

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2017
5:30 PM

FLC Vision: Developing Relationships ... That Matter!

FLC Mission: We faithfully honor Jesus by developing disciples to reach others with the light of God's hope and love.

1. Call to order at 5:33 by Larry Patterson
2. Present: President Larry Patterson, Pastor Rusty, Treasurer Matt Engelmann, Vice President Anna Geleske, Secretary Alyssa Jacobs, Richard Hinojosa, Myra Haugene, and Maury Tiller. Absent Cynthia Murphy.
3. Devotion – Anna Geleske
4. Approve minutes from previous meetings: Regular meeting August 15, 2017
Electronic Meeting August 29, 2017

Motion by Maury to accept August 15 and August 29 minutes, seconded by Richard, motion carries.

5. Receive reports with discussion as warranted on regular agenda items:
 - Finance Report
 - i. Receive August 31, 2017 report – **Matt, Council Treasurer**
Motion by Alyssa to accept Financial Report, seconded by Anna, motion carries.
 - Pastor's Report
 - i. Staffing Update – Have the best staff Pastor Rusty has ever worked with.
 - ii. Other items of interest and / or special projects:
 1. Need to update members on financial status. Lowest August we have ever seen. But the good news is 113 recorded pledges and as of September 5: we have 7 that have completed, 4 that have exceeded. 80 of the pledges are in the tracking zone. 16 are trailing. 7 in the watch category. 3 that haven't started. High percentage of people that are going to complete/exceed pledges for year. We have 146 giving units that we do not have pledge cards from. Most of them are not mission partners. YTD giving is 647,606. (\$210 difference from where we were last year at this point.)
 2. More new people than ever before and more connected than ever before but takes the average person 12-18 months to make a church their own. That is not what is going to finally move the needle for us and that is not what we expect.
 3. We have a group of mission partners that are really leaning in and working hard. However, there is a small group that is steadily and rapidly declining in financial support. Their decline is almost exactly equal to what we are gaining on the other side.
 4. Have a family meeting on October 1st to discuss ministry plan and what we need to do to be successful through the end of the year. Meeting will only last 15 minutes and will have council members available to answer questions in gathering place.
6. Ongoing projects and future action items:
 - Update regarding sale of surplus North 3.5 acres – **Larry**

- i. Austin, Larry and Pastor met and modified the letter of intent received and sent it back on Friday, September 8. No feedback/response.
 - ii. Contract with realtor needs to be renewed at the end of September.
Motion to extend contract by another term (6-9 months) with real estate agency by Matt, seconded by Alyssa, motion carries
- \$5,000 Gift to ELCA - sponsorship for Young Adults in Global Mission, Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, and Lutheran Campus Ministries (Consider Funding Request and take appropriate action).
We are \$3,000 towards our goal. Pastor Rusty recommends that we deploy out of benevolence fund and then replace with specific donors.
Motion by Matt to authorize \$5000 out of benevolence fund that will be replenished by special gifts, seconded by Myra, motion carries.
- March 26, 2017, Hail Storm Damage to church facilities – Status Report
 - i. Supplemental claim request has been forwarded to insurance company. It is under review and no response yet.
- Sanctuary furnishings sub-committee(s); Status Reports – **Anna & Richard**
 - i. Anna – the sample for new alter was perfect and good to move forward.
 - ii. Inquiry to family of the artist that created them, but no response. In light of what has happened, we would like to help a church in Houston that will be rebuilding. 71 churches in mission area that had water inside of church. We will be exploring possibilities.
Motion by Matt to offer items to anyone in Gulf Coast Senate that will put it to use at no charge, seconded by Myra, motion carries.
- Appointment of nomination Committee for new Council Members
Brian Weaver has agreed to chair committee.
- November 12, 2017 Congregational meeting - - discuss / develop presentation topics and general program format:
 - i. Vote on new council members
 - ii. Day School
 - iii. Vote on moving congregational meeting
 - iv. Vote on Ministry Plan (interim plan?)
 - v. Vote on moving fiscal year
 - vi. Land Update
- 7. 24D Vision training - Future meetings October 10th (Module 7); and need to select November date -- tentative proposed dates (Nov. 7th or 14th)
- 8. Adjournment at 7:21

FUTURE MTGS: 24D – October 10th – 5:30 PM
Council meetings All Sunday @ 3:00 pm - - Oct. 15th, Nov. 5th, Dec. 10th,

Congregational Meeting Nov. 12th
Fall Retreat TBD