

Minutes for Church Council –March 15, 2022

Attendees: Randy Baskerville, Ros Demaree , Tom Foreman, Sandy Hanke, Mark Heckman, Ashley Mandery, Sarah Manro, Jeff Reising, Linc Schneider, Harold Seamon

Absent: Pastor Al Schoonover, Pastor Dave Hill, Jason Pearson, Steve Horton

6:45 meeting called to order. Sandy opened with prayer

Linc made a motion to approve the February minutes, Ros seconded, minutes were approved.

Randy Baskerville was welcomed to Council as Missions Chair. He reported Missions sent a donation to Senbete congregation in Ethiopia. Heartland Mission District is building a Disaster Response Warehouse at Peace Lutheran Church in Connersville and is having a build day March 28th and inviting churches of the district to participate.

Harold noted that the Mission Support fund (designated fund to support people going out on mission trips) has \$90,383. Harold will work with Randy and do a Temple Talk during March 26-27th service about two upcoming opportunities; Mayfield/Benton Kentucky disaster response mission trip June 12-17 and an international trip to the Dominican Republic.

Harold created and passed out an expense account breakdown to help explain the Month by Month financial report. The farm fund has taken in \$173,823 and \$171,000 has been paid to Tom Hooper. Tom Foreman explained that the financial commitments made for the property span 2 years so we may not see many more donations come in until December 2022 or January 2023.

Linc reported that the one organist who had an interest in the organist position has declined as logistically it will not fit with her current commitments. The search will continue and our needs will be split between 3 interim organists.

Sandy announced a new small group will be kicked off this weekend, Sisters without Misters. This is for all single, divorced, and widowed women to have fellowship time outside of the church. It will also be used as an outreach and the invitation will be extended to women outside of Bethel.

A nominating committee consisting of council members going off the Council in June plus the president was submitted per B1.06 (d) of the bylaws. Ashley made a motion to elect Tom Foreman, Jeff Reising, Sarah Manro, Randy Baskerville, Jason Pearson and Mark Heckman as the nominating committee and seconded by Linc. The committee was approved. The committee will reach out to see if there are any congregants interested on being on the nominating committee.

There was discussion on who the Lent offering will go to and the NALC disaster relief fund was chosen. Sandy made a motion to send the Lent offerings to NALC disaster relief fund and it was seconded by Randy. Motioned passed.

Mark reported that to ensure that we are staying consistent with federal and state statues and guidelines, members of the Long Range Planning committee are meeting with an outside HR firm to better understand how they might be able to help us in that effort. Discussions will also include the potential consulting on employee handbook, evaluations and overall HR best practices.

Ashley brought up the possibility of paying our nursery volunteers. Discussion followed about asking for additional volunteers and Tom felt we should be looking at our root cause of why we can't get volunteers. Due to current budgets issues and HR concerns, the suggestion was tabled.

Sarah said the Boy Scout troop is having difficulty setting up a bank account using the churches tax ID #. Randy, having been involved in Boy Scout council for many years, clarified the Boy Scout financial structure. Jeff will call the BS council to see what is needed for the troop to open their bank account.

Jeff said that the Spring Clean Up will be April 10th. Aiden Biddle will put the fence for the playground up March 26th.

Jeff reported on the proposed handicap ramp for the front of the church. It would include repair to 5 blocks that are cracked plus the blocks between the pillars. He has received 2 quotes for the handicap ramp for the front of the church, \$4860 and \$6200, and is waiting for a third quote. Once received he will send it to Council via email. Currently we have a \$2400 donation made by Kim Forrester and Max Rudy for the garage use plus \$200 from the rummage sales and a possible \$200 from Aiden Biddle from his excess funds. We will have a 'Coins for Concrete' drive to help defray the balance needed.

Jeff received a quote of \$4,891.65 to repair the push bar and rewire the entry door to the Education wing, replace the activation motors on the Pantry entrance door and the main church entry door as well as make adjustments to the double doors between the church and Education wing. He asked that the repairs be paid from the Building Fund. Randy made a motion to move forward with the repairs and be paid through the Building Fund and Sarah seconded. Motioned passed.

Randy noted that the crab trees in front of the church are messy and actually cause a walking hazard when the apples fall on the sidewalk. Discussion followed about replacing the trees with something else. Discussion was tabled for the time being.

There was discussion about creating community garden spaces on the farm property and it was decided it was too late to get it started for this Spring. Topic was tabled for next year.

Jeff made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ashely seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:23.

Submitted by Sandy Hanke