

February 7 Council Highlights

Council Chair Vince Snowbarger called the meeting to order at 4 PM. Members present were Jackie Berger, Sabrina Butler, Terry Butler, Brenda Engdahl, Lynne Evans, Dave Guenther, Carolyn Snowbarger, Vince Snowbarger, Sally Swartz, and Pastor Pam Stofferahn. Sue Stern acted as recording secretary. Vince opened with prayer.

- Sue presented the January financial report. January contributions were below budget. Higher contributions in December combined with lower expenses have left a positive balance of approximately \$12,000 for the year-to-date.
- Dave presented the up-dated estimate for air conditioning. Council approved the project and approved the request for special contributions from the congregation. Cost is estimated at \$10,000. A previously offered contribution and support from council have already provided about 40% of the amount needed. Council is hopeful that contributions will come in soon so we can get the project scheduled in time for use this summer.
- Dave next presented a plan to “refurbish” the log cabin for a multi-use facility. Council approved phase one which would be a thorough cleaning including cleaning out and donating items that have limited or no use (like TVs with VCRs). Jackie will research the origin of the piano. Because of its size and the lack of climate control in the cabin, there is a question about whether the piano should be maintained. Members of the congregation will have an opportunity to retrieve items they have donated. Council also approved phase two which would be needed repairs and minor upgrades that Dave feels he can afford out of his current budget. Phase three (not yet approved) would be major repairs like adding a raised walk-way from the courtyard, reinsulating, better lighting, more climate control, etc.
- Council discussed their roles for the next church year. Four members will be leaving council. One returning member will be running for reelection while the remaining four will be finishing the last year of their first term. Members discussed the roles they wished to play in the next year. Further discussion will be held in March. Meanwhile, Vince will gather the Nominating Committee to get them organized for their coming task of finding new council members.
- As we enter the new budget planning process for next year, the council discussed programming and spending priorities.
- Council discussed a strategic planning meeting to be moderated by a facilitator. The meeting would likely be held shortly after new council members are elected. The meeting would include both current and new council members.
- Council approved an agreement with UCSJ, Bob Larson, and the Episcopal Bishop for Bob to perform diaconal duties for UCSJ under the direction of Pastor Pam.
- Council approved paying the registration costs for an additional voting representative to the Lutheran Synod meeting to be held in Albuquerque, NM in May. Council will further explore representation to our other denominations so they can be included in future budgets.
- Sally closed with prayer. The next council meeting will be on **Thursday, March 14 at 4 PM.**