

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Lansdale, PA  
November 28, 2023 Council Governance Meeting

The November 28<sup>th</sup> Council Governance meeting was called to order by Teri Lanan, President, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 264 followed by devotion/prayer by Pastor Steiner.

In Attendance: David Freudig, Julie Kinzel, Teri Lanan, Jamie Price, William Shimer, Michael Voicheck, Pastor Fowler and Pastor Steiner. Visitor: Harry Smyser for portion of meeting. In addition, Tamara Hatton and Carol Voicheck on Zoom for portion of meeting. The agenda was approved as presented with a motion made by William Shimer and seconded by Jamie Price.

Harry Smyser attended a portion of the meeting to discuss additional loft costs. A power point presentation was made which talked about scope of work and cost going forth. He noted original contract estimate was \$147,214; however, work scope bid costs are \$153,000. He discussed need for area of rescue assistant (ARA) panel in loft area and how it affects/compatibility with others in the building. It would be an additional \$11,000 to replace ADA panels. Also discussed high cost of HVAC make-up air unit if decision to go that route. He is recommending with the \$153,000 work scope bid, to go with Option 2 for ARA of \$18,500 (\$11,000 cost plus \$7,500 additional costs). He recommended holding off on HVAC make-up air unit.

The value of the contract which needs to be signed for the contractor is \$156,104. Contingency adds \$7,805 which then totals \$163,909 for construction. Council discussed options and also discussed where extra money needed to complete the project over amount already donated (up to \$25,000) could come from.

**Highlight: a motion was made by Dave Freudig and seconded by Bill Shimer to approve signing of the contract for up to \$164,000 for construction and assigning the Finance Committee to make recommendation for the difference of \$20,000-\$25,000 needed to fund the additional amount . Motion passed.**

A Zoom call with Tamara Hatton and Carol Voicheck was held to discuss proposed changes to the Endowment Policy. A copy of the document with the suggested changes highlighted, which had been previously sent to Council, were reviewed, and discussed. A concern regarding the revised limit on seminary student scholarships was discussed and revised wording was suggested. **Highlight: A motion was made by Jamie Price and seconded by William Shimer to table a vote on the Endowment changes until next Council meeting. Motion passed.**

Housing Allowance for Pastor Steiner was requested and a motion was made as follows

**Highlight: A motion was made by Jamie Price and seconded by Julie Kinzel to approve \$50,000 of salary for housing allowance for Pastor Steiner. Motion passed.**

It was reported that Cassie Pickens-Jewell was being proposed as a new member of the Human Resources Committee.

**Highlight: A motion was made by William Shimer and seconded by Julie Kinzel to approve Cassie Pickens-Jewell for the Human Resources Committee. Motion passed.**

Pastor Fowler reported on the status of the open part-time 28 hours/week Organist position. Emily Brands is returning to this area next year and is interested in returning to Trinity. Details of a possible offer were discussed which would have a start date of June 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.

**Highlight: A motion was made by William Shimer and seconded by Mike Voicheck to offer Emily Brands the Organist position. Motion carried.**

Pastor Fowler reported on the status of pledging and noted that a Generosity report will be presented before weekend church services.

Jamie Price presented the Treasurers Report. She reviewed the 2023 budget vs. the 2024 Ministry Plan budget which has been proposed as of this date. Year-to-date 2023 numbers as of the end of October shows \$64,422 less actual income vs. budget and \$72,721 less actual expenses vs. budget. This results in a \$8,299 surplus income vs. budget at end of October.

A scheduled agenda item - Generative Conversation topics, needed to be postponed and conducted at a special Executive Session Council meeting. One topic to discuss would be if Visioning Teams/Task Forces should be set up to help in this

process and determine what Council owns/what a Task Force could do. It was decided to schedule the special meeting for January 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Concerns/celebrations were shared. It was agreed December Council meeting will be December 19<sup>th</sup>. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. following Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted  
Dianne Kalb, Recording Secretary