

Tree of Life Church Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 19, 2023 PM Zoom Meeting

Members Present: President Kevin Solberg, Vice-President Sandy McCarthy, Treasurer Jim Lemaux, Deb Zimmer, Mark Templet, Heidi Beckham, Pat Rowe, Tom Gros, Pastor Chris. Staff: John Burkwall, Jill Waldrop, Ikeria Green

Absent: Secretary Russ Bliese and Peggy Little

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.
- B. Mark Templet opened with prayer.
- C. Consent of agenda and minutes
 1. A motion was made to approve the agenda by Pat Rowe, 2nd by Jim Lemaux. Motion passed.
 2. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Jim Lemaux, 2nd by Sandy McCarthy. Correction of the minutes came from Jill Waldrop that under Pastoral Report, it should say that Ed Johnson's wife passed away, not Ed Brown's. With this correction the motion passed.
- D. Discussion of agenda: No visitors to present new business.
- E. Financial report given by Jim Lemaux:
 1. August pledged, and non-pledged offerings were \$38,438.49. With extra money given for Adopt-a-Project, building usage, and other income, revenue totaled \$74,671. Jim said an incredible month for TOL.
 2. August expenses were \$47,494, plus 10,000 paid back to seeds.
 3. Cash on hand: \$48,262 in the general fund account and \$31,564 in the dedicated funds account. Endowment has a balance of \$52,334.
 4. Jim asked for a motion to approve the financial report. Sandy McCarthy made the motion, Mark Templet seconded. Motion passed.
 5. Jim complimented the Stewardship Program getting started early so that pledges should be coming in soon. It will help him to be able to work on the budget for next year.
- F. Pastoral report
 1. The pastoral report was given when Pastor had arrived from his meeting with Texas Tool Bank. They provide tools for non-profits and are looking for a site in Conroe to put a container and who has a parking lot for people to pick up the items. During a disaster, they give tools out free. He will be continuing a discussion with them.
 2. The church received a phone call today to find out that Voelz's have left money to TOL. The specific amount was not given, but Pastor will be the contact person until the money is received. Then Jim Lemaux, Dennis McConnell, and Jack Zimmer will be brought in.
 3. With many people using the building now, processes need to be looked at. The big noticing factor lately was the use of paper towels which prompted a need to change to economize.
 4. Cameras have all been installed except for one that needs to be put up in the attic. That will happen when it gets cooler. All are being monitored by Pastor, Jill, and Jeff Mabrey.
 5. Jeff Mabrey's two-year-old niece died, and they do not know why.
 6. Marilyn Fellers should be back home from the hospital now.
 7. Will & Treva have COVID.

8. Stephenson's adoption is going to happen with a ceremony at TOL.
9. The Stewardship Program lead by Jenny Jenkins is going very well.

G. Old Business

1. King's Embrace – is most likely bringing in 30 more boys from Australia. Pastor will now be going since the money that has been raised has almost covered the whole trip along with the cost of the substitute preachers while he is gone. Pat Rowe and Ronnie Whitman have been talking about going too.
2. Paideia School has been a blessing concerning the looks in that area, said Jill. Their numbers have increased so all going well. Jim added that with all the groups using the church there needs to be additional discussion concerning that for next year's budget.
3. Octoberfest: Kevin asked Deb how things were going. She said that all is well so far, but that she will be working on the rest of the planning next week. Jill asked how the planning for the setup is going. Deb said that Maxine is doing the decorations and that all the people bringing food will be helping with that. Again, final details on that will be worked out starting next week. Kevin noted that we will not announce that beer can be brought, but if people want to bring their own, they can.
4. AC update – it is unknown when the new air conditioner will be installed, but the small units are doing the job for now.

H. New Business

1. New Members: Deb reported that there were no new members this past month.
2. Adopt a project: So much money came in that we can finally get some needed repairs done besides adding additional needed equipment such as the cameras, fire sprinklers and the monthly monitoring of them. A lift is needed to rent to repair the ceiling sprinkle head. Bids are being worked on for this project. Jim said that we can now pay off Jill's credit card that she used to buy the two laptops for the office. He also said that the rest of that money should be moved over to building maintenance. He said that Jill will set up a line item for this. A motion was made to take the remaining money from Adopt-a-Project and move it into the emergency repairs dedicated fund. Mark Templet so moved; Pat Rowe seconded. Motion carried.
3. Council members whose terms have ended are Tom Gros and Pat Rowe. Peggy Little has gotten so busy that she may want to be taken off also. Kevin said that the executive board will get together to discuss people to ask.

- I. Meeting closed at 7:55 with a prayer from Pastor.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Zimmer