discussion on how SPLC can assist Andrea with financial assistance for seminary; have previously discussed with staff and leadership team. Explained that we cannot donate directly because it could impact our charitable status; however, we could donate through free will offering or host an event. Question about seminary fund, and what was done in the past. Discussion followed. Question about possibility of creating a scholarship to assist Andrea, and future members going into seminary. Answer: would need to check with CRA about rules for a scholarship, and discussion followed about short term/long term benefits. Suggestion to look into possible grants we could apply for.

- **Continuance of the Leadership Team**

After trying the new Leadership Team format for a year, we need to decide if we can continue with the Leadership Team for 2017. Discussion about possible changes for this year's leadership team to meet concerns brought up about leadership team format. Number one concern will be working towards better communication, and clearly defining roles.

“Motion to give permission to allow the Leadership Team to continue for another year, to experiment and work towards improving communication with staff and congregation. MSC.”

- **Elections to the Leadership Team**

Elections for leadership team is the same process as council elections. The constitution states we need between 6 and 24 congregation members. From this year's team, those continuing to serve include: Tim Friesen, Marty Thenhaus and Dallas Kostna. Thank you to Duane Bradley, Maure Lackman and Kim Way for their many years on Leadership Team/council. Therefore, we require at least 3 people to join Leadership Team. Cheryl Hemmett and Bryon Van Dijk are interested in joining. They agree to let their names stand for election. Question asked for any other nominations? Nominate Megan Schwartz. She will let her name stand. Nominate Eleanor Griffiths. She declines. Nominate Dallas Gangske. She will let her name stand.

“Motion to nominate Cheryl Hemmett, Bryon Van Dijk, Megan Schwartz and Dallas Ganske to the leadership team. MSC.”

8.0 2016 Budget – Dallas Kostna

- **Narrative Budget – Dallas Kostna**

Budget is divided into two columns: stuff we absolutely need to do (worship, property management, etc.) and the wish list items we would like to do (if we have extra funds to use). Question about large donation from March 2016. Answer: the money was the grant from the Synod towards the Family Ministry Coordinator. Discussed the grant money for the block party; had tried to organized the block party for the past two years. Didn't have the grant the first year, and then last year, we only received \$1000 (half the amount we requested). We already have the money accepted, but only if we have the event we proposed.

- **Formal Budget – Dallas Kostna**

Question about the budget line for the dental/health care; previously it was only \$800 and now it is \$4000. Answer: New compensation package has changed. Unsure how the previous amount was so low over the last years. All hired staff who work over a number of hours get coverage, which we pay the entire amount; previously we paid only 75%.

Comment about how blessed we are that we continue to meet the needs of our church. Our budget is almost a quarter million dollars and SPLC members continue to give to cover all necessary items.

Question about salary for youth coordinator and family ministry coordinator. Discussed that we didn't hire Candace until April last year so it will change this year, whereas the youth coordinator hadn't received a raise for a while, which is reflected in that budget.

Question about the music director honorarium, and whether it should be increased. Discussion followed.

“Motion to amend the budget for the music directors' honorarium. MSC.”

Question about treasurer's honorarium. Answer: last year we transferred a portion of the money from the treasurer's honorarium to the administrative assistant, since she was going to be taking on more of the financial role.

“Motion to accept the 2017 Budget as presented. MSC”

9.0 Adjournment: 2:20 pm.

10.0 Closing Prayer – *Pastor Jason Zinko*

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