

St. John's Church Council Minutes – November 19, 2019

Council Members Present: Sharon Piastowski, Tom Pamperin, Liz Fischer, Kelly Trebus, Curly Krueger, Carol Polzin, Gene Mykisen & Pete Pockat. Also Present-Pastor Roald Harswick

Council Members Absent: Shirl Tischauser

Meeting called to order by President Sharon Piastowski at 5:30 pm.

Meeting opened with Prayer & Devotions by Carol Polzin.

Mission Statement was read.

Member Concerns: None at this time.

Secretary's Report: With no changes or corrections, Tom Pamperin made a motion to approve the October minutes. Liz Fischer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Pamperin gave a brief summary of the financials. He noted the September corrections to the Building Fund had been made & were included with the October financials. October was positive for giving & kept us in a strong position. Tom does have a concern that the giving to the Building fund is now lagging, although that was anticipated due to the Sanctuary Project giving. As an update to previously approved items, Sunday School has purchased the new popcorn machine, but the TV has not yet been purchased. With no changes or corrections, Liz Fischer made a motion to approve the October Financials. Gene Mykisen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Office Manager Status: Sharon Piastowski reported the Executive Committee held interviews & has identified a candidate they would like to hire. Tom Pamperin gave a summary of the process Executive Committee used in the interview process. He distributed a handout explaining with more detail. Carol Polzin made a motion to approve the hiring of Sheri Fuhrman as our new Office Manager. Liz Fischer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Maintenance Position Status: Sharon Piastowski reported we still have not had any interest in the position. She suggested we more heavily advertise to find someone. Carol Polzin gave Gene Mykisen the contact information for the person would fill in in the meantime.

Pastor's Report and Questions: Pastor Harswick reported that things are going well so far. He questioned what the funds under the Special Fund labeled Pastor's Discretionary Fund are to be used for. He also questioned how the funds can be accessed & how is it replenished. He had two requests for rental assistance but wasn't sure how to respond. Tom Pamperin did some research & discovered the fund was set up mainly to fund the treats for the Children's Message. Someone originally donated the money which is how it was funded. The Pastor could use this fund for buying Children's Message

treats, coats, mittens, hats for children he noticed didn't have them or other expenses similar so it is not out of pocket for the Pastor. Tom Pamperin then suggested we do some work on the fund & determine how to use it & what to use it for. Council had no questions for Pastor at this time.

Vital Statistics: Bruce Stuhr passed away.

Tom Pamperin made a motion to approve the recently confirmed members-Karlie Faehling, Morgan Krueger, Shaye Miller, Amira Pockat, Gracie Poole & Nora Wiesman-as voting members. Liz Fischer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Newsletter Articles: Sharon Piastowski reminded that newsletter articles are due to Betty Bertram by the third Monday of each month. This month's deadline is no later than November 20th.

Any Other Old Business: None at this time.

New Business:

Call Committee Update: Sharon Piastowski reported the Call Committee met. They updated our profile & it was approved by the Synod. We have still had no communication from the Synod.

Fall Dinner and Rummage Sale Results: Sharon Piastowski reported the Rummage Sale & Fall Dinner did well. No final report on numbers yet.

Action Teams' Schedule of Events: Sharon Piastowski requested that each team form a team, if they don't have one already. She also asked that each team get their 2020 budget turned in.

Rekeying of Building: Sharon Piastowski reported that she has been too busy to call. She will start calling to see who can give us quotes & report back.

Update from the Nominating Committee: Tom Pamperin reported that there are four Council spots to fill from those leaving. We have the ability to add anywhere from four to ten members. To date, the committee has three yes, two no, three possible (two of which are strong possibilities) & two yet to contact. We also need two on Endowment. The committee has filled both of those spots.

Set up Performance Reviews: Sharon Piastowski reported we are using a revised format that the Executive Committee worked on. Tom Pamperin asked that if anyone has any feedback on any of the church employees to please contact the Executive Council.

