

MINUTES FROM CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – AUGUST 20, 2006

Council Attendees

John McClave
Gregg Borachok
Mike Campagna
Carol Schmauch
Gale Begalla
Helen Nachenberg
Linda Moresi
Bob Rhyne
Ben Bellury

Other Attendees

Tom Frick
Pastor Graff

Devotion – Pastor Graff

Changes or additions to the minutes: Add John’s commit on his letter to the church council regarding John using his authority by not implementing council decisions by means of using the Executive committee or other avenues to override or modify motions passed by the council.

John’s reply was “therefore, all future council decisions shall be carried out by the appropriate Officer of the council to which a decision rests. The Executive Committee will only be called upon as last resort in the case of emergency or upon the failure of the responsible council officer to carry out council decisions”. John made the motion to amend the minutes and Gale seconded the motion. Minutes were then approved.

Treasurer’s report: Ben stated that our pledges continue to be low. A suggestion made was made to talk to members as well as staff to pay for any expenses that they accrue for church activities out of their pocket and not seek any reimbursement back. Another suggestion was made to have those members who are able to give a gift of bonds, etc.

Joy Cooper will be spearheading a financial program for tithing.

We are still not making any pledges to the Synod for our benevolence. A suggestion was made to send in 10% on our pledges.

Pastor Graff suggested that we recalibrate our figures for our weekly commitment since we have cut some of our expenses.

Helen mentioned that Alice Bostic’s letter in the newsletter was done very well.

Question was made as to where the \$1,200 on the Lenten offerings went to as the Synod report shows that that was never received. We gave \$3,550.00 last year to the Synod and as of year to date we have given zero to the synod.

Mike said that the Youth programs are doing very well with the car wash, white watering rafting, etc. Megan is gearing up for the fall and the confirmation program will start in September. Megan and Pastor are redeveloping the confirmation program.

A youth council is being set up and has met one time.

An attempt is being made to make the youth program self sufficient so that Megan or those involved in the program do not have to ask the church every time funds are requested for an event. A line item will be set up in the budget for the Youth so that Megan can draw against the budget and with monies coming in, that will make this a wash as the youth program becomes more self sufficient. Gregg will get with Ken on this.

Mark has met with the staff and there will be another staff meeting on August 28.

Ben said that we tie in the stewardship with the CROWN program. September will be the month to emphasize Stewardship.

Gale and Tom are on top of the Parkwood Knolles project. Negotiations have been going on with Tom, John and the superintendent on reaching a monetary agreement for the project still using our parking lot to unload materials and damage to the parking lot. A \$10,000 figure was mentioned but this did not include the damage to the parking lot. Alex and Tom met and Tom said that they had discussed a figure of \$35,000 with half being \$17,500 to be paid in advance. This was taken back to the project but was rejected so at this point we will be getting nothing.

There was a discussion on the storm drain which the city will be putting in and whether it will be infringing on our property or not. If the city does go onto our property and there is no right of way, then we will consider the project to be trespassing on our property and will shut them down. Pictures were presented to the council on tresses being off loaded on our property. All of this information will be turned over to an attorney if we get to this point. Will get with someone in the congregation to suggest a good attorney in this field.

Mike suggested a "No Trespassing" sign be posted but a letter would have to be drawn letting the project know of our intentions.

It is very important that we use the correct verbiage and our within our rights to do what is necessary to resolve these problems with Parkwood Knolles. Bob made a motion to pursue the path of getting legal advice and Linda seconded the motion. Bob will follow-up on this.

On Education, Linda said we are working on Rally Day after Labor Day. We need teachers very badly.

Also the new program SPLASH which follows our new bourns through baptism, birthdays, etc. Linda is working with Marilyn Schuster on keeping a data base and has a budget for this program.

Evangelism was emphasizing member growth and retention.

John suggested that a call committee needs to be established especially with the Veterans program coming up to come and revisit us again and join us on this special day. Get them back into the church.

Pastor Bob said that we should contact Pastor Graf about Evangelism. Helen will be getting in touch.

The Cub Scout room is fixed and up and running for the August 31st Open House. There are two ladies that are very interested in getting the Brownies going. The whole Cascade area is being upgraded for these programs.

HVAC, we have received \$5,000 for this project but we need \$13,500. Gale suggested that we get in touch with Environmental Systems as they have worked with us in the past and been very helpful.

Pastor has written up a program on the Shepparding Program which will fall under Evangelism. We will read this program and discuss at the next council meeting.

We need to let the congregation know that in September our 2006 benevolence has not been paid and if we intend to pay it up for this year. Then we need to set-up this budget for 2007.

We are \$30,000 short of the \$500,000 for this year and this will be discussed in September.

The CROWN program, stewardship and Cole Chastain's bequeath will be discussed at September's meeting.

Helen brought up a good thought on people needing to be aware when memorials are made and given to the church that we follow-up with a letter back to the family. This has not been promoted enough and we need to educate the congregation about given a gift in lieu of flowers to the church.

Discussion will be made on the newsletter as to every week as it was or keep it at twice a month. There has been no comments made on going to the twice a month newsletter.

When the amount of our pledging is posted in the bulletin and on e-mail we need to show the new weekly figures since we have made changes to the budget. Since the amount we put in the bulletin has fallen so short each week, we need to show the new weekly dollar amount to catch up.

We received a letter on supporting the ministry at Kurry Beach but the Pastor will write a letter stating that we are not able to do this at this time.

Budget will be discussed at the September meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.