

St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA

**Council Meeting Minutes**

February 8, 2022

President: Ann Ruedy  
Vice President: Michael Behsmann  
Council Secretary: Koni Hudak  
Financial Secretary: Al Tonn

Building & Grounds: Kyle Gallagher  
Congregational Life: Rhonda Behsmann  
Education: Terry Huber

Social Ministry & Outreach: Diane Blowers  
Worship & Music: Sue Michaels  
Member at Large: Alex Cooper

- 1) Call to Order Newly installed Council President, Ann Ruedy, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
- 2) Welcome visitors No visitors.
- 3) Opening Devotion Pastor John prayed; we belong to God, He will never leave us.
- 4) Roll call (Quorum = 4 voting Members) Kyle Gallagher, absent (fire call).
- 5) Announcements
  - a) Welcome and introduction of new members
    - i) Diane Blowers (Congregational Life) & Alex Cooper (Member at Large) shared faith journeys.
  - b) Council Duties
    - i) **ACTION ITEM:** Returning council members will guide new members in their duties.
- 6) Regular Business
  - a) Secretary's report
    - i) Date change from "June 9, 2021" to "January 11, 2022", noted.
    - ii) **ACTION ITEM:** Koni Hudak will resend January minutes, with noted correction, to Council & Juile K.
    - iii) Motion made to accept and approve Secretary's January minutes, with noted change.
      - (1) 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Sue Michaels. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0)
  - b) Financial report
    - i) General Fund Income—Line 18: SJLC in the black, as of January 2022.
    - ii) Expenses
      - (1) Line 37: Stoltz Cleaning Services; clean Fellowship Hall walls (new carpet installation project).
      - (2) Line 54: Food Shelf heating costs; covered by rent.
    - iii) Budget—re: anticipated savings in printing fewer bulletins
      - (1) Line 50: lease of copiers, fixed (no savings)
      - (2) Line 51: copying costs, minimal (minimal savings)
    - iv) Trust Fund—Designated Accounts
      - (1) Line 26: "Very healthy"
    - v) Designated Gifts
      - (1) Line 28: Monies paid out to Mike Behsmann (after printing financial report) along with Mike Behsmann's rough estimates of monies still needed towards Phase I, should leave approximately \$3,000.00-\$4,000.00 in technology funds.
  - c) Commission of Buildings and Grounds – Kyle Gallagher (*arrived at 6:55pm*)
    - i) No updates.
  - d) Commission on Congregational Life – Diane Blowers
    - i) Diane Blowers installed to SJLC Council on Jan. 30, 2022; fills this position.
    - ii) "Caffeinated Worship" on hold. See Pastor's Report.
  - e) Commission of Worship and Music – Sue Michaels
    - i) Lenten suppers on hold. See Pastor's Report
  - f) Commission on Social Ministry and Outreach – Rhonda Behsmann
    - i) Food Shelf donations—progress/goal tracked via "thermometer" in Trinity Hall.
    - ii) **ACTION ITEM:** Rhonda B. will address congregation with dates for Food Shelf donations, SJLC's goal and explain thermometer in T. Hall.
  - g) Education Committee – Terry Huber
    - i) SS students raising monies towards livestock purchase/donation; ELCA's "God's Global Barnyard" program.
      - (1) Inquiry/request: SS students "host" or "co-host" Fellowship Hour or Men in Mission breakfasts as fundraisers towards livestock purchase/donation.
      - (2) **ACTION ITEM:** Terry H. will connect with groups involved to plan/organize.

7) Other Business

a) Video project

i) Update on current project—Goal: online in 2-3 months

(1) Computers arrived; installed by Kyle G. and Mike B., 1-2 weeks. Camera software installed, 02/08.

(2) Worship software

(a) “Easy Worship”—create visuals on (future) sanctuary monitors; lyrics, transitions, backgrounds, etc.

(i) Annual subscription ~\$275.00 (anticipated taxes/fees excluded); training, media access, automatic updates, tech support.

(ii) Software with music, not just words, preferred. More expensive; consider adding later.

(b) Bible software—access to entire NRSV version (copyrighted); one-time fee, \$29.00.

(c) “Restream” software—simultaneously send one video to all online applications, including cable provider; final goal of Video project; future discussion date TBD.

(d) Ongoing costs—budget line item, not technology funds.

(e) Motion made to subscribe to and/or purchase both Easy Worship and Bible (NRSV) software.

(i) 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Kyle G. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0)

(f) **ACTION ITEM:** Mike B. will acquire software and coordinate installation process.

ii) Monitors at the front of the church – Estimated cost (15,000-25,000). Ideas for financing

(1) Discussions centered on funding, purchase timing, and desired completion of Video Project

(2) Recent search results inspired possibility of third monitor for Trinity Hall, based on discount pricing.

