St. Paul’s Lutheran Church - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2020

2020 St. Paul’s Board of Directors Present:

Zac Huffman, Tom Cook, Bernice Prescott, Cyndie Dixon, Rick Wood, Jen Houck, Diane Segelhorst, Pastor Teklu

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Pastor Teklu offered the opening prayer, seeking God’s guidance, wisdom and encouragement and thanking Him for the opportunity to serve.

The minutes of the July 6, 2020 BoD meeting were approved as presented.

Pastor’s Report

1. The services for Pastor Tom Krepps will be private, on a date to be determined.
2. Concerning assistance to the Krepps family, it was reported per Penny Courtney that meals are being provided through this week and next week. In discussion, Andrea indicated she could use some assistance with one specific burden. She has advised that she could use help with gutter cleaning and pressure washing of her house. The BoD agreed that Zac Huffman and Penny Courtney would continue the discussion with Andrea, that we will provide this assistance, and that the established policy limit on funds for compassion aid may be exceeded in this instance.
3. Zac Huffman has received the notes from Pastor Dave’s closure meeting and exit interview, and they will be sent to the congregation.
4. A ministry planning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, at 10:00 a.m. This meeting is for the pastor’s benefit, as he wants to learn what the ministries are doing and to discuss the vision for the church and how the ministries want to move forward. He is interested in learning and determining how the various ministries can work together and join resources.

Open Items from Last Meeting:

1. A live streaming update was provided. Comments indicated the reception, including audio and video, was better than the prior week, but improvements will still be made. Additionally, all persons speaking need to use microphones. Those seated in the fellowship hall were concerned that the early portion of the service was not streamed; rather, words were displayed on the screen. It was suggested that a split screen presentation would allow viewers to see the service and the words or lyrics. The team is working on that functionality. Feedback had not yet been requested from those who participated via conference call alone. The team is investigating whether it is possible to establish an audio bridge to the conference call. It was noted that we must plan to live stream our services permanently.
2. The return of outside groups to St. Paul’s facilities was briefly discussed. A meeting will be held specifically with the AA manager in mid to late July; the date has not been set and is not considered urgent. Concerns were expressed over the group sizes, the cleaning requirements and the currently rising number of cases in the state.
3. It was discussed that the compassion aid policy was previously completed and approved and needs to be incorporated into the policies document. It was noted that the BoD is required to review the entire policies document annually, and this has not yet been done. Zac Huffman will send the document to the BoD and set a meeting to review the constitution, bylaws, and the policy form of governance for the benefit of Pastor Teklu.

Current Agenda Items:

1. A congregation meeting will be held on July 26, 2020, in person and via Zoom, after the morning service. Financial and committee reports will be presented.
2. Diane Segelhorst reported for the reopening ad-hoc planning committee. Feedback indicated that persons felt safe in the sanctuary with the procedures that were established in response to the COVID 19. It is hoped that we will be able to accommodate everyone in the sanctuary for the summer months. An e-mail will be sent to the congregation to advise that the fellowship hall will be made available if needed or preferred; persons will be asked to respond if they want to sit in the fellowship hall so it can be prepared. Going forward, we will continue with the sign-in sheets and all other safety procedures.
3. Zac Huffman reported that a request had been received from a member that the BoD meetings be available for participation by church members. He responded that the BoD meetings are already open for any member to attend and listen, but they are not a forum for participation, discussion or questions and answers. The latter is the purpose of the congregational meetings.
4. Zac Huffman reported that a discussion of employee salary adjustments was needed, with any recommendations to be presented for congregational approval at the July 26 meeting. The BoD adjourned to executive session at 6:17 for this discussion. The BoD returned to regular session at 6:46. At that time it was moved, seconded and approved to present a recommendation to the congregation, pending preparation of a revised 2020 budget to incorporate same.
5. Service Views:

- July 5 (47 in person, 26 via live streaming, 4 via audio only): 77 total

- July 12 (55 in person, 78 via live streaming, 4 via audio only): 137 total

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bernice Prescott, Secretary