

# **Council Minutes**

## **April 28, 2025/6:30 PM**

### **Those Present**

Mike, George, Brenda, Mark, Bill, Pastor Fritz, David, Ellen, Davida and Xavier with a guest presentation from Eric Jakubowski.

Absent were Ben and Jason

### **Devotional**

#### **Keep the main thing, the main thing**

George brought forth a story from the book of Matthew: "Which is the greatest commandment within the law? Jesus answered to love God with all your heart, soul and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself...". George then shared the story of how he and his wife Carol joined COS and how Pastor Fritz gave him the memorable saying "Let's keep the main thing, the main thing".

### **Special Presentation: Eric Jakubowski**

A special presentation was given regarding the Palmetto Road property and its renovations. Two slides were presented. One regarding the lockbox operation and key entry, the other an aerial view of the property displaying areas to be graded, sodded and reconstructed. Discussions regarding plans, utilities, costs, specifics on seating, views, construction, timeline and structures were thoroughly, constructively and joyfully brought to light. Keynotes: complete removal of the retaining wall; various grading depths and slopes; relocation ideas for the merry-go-round and the firepit; costs and plans for utility adjustments. Volunteers are needed to assist with lawn mowing.

### **Youth Report: Xavier**

Xavier mentions that Confirmation Sunday is coming up on May 4. Two weeks later will be Senior Sunday. The exact count is unknown at this time and plans are still underway for the event.

Bill made a quick mention to please refer names to Brenda of people that helped organize and plan these events so we can get thank you notes to them.

### **Finance Committee/ Treasures Report: Mark Bunker**

Mark gave an extensive report with 28 slides and nearly 50 pages detailing expenses and budgets for both FY25 & FY26. The summary is as follows:

1. We managed to close the giving gap this month, ahead by 10K. Current expenses are taken care of.
2. The Finance committee would like to assign 1-3 volunteers as Ministry Heads who would have procurement authority and write POs as needed. This would help to expedite repairs/projects for the church building. Procurement authority would reside with a specific individual approved by council vs. with the position. David Pfundt is the only volunteer serving in this role at the present time. Others can be considered.
3. Facilities are over budget. Spring repair inspection revealed several major repairs that needed to be completed. Mark requested the current expense be raised from \$14,577 to 20K to cover several surprise repairs. Bill so moved, Brenda seconded, motion passed.
4. Motion to pass requested CER to cover phase 2 of sanctuary renewal (LED screens, etc), David so moved, George seconded, one nay and the rest ayes. Motion passed.
5. Budget presentation: Mark went over several slides. Discussions ensued regarding outdated desktop computers, Windows 11, printers, security, IT needs. A CER was presented to cover expenses of desktop computers and other necessary office and IT needs. Davida moved for the CER to be approved, Ellen seconded, motion passed.
6. Revenue/Fy25 Budget Revision: key slides were thoroughly discussed including Key Expenses, and make Kendra's pay raise retroactive from April 1, 2025. Proposed Revised Expense Budget and a Proposed Revenue Budget. There was a motion to accept the new revised budget, Brenda so moved, David seconded, ayes have it and the motion passed.
7. Discussions over the following slides were made- staff and numbers, facility costs and projects, 5 year capital improvements and a proposed expense budget. There was a motion to approve the proposed expense budget, Bill so moved, George seconded, motion passed.
8. Discussions regarding projections and funds for the future followed briefly.

### **Pastor's Report: Pastor Fritz**

Pastor Fritz gave joy and thanks to all the leaders and volunteers for all their hard work with both properties...including council members. He's excited to see all the growth opportunities in the future especially for the Palmetto Rd property.

Pastor also made mention of the following growth activities ongoing and coming up:

1. Photo directory, please get the word out for members to get their date signed up or send your photo in with \$15 to Carol (photo via email) Linton asap. Deadline of May 7 is quickly approaching.
2. Confirmation is upcoming. May 4 will be Confirmation Sunday.
3. Thursday a search team holds its first meeting for a new children and family director.
4. Friday is men's Fella-ship get together and the mom's group is also meeting.

All this leading up to a wonderful weekend of worship.

### **Audit Committee: George**

As per the notice sent via email, George moves that we elect Kevin Hawkins, Delee Rehak

and Dustin Puchalla. Motion was seconded and motion passed. Unanimous council feels we have a good team for the audit.

### **Facilities Mgt.: Bill**

There was mention of both Dave Pfunt and Eric Jakubowski spending many of hours at both properties. Both are looking and are in need of volunteers to help complete tasks and general upkeep.

Discussions again on a new HVAC unit...purchasing one larger unit to replace the current two smaller ones. May save funds and energy in the long run.

### **Personnel: Pastor Fritz**

1. Approved rate for Kendra
2. Discussions over Ingrid's situation, Luther Road (1st week of June), Intern program, Children's Church and VBS.
3. Consideration of approaching Kendra to be this year's VBS Director.

### **50th Anniversary: David/Ellen**

All are excited about the new Pictorial Directory and the expansion of days for photo appointments. Please help spread the word. If no appointment please submit your own photo by May 7 to Carol Linton via email.

Discussion regarding Realm and difficulty in getting signed up/in.

Discussion on the current time capsule and the next one.

### **Social Ministries: Brenda**

Thank you notes were passed around for the council to sign. Reminder to please send in names to Brenda on those that are working so hard on the two properties and other leaders and volunteers.

### **Final Notes: Bill**

Congregational meeting, please attend! There was mention of either a slide or verbal reminder on who is qualified to vote at the meeting. Mark and Bill will hold an informational meeting on May 4th right after the 11AM service and again on the 13th via zoom.

Next council meeting will be May 26, 2025 which is Memorial Day evening. Ben will be doing the devotional.

A confirmation that the CER for the desktops did get approved.

Brenda made mention of a need for a regular plan for Pastoral Campus hours. Pastor Fritz

answered they're still working on that. Tuesdays look to be a good time for staff to get together. Discussions arose regarding WiFi dead areas, communication, keys and staff schedules and security during office hours and after hours.

**Motion to adjourn was made by David, seconded by George and the motion passed. Council meeting ended at 8:40PM and closed with the Lord's Prayer.**