(a) Request for small monitor in choir/musician area; future agenda item.

(3) Funds raised by congregation to match monies from Undesignated Memorials.

(a) Motion made to approve \$10,000.00 for two (possibly three) 7-ft. (84”) monitors, including delivery, accessories/equipment and installation.

(i) 1<sup>st</sup>—Alex C.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Terry H. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0)

(b) **ACTION ITEM:** Mike B. will acquire monitors and coordinate installation process.

iii) *Non-agenda Item/Discussion:* Wi-Fi in sanctuary.

(1) **ACTION ITEM:** Ann R. will add Wi-Fi to March agenda.

b) Church Bell Tower ceiling repairs – update

i) Bill Erdman, project manager; est. start time, March.

c) Painting the balcony

i) Communications to Bill Erdman ongoing; painter occupied with unexpected extended work duties.

d) Mission Sponsorship/Operation Bootstrap

i) SJLC donates to ELCA World Hunger (\$837.00 in 2021 via Noisy Offerings) and Operation Bootstrap (~\$2,000.00 annually since 2016, via offering envelopes).

ii) Continue as established, all funds towards one or apply monies differently? More info. needed.

iii) **ACTION ITEM:** Council members will research ELCA World Hunger and Operation Bootstrap programs prior to March 2022 meeting.

e) Thrivent Choice Dollars

i) Designated Gifts (Summary, Line 29; Itemized, Lines 40-47)

(1) Monies split 50/50 b/t Building/Grounds and SJLC Programs; “always been this way”.

(2) Currently, SJLC Building/Grounds needs exceed Programs needs.

(3) Motion made to set split at 80/20 (B/G to Prgms) for 2022 and review/adjust each year, as needed.

(a) 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Rhonda B. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0)

f) Food Shelf Rent and contract

i) Tabled for March, due to time.

g) Hog Roast celebration

i) Brian Knutsen offered hog donation to SJLC; respond before March 1.

(1) Prior discussions: use hog for pulled pork sandwiches at Fall Kickoff

(a) Processing costs and using small portion of whole animal raised questions.

(b) Unused portions—fundraiser?

ii) Motion made to acquire hog from Brian Knutsen, process pulled pork and raffle remaining cuts at Fall Kickoff/Fundraiser event.

(1) 1<sup>st</sup>—Alex C.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Diane B. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0)

iii) **ACTION ITEM:** Terry H. will contact Brian Knutsen re: acquisition of hog by March 1.

h) Property insurance currently with Round Bank

i) Tabled for March, due to time.

- i) Projects for 2022
  - i) **ACTION ITEM:** Kyle G. will update/send SJLC Building/Grounds Projects list to Council, via email.
- 8) Pastor's Report
  - a) Death of former SJLC pastor, Pastor Vicki Hultine; MN Conference Assembly (02/13) on Zoom; Lent Suppers; Companion Synods—Lenten Initiative; Letter from Waseca Neighborhood Service Center—needs are high, great timing with SJLC collections beginning in March; New/Transferring members; Visitations
  - b) Lent Suppers
    - i) Fellowship Hour and Men in Mission Breakfasts successful
    - ii) Positive outlook on hosting Lent Suppers.
    - iii) Motion made to reinstate suppers before Lent services.
      - (1) 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Diane B. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0)
    - iv) **ACTION ITEM:** Ann R. will communicate host dates with designated SJLC organizations.
    - v) **ACTION ITEM:** Pastor John will communicate service dates with confirmation students.
  - c) *Non-agenda Item/Discussion:*
    - i) Caffeinated Worship
      - (1) Per above motion, “Caffeinated Worship” reinstated for Sunday, March 13, 2022 in Trinity Hall.
      - (2) **ACTION ITEM:** Mike B. will repair SJLC espresso machine in time for use at this service.
    - ii) Communion
      - (1) **ACTION ITEM:** Ann R. will add Communion to March agenda.
- 9) Next meeting March 9, 2022 - 6PM
  - a) Date change of March 8, from March 9, and time change from 6PM to 6:30PM, noted.
- 10) *Non-agenda Item/Discussion:*
  - a) Council badges and keys for Alex Cooper, Diane Blowers and Rhonda Behsmann.
    - i) Names on badge omitted; use multiple years by future council persons.
  - b) **ACTION ITEM:** Ann R. and Julie K. will contact above Council persons to distribute badges and keys.
- 11) Adjournment
  - a) Motion made to adjourn meeting.
    - i) 1<sup>st</sup>—Kyle G.; 2<sup>nd</sup>—Terry H. Motion passed. No objections. (6-0) Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Koni Hudak, Council Secretary

Council President: Ann Ruedey

Date: 3/10/22

