

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Lansdale, PA
February 27, 2024 - Council Governance Meeting

An informal dinner was held for new council members to be welcomed into the Council. Following the fellowship, council orientation was held, 2024 council binders were distributed, and the Council conducted the elections of officers. For the coming year Council officers are William Shimer, President, Julie Kinzel, Vice President, and Sandy Cottrell, Secretary. Jamie Price, as noted during the congregational meeting, is the appointed Treasurer of the Finance Committee.

The February 27th Council Governance meeting was then called to order by William Shimer, President, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 264 followed by devotion/prayer by Pastor Fowler.

In Attendance: Sandy Cottrell, Curt Deardorff, David Freudig, Julie Kinzel, Susan Pashos, Jamie Price, William Shimer, Michael Voicheck, Pastor Steiner, and Pastor Fowler and recording secretary, Dianne Kalb. Absent: none Visitors: none. The agenda was approved as presented with a motion made by Curt Deardorff and seconded by Susan Pashos. It was highlighted that the Council Governance meetings will continue to be on the 4th Tuesday of each month, with the exception of December, which will be held on December 17th. Shared Leadership orientation meeting is Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Revisions to the Employee Handbook were discussed with a suggestion made to add that supervisors can make recommendations of new staff to be hired to Lead Pastor.

Action: A motion, made by Curt Deardorff and seconded by William Shimer, to approve an amendment to the Employee Handbook by adding the supervisor for a pending position will arrange interviews and make recommendations to the Lead Pastor – passed.

Action: A motion, made by Sandy Cottrell and seconded by Susan Pashos, to approve the 2024 Employee Handbook as amended – passed.

Jamie Price presented the Treasurers Report. She responded to questions regarding the financial reports, which are available on the Council Google drive, noting that we are ahead in giving. Through the end of January, revenue is \$23,643 more than budget; expenses are \$14,500 less than budget; thus, showing a surplus of \$38,143.

The Council's representative on the Endowment Committee will be Julie Kinzel since she is now the Vice-President of Council. An update was given on the proposed revised Endowment Policy, last updated in 2007, and the need for a lawyer's review. Council needs to see revised policy post legal review, before approving – It will be on the March Council Meeting agenda.

An update was given for the Loft Project. The project is on hold due to Code Inspector's non-approval. \$5,042.75 over contingency amount is needed to complete code issues needed to obtain inspector's approval. It was also noted that a \$25,000 gift for youth ministry was received.

Action: A motion, made by Dave Freudig and seconded by Michael Voicheck, to approve a Loft update of the contract of \$5,042.75 – passed with one abstaining.

A discussion was held on the concerns and recommendations of the Safety & Security Task Force headed by Harry Smyser. It was stated that the Task Force had decided that barriers are not necessary to close off cobblestone area of church, however, doors in that area of the church would be kept locked except for certain events such as weddings, Christmas, and Easter. Copies of the signs that would be put up were provided for review and will cost \$1,200. Start date for changes will be after Easter – April 7th.

Action: A motion, made by Curt Deardorff and seconded by Susan Pashos, to approve the signs and expenditure of \$1,200 to be funded by Maintenance Facility Fund – passed.

An update was given regarding the newly formed TLC Strategic Design Task Force. Council discussions focused on the need for a balance between intentional growth in addition to savings. The TLC Strategic Design Task Force needs to be established to make such assessments and recommendations. Pastor Fritz is going to organize a follow-up conversation with council and the Generosity Committee to discuss how we can continue to grow as a community.

Action: A motion, made by Jamie Price and seconded by Sandy Cottrell, to approve creation of the TLC Strategic Design Task Force proposal – passed.

Council discussed details of a proposal for a Pre-School Summer Camp Program. The camp would involve two hires (from the current preschool staff) and would have a balanced budget if 13 students enroll. Discussions focused on the positive impact the camp would have on the community as well as an opportunity to introduce the Preschool environment to prospective future fall students,

Action: A motion, made by Pastor Steiner and seconded by Curt Deardorff, to approve the Pre-School Summer Camp Program proposal – passed.

Trinity representatives, in addition to rostered leaders, proposed for the Synod Assembly on May 3-4 will be Connor Watson, Ann Shade, Teri Lanan, Dave Freudig, and one more person to be determined. These individuals will be approved by a subsequent vote.

Concerns/celebrations were shared. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. following Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted
Dianne Kalb, Recording Secretary