

Fairbanks Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2016

Present: Mark Huffington, Dave Ingram, Vanessa Jackson, Pastor John Van Haneghan, Kathy Thomas, Jerry Zellmer, Ruth Carson.

Visitors: Trina Anderson and Jason Kempthorne.

Absent: Tom Alton, Skylar Holman, Mike Cook, and Jim Lewandoski.

1. Call to Order 7:02pm.
2. Devotion – by Pastor John – a discussion of the partnership with FLC and Love, INC. by Jason.
3. Approval of Agenda – Vanessa motions to approve as amended, Dave 2nds. Motions carries.
4. Approval of September Council Meeting Minutes – Jerry moves to accept as September minutes as corrected, Dave 2nds. Motion Carries.
5. Financial Report – no report.
 - a. Note: Dave has given the business resolution of accounts to Jim. They just need to be updated. This will be worked on in the future.
6. Pastor’s Report (Pastor John) – highlights include the Confirmation retreat in Valdez in February and notes that health insurance has to be renewed yearly. Also look for an article from Pastor in this Friday’s (Oct 21) paper. No Thanksgiving Day service.
7. Ministry Reports
 - a. Property Ministry – everything is dry in the basement. Now it is time for repairs. Because they did such a good job last time, that there was no real damage. Looked at samples to replace the carpet from the Sunday School rooms. Jerry brought in a sample of the vinyl floor that is the current favorite. Will cost \$4000-\$6000 to get installed. Adjustable vents installed in the conference room.
 - a. Trina brings in the proposal that we need directional signs to clearly indicate where our community room is located. She feels that if we really want our community room to be out there and to let people know that it’s there, that they need to know which door to find. Trina indicates she is willing to pay for it. Discussion – we need to figure out how to get there, and plan for a couple hundred apiece. Perhaps use paper signage in the interim. Mark will do come checking.
 - b. Constitution Ministry – draft given to council for approval. Vanessa immediately spotted another error, so a corrected electronic draft will be sent out for us to approve by the next meeting so we can send it to the synod and follow timelines to get it on the annual meeting agenda.
 - c. Mutual Ministry Ministry – no report .
 - d. Stewardship Ministry
 - a. Fall Pledge Drive – Pastor is enjoying working with the “Joy” theme. Different than Consecration Sunday in that people mail in – it is not where people put cards in a basket and it gets counted immediately.
 - e. Education Ministry – no report
 - f. Worship & Arts Ministry – They met last week to make sure that Advent/Christmas is ready to roll. Holden Evening Prayer is covered. Week four will be the Choir cantata. Christmas is on a Sunday so there will be one service that is a service of carols. Easter will be April 16.
 - g. GOOD Committee – Jerry shares Tom’s report. The big thing is that our monthly payment is coming out of MIF funds. Things will be worked out so payments will be made. Our income is about \$1500 short of what is needed for the mortgage payment. New cycle starts in March. There will be a separate cycle to start for the building fund. A new contract with MIF will be required prior to April 15 in and we will not know the interest rate until 45 days out. Jim is going to arrange for Edward Jones to meet with us between services one Sunday in November about the tax advantages of donating. This group is still on the hunt for a motivational speaker to come and talk for the drive in March. Discussion about the needs of our church and what speakers might work best (Lisa?). Council would like the speaker to come in February and March.
8. Old Business
9. New Business
 - a. 2017 Budget – Time to start thinking budget challenges.
 - i. Every member of council is challenged to think about how to tighten things further. We are reminded that it is our responsibility as council to budget for sustainability and avoid mismanagement of any type of money. Come prepared with ideas in November, and this will lead into setting a date for the congregational meeting. Last year it was the Sunday after the Super Bowl.
 1. Ruth moves to make the congregations meeting Sunday, February 19, 2017. Jerry Seconds. Discussion – this allows time for the Constitution to go through and more time to put things together.
 - b. Need a nominating committee – this was overlooked at the annual meeting. Will put out a call in the bulletin
 - c. Ruth has started Spiritual Yoga.
 - d. Linda’s cabin has sold. Thanks to Trish Johnston to for heading that up and taking care of that “build up” project.
 - e. Because of orders, Vanessa’s last meeting as a member of council will be May, 2017. An appointment will need to be made to cover that spot.
10. Adjourn Vanessa moves we adjourn, Ruth seconds, motion carries. 8:52pm.
11. Closing Prayer.

Next meeting: November 15. (note: Ruth and Dave will be gone that day.)