

# Church Council Meeting Notes

May 16, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

## Members (Present = Highlighted)

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| <p><b>Brent Teiken, President</b><br/> <b>Galen Clow, Vice President</b><br/> <b>Tom Staiger, Past President</b><br/> <b>Mackenzie Tadych, Secretary</b><br/> <b>Karl-Heinz Mertins, Treasurer</b></p> | <p><b>Erin Labrensz, Family Life</b><br/> <b>Sarah Hanson, Family Life</b><br/> <b>Zac Staples, Outreach</b><br/> <b>Larry Erdmann, Administration</b></p> | <p><b>Dan Altenbernd, Spiritual Growth</b><br/> <b>Pastor Mary Suomala Folkerds</b><br/> <b>Pastor Taylor Wilson</b><br/> <b>Pastor Meggie Bjertness</b></p> |
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- ❖ Meeting was **Called to Order at 7:00am by Brent Teiken**
- ❖ **Devotions** - Zac Staples "All the Small Things" - Psalms 126:2-3 - Go forth with joy and enjoy *all the small things!*
- ❖ **Consent Agenda** - Motion to approve by Galen Clow, second by Zac Staples, approved.
  - **April Agenda**
  - **Last Months Meeting Minutes**
  - **Staff/Council Reports**
    - After the Executive Team of the Council conducted a staff audit, the hard decision was reached to eliminate Karen Skarpness' position as Data Systems and Finance Manager. This was not Karen's choice, nor did she do anything wrong. This decision was reached because this role no longer needs to be full time. Going forward, the accounting will be outsourced to local ICON Systems, which specializes in church accounting. Good Shepherd will hire a part time Finance Administrator. Communication plan with congregation concerning Karen's position will be in the May newsletter.
- ❖ **Treasurer Report and Approval** - Motion to approve by Zac Staples, Second by Larry Erdmann, approved.
  - YTD is 3.0% higher compared to prior YTD. Monthly giving is 3.13% below the April budget.
  - High snow removal expense this year
  - \$3,500 accountants fee for ERC but significant funding coming in return!
  - Organ payments have started
- ❖ **Items for Discussion**
  - Renewing the congregation's line of credit that matures on 5/25/23 - Motion made.
  - Creation of a new position: part-time Finance Administrator and outsourcing of accounting to ICON Systems.
    - Review of job description and motion made to approve part-time position.
    - Position will be advertised through congregation and hiring sites.
  - Communion Masking Update
    - The council is supportive of no longer requiring masking for communion servers beginning after memorial day.. This aligns with CDC guidelines and the declaration of the end of the pandemic.
  - Building and Grounds Update: Lawn service applied fertilizer, small concrete work on southeast sidewalk, sanctuary floor maintenance being researched – \$31,000-\$40,000 so far in bids for flooring options.
- ❖ **Items for Motion**
  - Motion made to approve congregation's line of credit that matures on 5/25/23 by Galen Clow. Second by Erin Labrensz. Passed.
  - Motion made to approve job description for part-time Finance Administrator by Larry Erdmann, second by Galen Clow. Passed.
- ❖ **Summary of Meeting/Next Steps ("Gather, Grow, and Go")**
  - Next Council Meeting June 13 - Devotions by Dan Altenbernd
- ❖ **Adjourn - Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer at 7:39**