

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
 Thursday, May 7, 2020

Attendees via ZOOM: Pr. Kyle Backhaus, Margaret Hand, Michelle Bohm, Stefanie Trakel, John Rische, Tim Allman, Tom Splittgerber, Donna Felch & Jane Marotz
 Excused: Brad Ten Pas & Jim Marshall

Guests:

Topic	Discussion	Action	Responsible Party
Call to Order		President Margaret Hand called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.	
Opening Prayer		Pr Kyle opened with prayer.	
February Secretary's Report	There was one correction to the minutes, Jim Marshall was in attendance.	A motion was made by Tim Allman to approve the February Secretary's Report with the noted correction. John Rische seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
HVAC Update	Margaret reported back that she spoke with various staff members and everyone is very happy with the heating system upgrade.	In terms of the air conditioning portion that still could be done, at this point it cannot be assessed. It will be re-evaluated as the season returns. The Council will need to balance that need with various other building needs to determine priorities for spending.	Church Council
March Secretary's Report		A motion was made by Margaret Hand via email on 3/24/20 to approve the March Secretary's Report. Jane Marotz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
February Treasurer's Report		A motion was made by Michelle Bohm to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Margaret Hand seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
March Treasurer's Report		A motion was made by Tim Allman to approve the March Treasurer's Report. Michelle Bohm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
April Treasurer's Report	Preliminary results were discussed. Congregation giving has gone up significantly.	The final report will be sent by email for approval.	Stefanie Trakel
2020-21 Budget Questions	Stefanie is working to prepare the budget for Council review. In preparation, two topics were discussed. 1. Hispanic Ministry Support – our initial 5 year commitment of \$15k per year will be ending December 2020.	A motion was made by Tim Allman to support Hispanic Ministry in the amount of \$15k for the year 2021, with a portion of the support, to be recommended by Stefanie, coming from the operating budget. Jane Marotz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	

	2. Seminary Support – in the past we have supported sons of our Congregation that have gone onto the Seminary in the amount of \$8k per year. Garret Feile will be entering the Seminary this fall.	A motion was made by Tim Allman to include \$8k Seminary Assistance in the 2020-21 budget. Michelle Bohm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	
Policy #52 – Sustenance Fund		Stefanie will ask Pr Tom to follow up with Pr Blas to ensure the Hispanic Ministry is aware of this fund. A motion was made by Margaret Hand to approve policy #52- Sustenance Fund, as presented. Donna Felch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	Stefanie Trakel
Church Council Election	Given that the April Congregation Meeting could not be held, the election will need to take place by absentee ballot. Nominee biographies will be printed in the May newsletter, along with a message for voting members to contact the church office by June 5 to request an absentee ballot. A robo-call will be done on June 1 to remind people to request a ballot. Ballots will need to be postmarked by June 19. All ballots will be numbered to ensure no duplication.	A motion was made by Margaret Hand to proceed with the election as described. John Rische seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	Stefanie Trakel
Reopening Discussion	Pr Kyle and Margaret both shared and sought input on letters they will be putting into the May newsletter. Pr Kyle shared potential reopening ideas for worship and communion. Discussion was held. The ECC and TGP ministries have begun discussions on how to reopen as well. Extra cleaning supplies are being sought and budgeted for. It was suggested to hold a practice service once we have the process in place.	Following the meeting a motion was made by Margaret Hand on 5/13/20 to create the Reopen Task Force to include Pastor Kyle, Stefanie Trakel, Tim Allman, Jim Nicholson, Tom Splittgerber & Margaret Hand. Jane Marotz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.	Reopen Task Force Team
Bylaw Meeting	The Constitution & Bylaws have been updated based on the recommendations from the District office. These will need to be reviewed by the Council.	A meeting will be scheduled to include Jim Fasse to review these changes.	Margaret Hand
Adjournment	The next Church Council Meeting will be Tuesday, May 19 at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Additional meetings may be called to address reopening, please watch your emails.	A motion was made by John Rische to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. Seconded by Michelle Bohm. Motion carried unanimously.	
Closing Prayer		Tim Allman closed in prayer.	