

# Council Minutes

## January 20, 2022

**Present:** Anne Baunach, Jonathan Baunach, Dan Fergusson, Dave Foss, Rev Chuck Harris, Rev Susan Kirilin-Hackett, Josh Luebke, Janene Nelson, Charlie Radabaugh, and Sandi Wollum

**Absent:**

### Gathering Time

- **Call to Order**

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

- **Book Study**

Dan led the by covering and leading a discussion on Chapter 4 of How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going – Leading in a Liminal Season by Susan Beaumont.

- **Adoption of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented. (Luebke / Nelson) Motion passed.

- **Approval of Minutes: December 16, 2021**

Motion to approve the minutes as presented. (Nelson / Wollum). Motion passed.

- **Financial Report**

Janene gave an update on November financials. Total income was \$59,293 and disbursements of \$53,637 leaving a difference of \$5,655. This is partially because we have a number of bills that get caught up in the last month of the year. Our YTD surplus is over \$48,000. (Fergusson / Harris). Motion passed.

### Reflection on Mission, Vision & Core Values

- **In Person Gatherings**

We have had to change to virtual worship services as of January 23. We remain hopeful that we can return to in-person worship in the not-to-distant future but the numbers in King County are still high for those testing positive for COVID. The staff is going to continue to maintain office hours and help small groups continue to meet in the building. The staff will not book anything new.

- **Budget Draft Review**

Janene shared the budget draft for 2023. We are projecting income at \$617,011. We are projecting expenses at \$655,543. Our expenses this year are only \$4,400 more than they were last year. We have a total of 105 pledges. We are estimating the non-pledge income plus adding in rentals anticipated. The Finance Committee is proposing that take money from our general fund reserve which currently sits at \$148,800. We are proposing holding out \$38,532 and setting them aside in a reserve fund to help meet this year's budget, if needed. Motion: Move to accept the budget as presented (including funding the deficit of the budget by pulling money from reserves and moving it to a separate account to be used, as needed) and bring it forward to the congregation at the annual meeting. Any balance left at the end of the year will be moved back into general fund reserves. [A Baunach / Wollum]. Motion carried. The budget presented to the congregation will show the reality that we are using reserves to fund the variance.

- **Audit**

We need to do an annual audit. Right now, we have Mary Berglund and Vicky Carlson on the audit committee. We need to find one more audit committee member. Charlie is recommending that we move the audit to be completed by June 30 with a report to the congregation by July 30. Motion: Move to ask the audit committee to complete their work by June 30 with a report to the congregation by July 30. [A Baunach / J Baunach] Motion passed. Pastor Susan recommended asking Anna McAlpin to be the third person on the audit committee. Josh mentioned that this timing appears to be good and we may want to consider it for future years.

- **Sabbatical Review**

Pastor Chuck presented a proposal for his summer sabbatical. Church policy provides for a sabbatical after seven years of work. Chuck would like to be away May 29 – September 3. Four priorities include: rest, healthy leadership, learning to lead vocational discernment in the parish environment, and begin planning for congregation wide faith practices. The endowment committee has agreed to fund all expenses involved with this sabbatical. Motion: To accept the sabbatical proposal as presented. [A. Baunach / J. Baunach] Motion passed.

- **Annual Meeting**

The agenda has been posted for the congregation. We will again send out Zoom instructions on Monday so that people can connect. We are asking each person to use their own device for quorum purposes. There will also be a phone in option.

- **Council Candidates**

We have four positions open for council. Dan Ferguson was appointed to council for a 3-year term. He will need to be elected for the remaining term. Josh Luebke wants to run again. Sheilia McLaughlin has agreed to run. Charlie is still seeking one more candidate. Motion: To bring forward Dan, Josh and Sheilia for open council slots and to ask the executive committee to come up with a way to handle voting for people on the phone. [A. Baunach / Luebke] Motion passed. Dan shared that he has experience with online voting and would be happy to help the executive committee with this.

- **Endowment Committee Candidates**

Beth Gatzke and Shannon Spiciatti have been appointed to the endowment committee by council with the resignation of two members. They will both need to run at the annual meeting. Motion: To bring forward Beth and Shannon as members of the endowment committee. [A. Baunach / J. Baunach] Motion carried.

## **Accountability**

- **For the Good of Messiah**

- Charlie shared that he has heard wonderful reports about Pastor Susan's worship leadership the last two weeks.

- **Pastors' Reports**

- Pastor Susan shared a written report that was included in the packet.

## **Sending**

- **Review of Assignment & Tasks**

- The council should read up through Chapter 5 of How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going. Next month will be led by Charlie.
- The council needs to continue to look for a fourth candidate for council.
- The executive team needs to set a time to talk about voting.

- **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn the meeting. (Ferguson / Foss). Motion carried.

- **Lord's Prayer**

- Dan led the group in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Baunach  
Council Secretary