

Minutes
Little Home Church Council Meeting
June 18, 2013

In Attendance: Carol Berger, Anne Bouchard, Kathy Haben, Karen Hansen, Lori Haseltine, Bob Kaska, Ann McLaughlin, Ron Purser, Jane Shelton, Wally Setlock

Absent: Jan Marchese, Gianna Marchese, Marilyn Poole, Nancy Schatzeder, Art Zwemke

Visitor: Carl King

Wally Setlock began the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and asked for prayer requests. Pastor Ron then gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Wally asked if there were any changes or corrections to the May minutes. Kathy moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Wally. The minutes were approved with all ayes.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ron reported that he has been helping several families struggling with an aging parent and other health and financial issues.

On a different note, Ron reported that the air conditioning in the sanctuary has failed. He noted that the unit has been in at least 13 years. It can be replaced or repaired this week by the person we have used for previous AC/heating repairs. The compressor would cost \$1385 (but it may be something else), versus \$3385 to replace the exterior unit. Kathy moved that we replace the unit and Lori seconded. The motion passed with all ayes.

Ron added that the dead oak in the back is nearly all down.

Ron said the Village of Wayne asked us to remove our For Sale sign from the corner of School and Army Trail because it was not on the premises for sale. No matter, since we have sold the house.

Ron asked if we would like to participate in Crop Walk in the fall? The date is October 20. We need to find a coordinator.

The Danish music concert is coming up on July 6-7 weekend. Ron will talk to Dianna Griffin about this since we have not received any information about this event.

Treasurer's Report: In Art's absence, Ann summarized the report and said that our overall operating receipts are ahead. We received \$12,000 income from the Dunham Castle tour and expect another \$4000 in credit card receipts. Pledges are down, which may or may not be a result of the ONA process. We have a \$5174 surplus as of now, compared to our projected surplus of \$1546. Last year we were over \$9000 in deficit at this time. This year, without the Castle Tour money, we would be \$7000 in deficit.

Motion to approve the report was made by Lori and seconded by Ann. The Treasurer's Report was approved with all ayes.

Moderator's Report: Wally reported that the Peterson basement is 90% improved, and additional improvement will occur with downspout extensions. The basement floor is dry. All thanked Wally for his work over there, and Wally added that Dan Roach and Phil Augeny have also helped.

Peterson House Update: Wally stated that we have a signed contract with a closing scheduled for the July 26. We do not yet have an attorney to represent us at the closing. We also do not have an updated survey. Ann will get the name of her surveyor, and also will ask her attorney if he or his firm would handle it. Anne B mentioned that Art might also have the name of an attorney and surveyor. Jane also wondered if anyone had asked any of the attorneys within the congregation. Anne B will call Roger Kotecki to ask if he could do it.

Ann asked about realtor fees. We assume that realtors' commission will come out of the proceeds of the sale.

Dixon House Update: Carl King (current tenant) stopped by briefly to ask what is the asking price for the Dixon house? Wally said we don't have a price set yet, and added that it is on the agenda for our congregational meeting on Sunday. Carl would like to be informed about the price because he may want to make an offer.

We will discuss the Dixon house on Sunday at the Junual Meeting. We are still collecting comps. Wally thinks that a complicating factor is that the septic field for the Dixon home intersects the field for the church, and that we will probably need to repair the Dixon field before any sale. Karen added that she had to install a new septic field a few years ago and she can recommend her septic firm. Anne B also can recommend a firm.

Wally presented the agenda for this Sunday's Junual meeting. Discussion was held about a few items.

Moderator Elect: Kathy has asked 7 individuals to be the Moderator Elect, but she has been turned down by all 7. Lori suggested we ask the congregation at the Junual meeting. Also, Kathy added that while it is traditional that we alternate the moderator job between men and women, it is not a requirement.

Kathy reported that she finished the classes on UCC history, polity and theology that she has been attending. She reported that it was very informative and interesting.

Kathy also attended the Annual Illinois Conference meeting over the past weekend. Local pastors and lay people were celebrated who had achieved significant service milestones, including Ron for 40 years of service and Nancy Schatzeder for 10 years of service. In total, we had 4 people honored from LHC.

Ministry Reports:

Christian Education: Lori said VBS went very well, with 9 attendees ages 3 – 13. Lori said we needed to get our signs up earlier next year and that perhaps we should move the date back a

week or two next year to get away from the end of the school year. We also competed with the local Pony Club camp again, which is to be avoided next year, if possible. Jane added that across the area there are less kids, noting that the enrollment is down at a St. Charles grade school near her home and Wayne School. Ron added that ECC has held Kids' College for a number of years and their attendance is down 90% since last year. All gave a round of applause for Lori and Jen Haseltine for providing VBS.

Congregational Life: Susannah Lesswing and Jane Shelton will Co-Chair next year. A brief discussion was had about Congregational Life taking on the responsibility of filling the Fellowship and Flower charts. Jane agreed to take this on.

Evangelism: No Report. Bob does not have anyone to take over Evangelism.

Facilities: No Report, except as previously mentioned. Jane mentioned that Dan would rather not stay on but could stay on if needed. Karen asked about the proposed workday for the 5th Sunday in June. No plans have been made for the weekend. Ann suggested maybe we add the concept of 5th Sundays as a discussion topic for the Junual meeting. Jane added that 5th Sunday services are often a combined event, with joint duties by a couple ministries. Bob said that someone needs to own the work day event if it is to happen, and perhaps it should be a Council sponsored event. Ron said that after June, the next 5th Sunday is in September, and that day will be the Blessing of the Hounds. Ann said perhaps the Moderator Elect could take it on. Anne B suggested that perhaps the Council should be in charge of 5th Sundays, since they often involve the responsibilities of a couple ministries. Anne B offered to work on the upcoming 5th Sunday.

Outreach: Ron mentioned that we continue to receive thank you notes from the agencies we support. Kathy asked about how the Castle proceeds are impacting the outreach budget. Wally mentioned that we advertised the support of our outreach partners as part of the event. Karen said that the wording of the advertising for the event indicated that the proceeds would support the church, which in turn supports numerous agencies. It was discussed that we generally give a set percentage of pledges received to outreach partners. Bob said that we might not be able to set an exact amount for the donation to outreach yet, depending upon finances. Ann said, by way of example, that the DuPage Children's Museum supports low-income families through donations to the museum, but that donations don't go directly to families. Discussion about how the money will be allocated.

Stewardship: No Report.

Worship & Spiritual Growth: No Report.

ONA Update: Anne B said she would ask the Exploratory Committee to discuss the next step. Lori and Karen agreed that it would be helpful to present a draft ONA statement. Anne added that sample statements are available through the website and in the Parish Hall.

Old Business: Carol recalled that we had discussed doing something special for Lori Prang similar to our special offering collection for Larry. We did send flowers on her birthday. Administrative Professionals day was in April, but perhaps something can be done on Boss's day in the fall.

New Business: Wally thanked everyone for their support during his year as Moderator. Anne and Jane added that we all thank Wally for his leadership, even with some unexpected events and surprises. All agreed that the sale of the Peterson house is a great accomplishment under Wally's watch.

Motion to adjourn by Bob. Seconded by Ann. All ayes. Ron led us in the Mizpah Benediction.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 9, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Bouchard, for Jan Marchese
Church Clerk