

## October 2018 Council Minutes

St. John's council met on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room. Present members included Jen, Kim, Dan, Kyle, Joel, Al, and Kelly. Pastor John, Deacon Amanda, and Lindsay were also present. Marlo, Jon, and Sharyn were absent.

### **1. Call to Order**

Jen called the meeting to order at 7:04. There were no special guests at the meeting. Jen received a follow up letter from the Synod again thanking St. John's for it's \$20,000 in 2017, and a request for \$22,400 for 2018. Jen suggested we wait to see where the budget lies and after analyzing unexpected properties expenses, and then determine how we are able to meet this request.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Joel made a motion to approve the agenda. Dan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **3. Devotions**

Dan led devotions.

### **4. Reports**

- a) *Previous meeting minutes* – Due to staff absence, the previous meeting minutes were not include in the council packet. Unapproved minutes are posted on the website, and council will vote to approved the September minutes at the November meeting.
- b) *Discuss staff and commissions reports* – Council is encouraged to read through the all-commission meeting minutes that were distributed in the council packet (as well as posted on the website) and plan to amend and approve at the November meeting. Memorials/Interior Design had questions about the placement of the recently refinished old altar in the youth room. The altar is currently placed in the fireside room to determine the best use.

### **5. Financials**

- a) *Summary of the past month's financials* – Financial reports were not yet available, but Kim provided a narrative on the status of the finances. This month we are currently down \$2,500, and down \$10,000 for the year. However, we expect income to increase with Thanksgiving and Christmas, which historically are strong seasons. Numbers were not available for last Sunday (Confirmation Sunday), but there were over 500 people in attendance in the second service. Kim has not yet seen a final bill on the boiler repairs. There was also a \$3600 water heater repair that was not anticipated. Kim mentioned that she is working with Dave Aakre, who is looking into some potential rebates. Kim said that 2019 budgeting has begun. She will email all chairs of commissions and ask to schedule meetings to plan for 2019 budgets.

### **6. Old Business**

- a) *Call Committee Update* – Al provided a brief update on the call for a new pastor. He is unable to disclose details, but said that the Ministry Site Profile has helped candidates describe our church culture very effectively.
- b) *Council Visibility* – Joel has nothing new to report at this time.
- c) *E-Giving* – Kim mentioned that this program has grown in nature to include more than just giving. But is likely going to expand to church management software, which requires more money and

more time. She discussed the cost of the current giving envelopes and noted they will possibly change to something less detailed. Pastor John suggested a stewardship campaign, and to include a time and talent form with a letter and a pledge card. This is also a good place to ask if envelopes are still needed for families, as there is cost involved in producing and mailing the envelopes. Joel asked that Media commission and staff be included in any church management software selection. Growth and Hospitality is working on a Time and Talent sheet. Al suggested showing a slide at each service showing “this is your giving has allowed us to do”, and to show it during worship services.

d) *All-Commission Meeting* – Jen updated all on the town-hall style meeting that took place on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. She said that all commissions were represented by submitted reports as to what each commission is doing. Jen would like to keep the quarterly meetings to ensure effective communication among the commissions.

e) *Property Insurance* – Kelly is working to create and distribute a detailed spreadsheet that can be populated by all insurance companies. Projected numbers for 2019 should be available the second or third week of November.

f) *Council Retreat* – Jen ask everyone to look at weekends in February and March that will not work to meet.

g) *Roundtable Discussion* – Dan asked if CKP should be sending meeting minutes, and Council said they should. After Jessica Paulsen attended a seminar in La Crosse, she wanted to know if St. Johns can implement a Parent Aware program by locking all entrances except for the front door when CKP is in progress. Jen asked about succession planning because Joel and Sharyn will be rotating off council. Jen will follow up with people who have been involved in the nominating process before to determining the best way who may be interested in serving.

**7. New Business** – nothing to report

## **8. God Sightings**

Council and staff shared God sightings they had recently witnessed.

## **9. Motion to Adjourn**

Joel made a motion to adjourn. Kyle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **10. Lord’s Prayer**

Council closed the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.

## **11. Upcoming events/meetings**

Next council meeting is Tuesday, November 13, 2018 7:00 pm in the Conference Room. Anna Rendell, a women’s health author/speaker, will speak about self-care on Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm. There will be a program (Made Known) on pregnancy/infant loss on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

November devotions will be led by Marlo.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Utesch