

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday November 9<sup>th</sup> 7:30 in person and Zoom**

**Attendees:** A. Kirk, B. Tyson, S. Moore, Pastor T. Mackie, B. Mickiewicz, T. Mandik, S. Rogers, E. Weinstein, M. Shaw, J. Florio, B. Miller-Seeley

**Absent:** C. Kirk, A. Moore, A. Mastrangelo, D. Sakal

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by M. Shaw at 7:30. A. Mastrangelo was not present to do devotions so Pastor T. Mackie gave a prayer.

### **Action Items:**

-Approval of the Agenda does not need a motion.

-Meeting minutes of previous meeting – T. Mandik made a motion to approve the minutes. A. Kirk 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

-Approval of Constitution changes from D. Sakal – M. Shaw received changes today. She will review the Constitution that D. Sakal gave her and make sure the changes listed in the past minutes are in the copy of the Constitution that D. Sakal emailed to her. Once verified, M. Shaw will forward a copy to Council members.

### **Discussion Items:**

-Preschool is requesting that 2 classrooms be given permission to use the upstairs bathrooms. Every classroom is full with at least 12-15 people and only 4 bathrooms downstairs. S. Rogers does clean the bathrooms every day. If an event is coming up, the pre-school would be notified. S. Moore made a motion that 2 classrooms can use the upstairs bathrooms. T. Mandik 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

-Preschool also requested to use the Fellowship Hall for indoor recess. Perhaps 15 minutes for one group of kids and then 15 minutes for the next group of kids. T. Mandik said he would remove the projector each week. A. Kirk made a motion that the pre-school can use the Fellowship Hall for indoor recess. S. Moore 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. J. Florio requested that we get a plan from the pre-school telling Council how they plan on using the Fellowship Hall as indoor recess.

-Discussion was held on adding a 11:00 pm Christmas Eve caroling service. Pastor T. Mackie is fine with having a full service at 11:00 pm. L. Horshaw is good with providing music for 3 services. There will now be a 3:00 pm, 9:00 pm, and 11:00 pm service for Christmas Eve. The 9:00 service will be live streamed.

-Pastor T. Mackie spoke on the Audit Report:

- Main concern was the financial relationship between Zion Church and Zion Pre-School.

- There should be one set of financials and one accounting system between Zion Church and Zion Pre-School.

- Zion Pre-School should be a line-item on the Church's budget.

- There should not be different bank accounts and different investment accounts between the two entities.

- Surplus that the Pre-school has should go back to the Church.

- January 2022 the Church's payroll will be put onto the Pre-School payroll system as long as the Pre-School system can handle what the Church needs it to do.

- January 2022 through June 2022 the rest of the items to bring the financials together to be one will be handled. This is a journey just beginning.

### **Reports:**

-Pastor's report:

- We need more people on the Finance Committee.

- In need of a committee that deals with the set of functions that a church usually does inside the congregation. We should be careful not to duplicate committee's responsibilities. Pastor T. Mackie will discuss with the Committee heads.

-Property report:

- S. Rogers stated that Saturday November 20<sup>th</sup> is Clean Up Day at Zion.

-S. Moore discussed extermination services. Zion's regular person used for 30 years has cancer and will no longer be working as of the January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Another vendor quoted \$180/visit including the Parsonage. S. Moore will find out if the quote is for service and supplies.

**-Finance Committee Report:**

-October showed an increase in income partially due to the last week of September contributions being recorded in October. J. Florio did see a slight increase in giving in the month of October. In spite of this, the deficit did increase by \$10,000. We are now at a \$65,000 deficit. Hopefully we can widdle this down a bit by the end of the year.

-Expenses are right on budget on where we should be for October. Member contributions are far lower than budget and this is what is causing the large deficit.

-S. Moore made a motion to accept the financial reports. B. Mickiewicz 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

**-Worship and Music:**

-B. Tyson stated starting the Lenten/Easter season Zion will go back to two services 8:30 and 10:00. Starts March 6<sup>th</sup> through June. Sunday school will be held between the two services.

**Open Discussion:**

-S. Rogers spoke about the Basket Raffle held on Saturday November 6. The event went very well. Turn-out was a good mix of church, pre-school and community people. People liked not having to be in person to win and also being able to purchase/enter tickets for baskets on the Thursday and Friday before the event and early on the Saturday of the event. Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> the Community Connections Committee is getting together to evaluate the event and see what changes, if any, need to be done for next year.

-Pastor T. Mackie and J. Florio spoke about the need to come up with a game plan with fundraising. M. Shaw has more ideas for community events such as Trivia Nights to give a chance for people to come together.

-S. Rogers mentioned that the Phoenixville Relay for Life Dinner is looking for a place to hold their event. Can Zion rent out the Fellowship Hall yet? They would have to have the event catered. What should the rate be? Pastor T. Mackie discussed that we need a group of people who can talk these things through. We cannot just talk about it, we need action. If you are interested or know of someone who is interested let Pastor T. Mackie know or J. Florio.

-S. Rogers mentioned that she reached out to four TV Channels about coming out to Zion for B. Bull's 100<sup>th</sup> party celebration on Sunday November 14 after the service to film the event. Not one has returned her calls. Most likely we should take a picture and send in a blurb to the Mercury for them to print. T. Mandik and A. Kirk will work something out.

- The 2022 budget is showing a \$75,500 deficit. J. Florio did add a \$4,000 line item in the 2022 budget for fundraising. Other items are fixed such as dividends. What are we doing about the deficit? Zion is doing all they can to minimize the expenses. Even if we would terminate all employees other than the Pastor we would still have a \$5,000 deficit.

-Zion Day School is in a good financial position. They are going to increase their monthly contributions to the church by several thousand dollars/month. Discussion in 2022 as to what to do with the Day School surplus. At the end of August 2021 the Day School had a surplus of \$60,000. Day School agreed to give half to the Church. The church has already received it.

-B. Tyson questioned about the \$50,000 money receive from the Paycheck Protection Plan. Originally a loan for small businesses to use for payroll expenses. J. Florio filed the paperwork for the loan to be forgiven which was approved in August.

-B. Tyson inquired about Amazon Smiles. J. Florio is waiting on the ELCA for a letter stating that Zion Lutheran Church is a non-profit organization. Once received, J. Florio will forward to the company that will put us on the list of non-profits which we need to be on in order to register for Amazon Smiles. There is some speculation that the Day School might already have an Amazon Smiles

account. J. Florio will reach out to the D. Platchek, the Director of the pre-school, regarding this.

-The Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday November 21st where the 2022 budget will be presented to the congregation. B. Tyson made a motion to accept the proposed 2022 budget. A. Kirk 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

-M. Shaw spoke on the Call Committee. A. Kirk, C. Peters, T. Mandik, and B. Mickiewicz are already on the Committee. We need five members at minimum. J. Florio suggested the Wilson's. M. Swartley was another suggestion.

-On November 12<sup>th</sup> the youth will be making baked ziti for Hope on the Hill. It will be frozen until S. Rogers knows the date of the event. The youth will also return the red and blue hymnals as well as the cushions to the pews.

-Zion will return to regular communions on Sunday 11/14. Per Pastor T. Mackie, if we are doing communion each week we do not need to do communion cards.

-Next meeting is December 14th at 7:30pm. B. Mickiewicz has devotions. B. Mickiewicz mentioned that the council members should bring suggestions for the Nelson Award to December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

-S. Moore said closing prayer.