Budget Planning for 2020: Tom Pamperin reminded that the Action Team budgets are due by Thanksgiving if not already submitted.

Use of Building Requests: Sharon Piastowski reported that she had two requests for use of the building. Jackie Suehring would like to use it on 12/25 from 9-3 for the Christmas Dinner. The Girl Scouts would like to use it on 1/16 at 6:00 for their cookie season rally. Council is fine with both requests, subject to receipt of the necessary waiver of liability.

Locking of Ramsdell Street Door on Sunday Mornings: Sharon Piastowski reported the Ramsdell Street door will always be locked for safety reasons.

Sunday School Christmas Bags: Liz Fischer will be handling the Christmas bags. She asked that we let her know if anyone wants to donate money or items. The leftover Halloween candy will also be used.

Any Other New Business: None at this time.

Action Team Reports:

Confirmation: Tom Pamperin reported his team hasn't met. He is putting together a summary of how Confirmation went with all the new changes this year.

Education: Tom Pamperin had nothing to report at this time.

Finance: Tom Pamperin reported his team is working on a record retention policy. He is also looking into a firm to come in & shred everything that can be disposed of. It was suggested that the shredding service be offered to the congregation also.

Youth: Liz Fischer reported her team hasn't met but will be meeting. Youth campfire night went well.

Property: Gene Mykisen reported his team met. Their budget for 2020 is complete.

A new snow blower needed to be purchased. They received three bids which were all the same so they chose Reisterer & Snell. The snow blower will be delivered 11/20.

The tables for the Dartball room have been purchased.

The drains have still not been flushed. It is uncertain if Marion Fire Department will be able to help as Gene hasn't received a reply back. The parking lot side is completely plugged seven feet down. The camera person came Tuesday. He needs the drains flushed to determine where the damage is. Gene will contact Marion Fire & advise if they can help.

The mud jacking was done & will be sealed in spring.

The blind was taken down.

It will cost \$2500-\$3000 to fix the damage to the garage. We will wait to fix the damage until the survey issues are resolved with the neighboring property.

The survey is complete. The neighboring property's fence is anywhere from two to ten feet on our property. A fence to separate properties will cost \$6500-\$7000. Gene will contact Attorney Mike Meyer to discuss drawing up paperwork to present to the neighbor.

The cross on the steeple works. The cross on the church does not. The bid to fix it was a minimum of \$2000 to fix it as is. There are also options for LED. The third option is to disconnect the cross. Council advised to disconnect the cross for now. We will do a campaign

entitled "Be the Light of the World" to raise money to light it again. We will go with the LED option which is approximately \$2500.

Timers on the bells need to be reset as they are still on summer hours.

Worship & Music: Curly Krueger reported his team met & reviewed the Thanksgiving service. They also worked on Advent & Christmas services.

They are looking at getting new candles for the All Saints services.

Social Concerns: Kelly Trebus had nothing to report at this time.

Fellowship: Shirl Tischauser was not present.

Stewardship: Carol Polzin reported that her team didn't officially meet but they are keeping the budget the same for 2020.

Outreach: Pete Pockat reported that he had 25-30 kids for the Halloween candy distribution. He is thinking of putting together gift baskets for new families in the area inviting them to worship.

Sharon Piastowski stated we need a new acolyte schedule. Suggestions were made to use Sign up Genius to sign up as done for Confirmation. Will need to find out how to it set up.

Next Meeting Date: December 17th at 5:30 pm

Closed Session: Nothing to discuss at this time.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

A motion was made by Tom Pamperin to adjourn the meeting. Liz Fischer seconded the motion. Motion carried. President, Sharon Piastowski adjourned the meeting at 7:04 pm.

Next Council Meeting: December 17th at 5:30 pm

Executive Council Meeting: TBD

December Devotions: Tom Pamperin

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Trebus

Council Secretary