Zion Lutheran Church Minot

Church Council Meeting

Date: 1/16/2024

* Meeting called to order by Council President John Butgereit at 6:32 PM
* In attendance at this meeting: John Butgereit, Melissa Helgeson, John Thompson, Rich Jensen, Erica Atkinson, and John Gruenberg. Also, Pastor Elaine, and Pastor Natasha.
* Check in. Opening Prayer by Pastor Natasha.
* No Executive Session needed
* Approval of Agenda
  + Agenda amended to include a recommendation from the Personnel Committee on a change in the organizational chart. Motion by Melissa Helgeson to approve the agenda with amendments. Second by John Thompson. Motion carried.
* Recognition of Visitors: No Visitors
* Consent Agenda, includes meeting minutes from December, Committee Reports, Pastors’ Reports. Motion by Melissa Helgeson to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by John Gruenberg. Motion carried.
* New Business
  + December, Year End Financial Report. We went over the report and noted some probable errors in this report. The report was accepted. Motion by Rich Jensen to table the report to get a more accurate version after review. Second by Melissa Helgeson. Motion Carried.
  + Two proposals were brought to the Council for approval to send to the Trust Committee.
  + Request 1 is for the purchase of bibles we give at baptism, to all the third graders, and for confirmation students, as well as for Luther’s Small Catechism. The total of this request is $2,500. Motion by Melissa Helgeson to approve and send to the Trust Committee. Second by John Thompson. Motion carried.
  + Request 2 is to fund mission outreach to Minot State University Campus Ministry and to Metigoshe Ministries. The total of this request is $6,000. Motion by Melissa Helgeson to approve and send to the Trust Committee. Second by John Thompson. Motion carried.
* Mission pledge to the Western North Dakota Synod. This item on the agenda was moved to the discussion on the 2024 budget.
* Second Attempt at 2024 Budget.
  + We went through the preliminary numbers from the work at our last meeting and made a few adjustments.
    - Should Food, Faith, Family run a $2,000 deficit. Does this fall under a staff duty? It really doesn’t fit any of the job descriptions, so is this something we can go to a volunteer group to organize? Is it something we want to continue? The council feels the deficit is worth the return on this event, so we need to find a way to get this away from staff and continue doing it.
    - Going forward, the Personnel Committee and Council need to come up with a total salary number for our two pastors, and they will declare what of that they want for their housing allowance.
    - John Gruenberg made a motion to approve the preliminary budget pending a simple audit and an insurance review. Second by John Thompson. Motion carried.
* Staff organizational chart. Personnel Committee has asked for a change in the organizational chart. This item is tabled to the next meeting.

Council make up for next year. Officers need to be identified. Rich Jensen will take the President’s role but will have to give up the committees he is involved in. Melissa will be the Vice-President, John Gruenberg will be the Treasurer. We will need to assign a Secretary at the February meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM

Submitted by Rich Jensen

Church Council Secretary