

Council Meeting: January 2020; minutes taken by Ellen Dobson

Present: Rosemary, Dave, Kristi, Deborah, Cassandra, Pastor, Steve, Ellen and Brian Osterloh as a guest.

1. Called to order 6:29
2. Prayer and meditation from 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy.
3. 2020 Budget: Brian presented the proposed budget. Budget assumes Rising Sun will be here the entire year. \$550 of the \$600 is assumed to be set aside for special projects, and \$50 for utilities. Brian reviewed the new items on the budget, and how items were moved around.  
  
Capital Funds is part of the budget, so that council will have the authority to spend up to \$20,000 from those funds for a major facility expense. Council can make the decision for what a major facility repair.  
  
Kristi made a motion to accept, Dave seconded, motion to accept the budget to present to the congregation accepted.
4. Review and approval of October and November minutes. Kristi moved to accept, Steve seconded, approved
5. Reports:
  - a. Treasurer – Ellen – presented. Treasurer and Financial Secretary balance for the month and for the year
  - b. Building and Grounds – Steve presented. Toilet was fixed; outside outlets were fixed so they are no longer accessible. No longer any outside plugs.
  - c. Financial Secretary – Kristi – statements have been completed and either put in boxes or have been mailed to congregants. Kristi asked that parishioners be notified to review, and let her know if there are any corrections that need to be made.
  - d. President – Steve. New microphone. Giving tree went well. Hauge boys are interested in going to the national conference. We would like to help them attend.
  - e. Pastor Doug – talked about donations to Luther House. There was money set aside for Luther House; a separate line item was set-aside for Luther House. There was an additional amount designated for Luther House in 2019, Cassandra will research the minutes and determine the amount that was designated. Any action is tabled until research is completed.
  - f. Approval – reports were approved as presented.
7. Old Business:
  - a. HVAC Fund update – will set up an account after the new Council is installed,
  - b. Discussion for solution to homeless problem. Dave discussed the experience of another church when they offered up their parking lot to homeless. Worked well for a few months, but then they started to have real problems. Based on several conversations with other people, Dave recommends we continue our ministry with the schools, but should not choose to proceed with letting the homeless stay in our parking lot. Perhaps we could set up something educational with the neighborhood. There have been complaints from the neighborhood. The alleyway behind the church is an easement that we are responsible to keep maintained.

A motion was made to we don't extend our service projects to provide a place for homeless. Dave made a motion that: Whereas Messiah Lutheran Church feels called to help our neighborhood school at this time, we are not prepared at this time to proceed with the homeless project as presented by Paul Sheppard. Seconded by Rosemary. Motion approved.

We also discussed hiring a security service to patrol the church; we discussed hiring a security service to help keep the homeless off the property.

Nominations for council: Lee Danielson, Deborah Hoyt, K.D. Pass and Buddy Hooks have volunteered to be on council. Discussion was held regarding associate members being on council. We reviewed the constitution and associate members cannot be elected to council. A motion was made by Kristi to adopt the slate of nominations with additional nominations being allowed during the meeting. Cassandra seconded. Motion approved.

Need for an Audit discussed. Steve to approach Linda, and Lee has already volunteered.

Discussed passing the plate during Easter and Christmas services when we have guests, there were several guest as Christmas that appeared to want to donate as the plates were taken up front.

Rosemary asked about the congregational meeting, we are going to have a potluck.

***Action items:***

Cassandra research the offering to Luther House

Kristi and Dave will research security firms to patrol the church.

Steve will advise Buddy that associate members cannot be on council, and advise KD that she is officially on the slate.

Steve will talk to Linda about auditing the books.

Steve and Dave to talk to Paul regarding our decision on the homeless.