

**Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
Yardley, Pennsylvania
Congregational Council Minutes
Meeting of July 20, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Sharon Taylor, Pastor Collen Cox, Becky Ehrenfeld, Frank Ehrenfeld III, Mike Garozzo, Wayne Hall, Kara Mullican, Paul Rensner, Marie Speers, Mark Stuckley, Chuck Tobias

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Marian Robey, Michael Robey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gabe Patay, Chuck Radvan

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Frank Ehrenfeld called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 7:00 p.m.

DEVOTIONS

Pastor Sharon led the council in devotions. Becky Ehrenfeld will lead devotions next month.

PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

On the Thursday prior to each monthly council meeting, committee liaisons shall provide the church office with written committee reports. Packets to each council member will be provided by packet via church mailboxes on Friday.

Treasurer's Report: Report attached. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Financial Secretary's Report: Report attached. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Financial Secretary's Report.

Finance Committee: Report attached

Pastor Sharon's Report: Report attached

Pastor Colleen's Report: Report attached

Missions Committee: No report

Stewardship: No report

Fellowship: No report

Property Committee: No report

Worship and Music: Report attached

Christian Education: Report attached

Support Ministries: No report

Endowment Fund Committee: No report

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 15, 2009 Council Meeting were reviewed. The minutes were amended to reflect that the "Council Retreat" under Old Business was actually the "New Council Member Workshop". A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. New Council Member Workshop Report:** An informational session was held in June for new council members. The topics of the workshop included: financial reports, the council agenda and administrative items, and communication between council and the congregation.
- 2. Diakon Family Health Services:** Dr. Terry Lieb met with council to engage in preliminary dialogue. He will meet again with council on July 30.
- 3. HR Committee Appointment Update:** The committee has confirmed Greg Griesemer as a new member. The committee still has one open spot to fill. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved that Frank Ehrenfeld contact the 4th person on the list of possible candidates, should the 3rd person decline.
The Staff Evaluation Form will be changing to a more conversational format rather than a checklist. A caution was made that the format should not become too loose/informal. The effectiveness of the new format will be evaluated.
Pastoral Report Metrics will be part of HRs upcoming agenda. The committee will research various formats for this type of reporting.
- 4. Audit Update:** A partial report was submitted. The report needs to be finalized and submitted to council **by August**. Wayne Hall will follow up with the committee.
- 5. Council Service Project:** The next service project with Cast Your Cares is scheduled for July 25, with another opportunity on August 29, 2009. The opportunity to serve has been announced to the congregation. Chuck Tobias and Lois Lohse participated in the June event.
- 6. Giving Analysis:** Wayne Hall will continue this effort that was started by Jeff Mullican, by comparing giving trends of pledged contributions versus giving trends of non-pledged contributions.
- 7. Financial Status:** It was noted that per the Resurrection Connections financial message, the projected \$14k deficit is still possible, although it is still too early to predict. Ted Ebersole is working with committees now to determine if they will be at/over budget for the year.
- 8. Lay Ministry Budget:** There is \$250 in the Lay Ministry Budget line item that can be used towards Mike Reynold's Diakonia expenses. Ted Ebersole has confirmed that in the past this money was taken from Pastor's Special Ministry Fund, and the precedent was \$350.
- 9. A/C:** The air conditioning contractors inspected the unit after noise complaints were received, but found nothing to be wrong with the unit. It was discussed that the Property Committee's involvement with this issue is now finished. The issue may be a Building Expansion Committee issue instead. Mike Garozzo commented that we should retain an audio consultant when installing A/C in the future (e.g. the new sanctuary).
- 10. Council Retreat:** Council members will email Pastor Sharon the Saturdays in September through November that they would be available for a day-long retreat for planning & visioning.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. LCR Announcements and Counter Sign Up:** A sign up sheet was passed around.
- 2. Council Liaison Appointments:** Council reviewed the list of committees and assigned liaisons to each committee. Becky Ehrenfeld will type up this revised list and distribute at the August meeting.

3. **BTCF Building Request:** The Be The Change Foundation has requested the use of the building on Saturday, September 12, 2009. A motion was made and seconded to approve the usage contingent upon whether the wedding scheduled for that day requires the use of the Fellowship Hall. After discussion, this motion was amended to include that approval also be contingent upon BTCF submitting a Building Usage Request Form, since they are a non-profit group not associated with an LCR ministry. The motion was unanimously approved as amended.
4. **All-Committee Night:** Liaisons will encourage their committees to meet on August 10 and September 14 to get committee momentum started again as fall approaches.
5. **New Confirmation Format:** See council packet for report on the new format. In summary, the new format will consist of 4 mandatory retreats in order to be confirmed, instead of the once-weekly format. The hope is that this will allow for greater commitment to the program by the students/parents, and the opportunity for uninterrupted education time.
6. **Property Committee Notes:** The roof and soffit work has been completed and paid for. The possibility of a water leak is being investigated as the water/sewer bill was higher than normal. Eric Evenson has petitioned the township to get a reduction in the bill. Ushers will be reminded to make sure no faucets are running after services on Sundays. The committee is discussing possibly replacing the carpet in the sanctuary and narthex.
7. **LCR Cloth Eco-bags:** LCR's Men's Group will offer cloth bags with LCR logo to the congregation as gifts, with an optional donation. The Men's Group will partially cover the cost of the bags. The Tanzania team will take some on their trip as gifts.

PRAYER REQUESTS & ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed with prayer at approx. 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Ehrenfeld
August 10, 2009