Crown of Life Council Minutes

March 16, 2022

Meeting called to order at 8:23am by Tom Leshney.

Members Present – Pastor Phill, Pastor Gary, Gene Kuebler, Tom Leshney, Tom Mertins, Greg Harwood, Duane Neal, Gene Axelson, Bob Hammann, Linda Sawyer, and Lynne Rose

Opening prayer offered by Pastor Phill.

Motion made by Greg Harwood to approve the minutes from February 16, 2022 Council meeting. Seconded by Tom Leshney. Motion passed.

Pastors’ Reports –

Pastor Phill asked the Council to approve Tom Leshney as our PSD Convention delegate and Gene Kuebler as the alternate delegate. Motion was made to approve Tom Leshney as the COL Convention delegate and Gene Kuebler as the alternate convention delegate by Tom Mertins. Motion seconded by Linda Sawyer. Motion passed.

Pastor Phill provided the background information of the Convention Overture entitled PSD People for PSD Ministries. COL has been asked by PSD President Mike Gibson to become a submitting entity of the Overture. After discussion, a motion was made by Tom Mertins and seconded by Duane Neal to become a submitting entity for the Convention Overture entitled PSD People for PSD Ministries. Motion passed.

Pastor Phill shared with Council the preliminary plans to celebrate Pastor Gary’s upcoming retirement. The date has been set for May 29th. The intent is to hold this event offsite and at no charge to participants. Detailed information will be shared, including estimated costs, at the April Council meeting. A motion was made by Gene Kuebler to approve the proposed plan for Pastor Gary’s retirement celebration, with the understanding that the final details will be presented at the April Council meeting. Motion seconded by Tom Mertins. Motion passed.

Pastor Phill will be out of town this coming weekend.

Treasurer’s Report – Greg Harwood

The church continues to be blessed with generosity from our members as it operates within the budget parameters.

The Finance Committee met with LCEF Representative Tyler Fewins to discuss ways to increase earnings from the various accounts.

The recommendations are to close the Thrivent Money market account and to disburse the funds into various LCEF accounts with higher interest rates.

A motion was made by Tom Mertins and seconded by Gene Kuebler to approve the transfers and account closings as outline by the Finance Committee. Motion passed.

President’s Report

1. Endowment Fund Update – The Finance Committee will assume responsibility for oversight of the Endowment Fund and making any recommendations to the Council.

2. The Finance Committee recommended the authorized signers on the church accounts be updated. Motion was made, seconded and passed to do so.

3. Housing Allowance – The IRS requires an annual motion to approve the Housing Allowance for the pastors serving Crown of Life. A motion was made by Tom Mertins to approve the proposed Housing Allowances for Pastor Phill Robbins, Pastor Gary Smith and Pastor Vern Ermeling for 2022. Motion seconded by Bob Hammann. Motion passed.

Financial Secretary Report – Duane Neal

The committee continues to function as a “well-oiled machine!”

Board of Elders – Tom Mertins

The Board of Elders continues to perform their responsibilities with dedication and integrity.

The Call Committee has completed its preliminary work and has identified 3 potential candidates to fill the assistant pastor position. The packet of information containing a summary of the work of the Call Committee, biographical sketches of the candidates and the job description, will be distributed to members of the congregation on March 19-20, with a Special Voters’ meeting scheduled for April 3rd at 10:30am. At the Voters’ meeting, videos will be presented of each candidate. The congregation will be asked to make a recommendation to extend a call.

A motion was made by Duane Neal and seconded by Tom Leshney to approve the newly revised job description. Motion passed.

Missions Board – Gene Axelson

At their monthly meeting, the Board authorized the following mission grants:

* $8000 to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis for the Enrollment Strategies and Initiatives Program.
* $5000 to Trinity Hope for their feeding program in Haiti.
* $1000 to Schole Academy.
* $5000 to Mission Central for aid to the Ukrainian refugees. The monies will be distributed through our ministry partners in Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic and the Ukrainian Lutheran Church.

Trustees – Bob Hammann

The trustees have completed several projects – installing a new refrigerator in the chapel and ordering new doors for the pastors’ offices. They are also in the process of obtaining bids for landscaping improvements, carpet cleaning and drywall repair above the altar.

Member-at-Large – Linda Sawyer

Schole Academy has received their 501-3C approval. The Academy’s prayer box is proving to be a ‘connection point’ between the school families and our congregation.

Old Business – none

New Business –

Next month’s SILO overview is Trustees

Lola Leshney will be invited to provide an overview of the ‘Care at COL’.

Adjournment at 10:32am. Closing prayer by Pastor Gary.

Next Meeting on April 20th.

Respectfully Submitted, Lynne Rose