

**Chisago Lake Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2023**

Members present: Jamie Carlson, Steve Grossmann, Dave Johnson, Chris Knight, Lee Peterson, Chris Lundberg, Lori Sampson and Pastor Brian King
Staff member: Stephanie Wendel
Members absent: Sally Barott

President Lee Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Prayer and devotions reflecting on Isaiah 43:19 was led by Pastor Brian.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brian shared the Pastor's January Report highlighting ministry connections, celebrations and challenges. The new Alpha course on Sunday morning is going well and there have been approximately 30 in attendance each week. Pastor Brian also discussed vision casting and suggested adopting an All Committee Night and shared his reasons for making the suggestion.

Agenda Approval – Dave Johnson moved to approve the agenda. Steve Grossmann seconded. Approved.

Minute Approval:

- December 15, 2022, Council Meeting Minutes – **Dave Johnson moved to approve the December 15, 2022, minutes as corrected. Second by Steve Grossmann. Approved.**
- November 17, 2022, Council Meeting Minutes – **Chris Knight moved to approve the November 17, 2022, minutes as written. Lee Peterson seconded. Approved**

Treasurer's Report: Dave Johnson presented the December 31, 2022 Treasurer's Report. The report showed a net excess for the month of December totaling \$27,889. The year-to-date deficit is (\$16,469). **Dave Johnson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. Lee Peterson seconded. Approved.**

Memorial, Mission and Ministry Fund (3M) Report:

- Dave Johnson presented a report of memorials distributed and memorials/designated gifts received for December 2022.
- The Property Committee is working with Dave Johnson to reconcile the final costs of the front entrance and parsonage projects.
- A negative investment return for the year was noted.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

- Dave Johnson received an insurance quote from Church Mutual. He provided a coverage and premium comparison report between Brotherhood Mutual and Church Mutual. The Church Mutual quote is approximately \$6400 less than the church is currently paying. Dave will reach out to Brotherhood Mutual to give them an opportunity to match the quote.
- Employee Retention Credit. – Dave Johnson and Sue Abrahamson met with a representative from Congregation Consulting Services. This firm is providing a free estimate to determine if the church is eligible for the Employee Retention Credit. This is a tax credit for businesses that continued to pay employees while shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dave requested references and all had positive comments. **Dave Johnson moved to allow Congregation Consulting Services to apply for the ERC tax credit. Steve Grossmann Seconded. Approved.**

3M– The 3M Committee recommends purchasing two AED's up to \$5,000 with funding from undesignated funds in 3M. **Dave Johnson moved to approve the purchase of the two AED's. Second by Steve Grossmann. Approved**

Property Committee:

- The Parsonage project is complete.
- Custodian coverage – The Property Committee would like to hire Mike Carlson to provide custodial backup in the absence of Bob O'Neil. The Personnel Committee will need to approve this hire. **Lee Peterson moved to approve the hire of Mike Carlson contingent upon the Personnel Committee's approval. Steve Grossmann Seconded. Approved.**

Personnel Committee– The Personnel Committee has recommended giving a 5% merit increase for employees that have been employed for over one year. **Lee Peterson moved to approve the 5% merit increase for 2023 for employees that have been employed for over one year. Second by Lori Sampson. Approved.**

Worship & Music:

- Pastor Brian is looking to form a Sunday morning prayer team to pray over the Church, our pastor and the worship service each Sunday about 30 minutes prior to the service.
- Pastor Brian will be inviting/gathering all involved (ushers, acolytes, communion/offering assistants, etc.) on Sunday mornings to arrive by 8:30am to discuss the worship service that morning.

- Judy Nelson will be stepping down from Altar Guild.

Youth Committee – The Youth Committee will be offering a lasagna dinner fundraiser on Saturday, February 11th from 4-6pm. It will be served To-Go style from the lower parking lot.

Old Business

- Community Action Team – The Council received a building use request in December from the Community Action Team organization. There were very few specifics provided and Pastor Brian offered to follow up with this organization. When Pastor Brain reached out to CAT they indicated they had found another location to meet.

New Business

- 2023 Proposed Operating Budget – Dave Johnson presented the 2023 Proposed Operating Budget. The proposed budget reflects a (\$29,828) deficit based on the current level of pledges and increased costs. The proposed budget includes \$15,000 in revenue for the potential ERC credit. The Finance Committee discussed holding mission moments quarterly to communicate the financial status of the church with CLLC members. Pastor Brian also made the suggestion to hold a financial meeting the week before the 2024 Annual Meeting. This will give members the opportunity to view the proposed budget and ask questions before the Annual Meeting. **Steve Grossmann moved to approve the 2023 proposed operating budget. Jamie Carlson seconded. Approved**
- Annual Meeting – The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2023, at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Nominating Committee is currently working on finalizing nominations for the Congregational Council, 3M Committee, Personnel Committee and Nominating Committee.
- Fire Department Request – **Lee Peterson moved to donate \$250 to the Center City Fire Department. Seconded by Chris Knight. Approved.**
- Offering Envelopes – The 2023 offering envelopes have not arrived. The order was placed in August 2022. The Council discussed the possibility of transitioning to using pew envelopes going forward.

Chris Lundberg moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm. Seconded by Lee Peterson. Approved.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Lundberg