



CHRISTIANIA LUTHERAN CHURCH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**July 7, 2015
Minutes**

President – Joe Jorgensen	P	Vice-President - Andrew Wilkins	P	Secretary – Linda Bauer	P
Alan Ritchie	A	Sharon Buckley	P	Christian Donovan	P
Lucky Rimpila	P				
Pastor David Mesaros	P	Treasurer – Rachel Fausch	P	Steven Olan – CYF Leader	P

Call To Order: President Joe Jorgensen called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

A. Devotions: Matthew 28 – Discussion: Why do you think the disciples were directed to meet Jesus at the Mountain? Thinking figuratively, where is your mountain?

B. Approved Agenda for July 7, 2015: Motion made by Christian Donovan and seconded by Sharon Buckley to approve the agenda as distributed at the meeting with the following additions:

Under Ministry Board/Ministry Team Reports – add discussion on received reports from Teams.

- Under New Business – G3 Christiania’s Statement of Faith
- G4 Religious Employment Criteria
- G5 Facility Use Policy
- G6 Marriage Policy

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

C. Approve Minutes from June 2, 2015. Motion made by Christian Donovan and seconded by Sharon Buckley to approve minutes from June 2, 2015 with the following correction:

Add “Motion passed by unanimous voice vote” under F1 – Motion to approve appointment of Jerry Swedin to Farmland and Parsonage Subcommittee.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

D. Council Information and Reports

1. **Treasurer’s Report:** Rachel Fausch presented the Treasurer’s report for May for review. General Fund balance from the report was \$63,832.41 with an additional \$11,600.23 in the Capital Fund for a total General Fund Balance of 75,432.64. The Checking Account balance was \$ 97,061.94 and the Savings Balance of \$168,384.62.

Motion made by Linda Bauer and seconded by Andrew Wilkins to receive the May 2015 Treasurer's Report with the following correction:

The asterisk footnote “*Misc – Out included transfer of Youth Fundraiser Funds from General Funds to Youth Fund in Savings” is to be removed.

Motion passed by voice vote.

Rachel Fausch verbally presented the June Treasurer's Report

General Fund balance from the report was \$ 64,982.22 with an additional \$17,158.23 in the Capital Fund. The Checking Account balance was \$82,140.45 and the Savings Balance of \$167,804.62.

2. Pastor's Report: See Attached

- * Parsonage assessment
- * Security – the outside doors will be locked when staff is alone.
- * Wendy Steger will be guest preacher on Sunday, July 12
- * Working on Confirmation on Podcast Clips with Steven
- * Freshening up the Time & Talent
- * Mini-retreat for staff in August.

Motion made by Christian Donovan and seconded by Linda Bauer to receive the Pastor's report as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. CYF Leader Report: No written Report – verbal report.

Steven will submit two reports for our August Meeting.

- * Michelle V. and Kristen G. set up Sunday School Bible Studies.
- * Sara MacGregor is working on the Faith Formation curriculum.
- * Confirmation Camp – 2 students attended
- * VBS – 55 students signed up with 51 student average per day.
14 Youth and 11 adult leaders/helpers
Noted next year we will need more adults.
- *ELCA Youth Gathering – July 14 to July 20.

Motion made by Sharon Buckley and seconded by Christian Donovan receive CYF Leader Report as verbally presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. Ministry Board Report and Ministry Team Reports: See Attached Stewardship and Missions Reports.

Discussion- Requested that the Ministry Team add their names to the top of the reports. Linda Bauer reported that we have only received 4 Ministry Team Reports in the 6 months under the new constitution. Requested that each Ministry Team report their activity for the month, such as a report or a statement that they didn't meet. Linda will pass these requests on to the Ministry Board.

Motion made by Linda Bauer and seconded by Christian Donovan to receive Ministry Team Reports as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

5. Property Committee Report: See Attached

Discussion:

Sound Abatement - Christian Donovan reported that the sound abatement is being held up by design issues. Christian has emailed the Décor Advisory Committee with pictures for representation. Christian will email the Décor Advisory Committee with the set parameters of the budgeted amount and a deadline to get their input.

Parsonage – the appraiser, Craig Wilker, stated he could provide a range only and suggested we go with a local realtor who could better assess the property. Also, Craig suggested that paint would be needed. The Property Committee will check into volunteer painting and the issues of lead paint. Christian Donovan will contact Jerry Wicklund to assess the Parsonage and discuss the amount of acreage to be included. An estimate of value will be needed before the forums.

Motion made by Sharon Buckley and seconded by Lucky Rimpila to accept the Property Committee Report as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

E. Action Items from Ministry Board and Ministry Team – None

F. Old Business:

1. Report on Personnel Handbook – some discussion on the latest version. Discussion on having the Personnel Committee in place before approval of the handbook. We will revisit at next meeting after Executive Council members have a chance to review the handbook. Lucky Rimpila will send out the latest version date July 7, 2015. Review and hit “Reply all” with all questions
2. Report on filling open position on Executive Council – Ron Ovans has been contacted. No updates. Joe Jorgensen will work on this also.
3. Report on outside audit – No updates to report.
4. Report on Personnel Committee – Almost complete. Joe Jorgensen will ask Brian MacGregor. Current members are: Al Godfrey, Joe Jorgensen, Andrew Wilkins, Sharon Buckley and Cheryl Bahnsen.
5. Report on Electronic Voting at Annual Meeting – No updates to report.
6. Report on Website/Church Data - the new website was launched at 10:36pm on Monday, July 6, 2015. Take a look and send input to Linda Bauer.

G. New Business

1. Parsonage/Farmland Task Force – See Pastor Dave’s Report and Property Report. Discussion to see if septic system is up to code to sell. Joe Jorgensen will facilitate the Parsonage Forums. The sale of the Parsonage will be tied in to the upgrade of Education wing.

2. Discuss effective date of January pay increase for staff – **Motion by Sharon Buckley and Seconded by Andrew Wilkins to continue as is with pay increases approved at the Annual Meeting and retro to January 1st.**
Discussion – due to a new version of Church Windows and a new Office Manager we will continue as is for 2016 and report back next year on issues. Motion passed by voice vote – Linda Bauer abstained due to her position as Office Manager.
3. Christiania Statement of Faith – see discussion below
4. Religious Employment Criteria – see discussion below
5. Facility Use Policy – see discussion below
6. Marriage Policy – see discussion below
Discussion:
Pastor Dave presented a Letter from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on the U.S. Supreme Court decision on the right of same-gender couples to have equal access to marriage.
Lucky presented several documents on simple ways to have policies in place to protect your church from lawsuits. See attached.
Discussion on the Christiania's Constitutional Statement of Faith.
Executive Council members voiced concern about having legal advice.
Lucky will email all members of the Executive Council with documents and sample policies and statements.
All members will review documents before our August 4 meeting and bring discussion to that meeting.

H. Set Agenda for Next Meeting:

Meeting set for Tuesday, August 4, 2015

Old Business:

1. Report on Personnel Handbook/Action Item Accept Personnel Handbook
2. Report on filling open position on Executive Council
3. Report on outside audit
4. Report on Personnel Committee
5. Report on Electronic Voting at Annual Meeting
6. Feedback on Website.
7. Report on Parsonage Task Force.
8. Discussion on Christiania Statement of Faith/Religious Employment Criteria/Facility Use Policy and Marriage Policy.

New Business:

1. Definition of voting members (age).

I. Adjournment:

Motion made by Sharon Buckley and seconded by Lucky Rimpila to adjourn. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Bauer
Executive Council Secretary

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