



CHRISTIANIA LUTHERAN CHURCH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**June 7, 2016
Minutes**

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|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| President – Andrew Wilkins | P | Vice-President - Bruce Mohn | P | Pastor David Mesaros | P |
| Alan Ritchie (at large) | P | Treasurer – Rachel Fausch | P | Secretary – Greg Silus | A |
| Kim Robertson (at large) | P | Scott Selkirk (at large) | A | Steven Olan – CYF Leader | P |
| Christian Donovan (at large) | P | Lee Braun (at large) | A | | |

Call To Order: President Andrew Wilkins called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. The required quorum of 6 voting members was not reached for this meeting.

Invited Guests present: Karen Frame (substitute secretary), Tia Johnson, Denise Kanfield, Brian McGregor

Non-invited Guests present: Joan Eckdahl, Bruce Lundeen, Sue Jacobson, Amy Lindquist, Barbara Bachman, Mariann Storlie, Sherri Mohn, Jackie DuLac, Lori Clausen, Sara McGregor, Tim Swedin, Jerry & Elaine Swedin, Bob & Arlene Jacobson, Dave & Ellen Olson

Presentation by Ingrid Sampo, representing the Northfield Retirement Community. Ingrid explained their new campaign called the Journey for Faith and Family Comprehensive Plan. It consists of three parts:

- 1) Spiritual Life Endowment (the need for a full-time chaplain)*
- 2) Family Fund (having resources for short-term financial assistance for residents)*
- 3) The Pathway to Faith Park (developing a small area of land as a park)*

Ingrid expressed her gratitude to Christiania for our generous support of the NRC and asks that we consider a gift (one-time or pledged) of \$2,500 towards this initiative. This will be put on the Executive Council agenda for discussion at the July meeting.

- 1. Devotions:** 1 Corinthians 12 – Dwelling in the Word
- 2. Approved Agenda for: June 7, 2016**
Motion made by Christian Donovan and seconded by Alan Ritchie to approve the agenda as distributed at the meeting with the following additions: none
 Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- 3. Approve Minutes from May 3, 2016.**
Motion made by Alan Ritchie and seconded by Bruce Mohn to approve minutes

from May 3, 2016 with the following corrections: none
Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. Council Information and Reports

a. Treasurer's Report:

Discussion: Rachel Fausch went over the highlights

Rachel highlighted that the \$38,916.25 out of the Capital Campaign was for roof repairs/maintenance and acoustic tile for the fellowship hall. The negative amount of \$576.66 under Uses of Cash was a refund for the annual service contract for the Riso 3700 copy machine which died.

Motion by Kim Robertson and seconded by Christian Donovan **to receive the Treasurers report as presented. Summary for Treasurers Month Ending 5-31-16**

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

b. Pastor's Report:

Highlights discussed:

Pastor highlighted that the Feeding of the 15,000 has begun; he asked for prayers for Dona (and Lee) Braun as Dona heals and recovers from an accident caused by a falling tree.

Motion made by Motion by Christian Donovan and seconded by Alan Ritchie **to receive the Pastor's Report**

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

c. CYF Leader Report: see report below

Highlights:

CYF Leader Report: Steven has started his evaluation (see attached) of the CYF leader position citing three strengths (it can be a long-term position to build programming, it is focused primarily on Children, Youth and Family, and it is what parents want and they are supportive of this person/role) and three weaknesses (the role is not clearly defined, the whole covers a lot of territory, and the role is primarily reliant upon volunteers for support). This will be discussed later in the meeting under New Business.

Motion made by Bruce Mohn and seconded by Kim Robertson **to approve the CYF report**

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

d. Ministry Board Report and Ministry Team Reports: no reports

e. Property Committee Report: see report below

Christian Donovan highlighted items on the report: the suggestions for flooring in the Education and Youth Room, the Acoustical Time and the Stained glass window repair.

5. Action Items from

Ministry Board and Ministry Team – none

Action Items from Property Committee - none

6. Old Business:

- a. Karen Frame took notes in Greg Silus absence
- b. Hiring Committee update for Tom C. - Pastor Dave reported that no additional resumes have been received; Kim has posted the job listings on two additional organization's websites and will make sure the original postings are relisted.
- c. Policy review - Al Ritchie reported that all policies are complete and in three ring binders in the church office.
- d. No carryover topics from State of the Church Meeting from May 15t

7. New Business

- a. CYF search - Kim Robertson reported that a small group has met and discussed the options for filling the CYF leader position:
 - leaving the position as it is, a CYF Leader

- looking into the Diaconical Minister option; these candidates complete a master's degree in Word and Service and specialize in a certain area (such as Children, Youth and Family Ministry). The process of hiring a Diaconical Minister does not take a call by the church, rather can be called by a hiring committee.

The item of the CYF Leader opened up an extensive conversation from the congregation members who were in attendance of the meeting. They are passionate about the youth of the church and concerned about why Steven was leaving and what direction the church will go from here, wanting to know answers and addressing questions as well. Below are some of the highlights:

- Was the original Staffing Task Force envision fulfilled; were there other avenues that could have been pursued
- Steven's strength was touching the lives of the kids – not administrative. He indicated that 60% of his job was administrative (paper pushing) and admitted that was not his strong suit. The use of volunteers for helping with administrative tasks was suggested.
- Steven felt he had a lack of staff support and guidance. He relied heavily on volunteers.
- Members in attendance were surprised to learn that Pastor Dave was not teaching confirmation and that Steven was in charge of Confirmation. Not coming from a Lutheran background, Steven admitted he did not teach the traditional Lutheran catechism; however he did use a prepared curriculum from Augsburg.
- Overall, members present felt that the job Steven was expected to do was the equivalent of 1 and ½ jobs and he was being over extended.
- CYF Team members felt they perhaps "dropped the ball" by not bringing concerns to the Ministry Board sooner, for them to report to the Executive Council.
- With the Constitution change and the reorganization of the church leadership, many areas have suffered – communication being one of them.
- It was suggested that all church leadership needs to be looked at.
- The role of the CYF Leader needs to be clarified and redefined; job description rewritten
- It was stressed that this is an urgent issue to get solved. The future of Christiania lies with the youth, and without a strong youth program, our church will continue to decline and lose members.

After much discussion, President Wilkins said that he and Kim Robertson will organize a small group as soon as possible to study, discuss and define this role so we can press forward. He thanked all those who attended and dismissed them before continuing with the meeting

- 8. Set Agenda for Next Meeting:** Tuesday July 5, 2016 – Old Business from previous meeting and/or other input provided to the Executive Council Secretary
- a. Organist/Worship Coordinator Position
 - b. CYF Leader position
 - c. Northfield Retirement Center financial request

9. Adjournment:

Motion made by Kim Robertson and seconded by Bruce Mohn adjourn the meeting

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

10. Meeting closed in joining in the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Silus Executive Council Secretary

Christiana... We start with Christ - In our caring; in our serving; In our growing.