



Western Iowa Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Synod Council Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 13, 2020 9:30 AM
Zoom Meeting (Covid-19 restriction)

Members present: Bishop Lorna Halaas, Pr Scott Dalen, Tracy Gayer, Michael Jacobson (Treasurer), Judy Lang, Pr Cole McCormick, Kathy McEnelly, Pr Kim Peterson, Nancy Peters, Karen Post (Secretary), Brian Underwood

Members absent with notice: Brian Campbell (Vice President)

Members absent without notice: KayLynn Ridgely, Gail Schilmoeller

Staff present: Kay Broich (Office and Financial Administrator), Rev Judy Johnson (Pastor-Counselor), Dr Rev Mike Kroona (Assistant to the Bishop), Rev Jim Mossman (Director of Evangelical Missions)

Guests present: Sue Boblit (Western Iowa Synod Women's Organization)

Our Synod Council Brady Bunch:



Votes were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

Bishop Lorna gave an update on Brian Campbell's medical condition and had invited Tracy Gayer to chair the meeting today.

Tracy Gayer called the meeting to order.

Jim Mossman and Mike Kroona gave opening devotions based on Romans 8:21-28.

SC20.06.1 APPROVE the agenda.

Motion made and seconded by: Kathy McEnelly, Michael Jacobson; PASSED.

There was no correspondence.

The Western Iowa Synod constitution has been updated, incorporating the required amendments approved at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly. This will likely necessitate updates in non-required provisions.

SC20.06.2 APPROVE the May 2, 2020 Synod Council minutes.

Motion made and seconded by: Scott Dalen, Brian Underwood; PASSED

Michael Jacobson gave an update on the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan, notably: the extension of spending (from 8 weeks to 24 weeks or December 31, 2020), the reduction of spending for payroll purposes from 75% to 60%; the second phase of funding (still open).

Incoming Mission Support from congregations slightly exceeded the YTD budgeted amount and we have passed on to Churchwide the budgeted YTD amount.

Michael discussed the current cash balance and expense levels. The cash position benefited from the \$86,067.50 received from the PPP loan. Provision S15.14 of the Western Iowa Synod constitution reads: "A reserve shall be established (of not less than two months nor more than four months) to cover catastrophic conditions." Two to four months expenses would be \$80,000 to \$160,000. We currently have \$2,079.68 in the "Reserve for Admin" account. The Finance Committee recommended transferring \$5,000 to this account at this time.

SC20.06.3 APPROVE transfers to the "Reserve for Administration" account. \$5,000 now and future transfers of \$2,000 per month, if funds are available.

Motion made and seconded by: Scott Dalen, Judy Lang; PASSED

SC20.06.4 RECEIVE the treasurer's report.

Motion made and seconded by: Kim Peterson, Karen Post; PASSED

Old Business:

- 1) 2020 Synod Assembly cancellation.

Discussed/reminded that Synod Council positions carry over until the next synod assembly in 2021.

Assembly offerings received are about \$2,400 and are still trickling in. As previously determined, it will be split between the WIS LYO Youth Gathering transportation and the companion synod Igumbilo Lutheran Girls' Secondary School.

New Business:

- 1) Lizard Creek Ranch, Fort Dodge – November 21, 2020

This is still being planned. It will be a day of thanksgiving, worship, fun, observance of rostered ministers and congregation anniversaries, the 50th anniversary of womens' ELCA ordination, raise contributions for the Fund for the Future, etc, (no synod assembly business). More information will be forthcoming. All plans are tentative, pending the Covid-19 situation at that time.

Bishop's Report – Bishop Lorna offered her thoughts on the challenges and overall “weariness” of remoteness (worship, meetings, social, etc) resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, and the need to be accountable and courageous in the face of the racism crisis.

Staff reports were received from:

- Kay Broich
 - Mike Kroona (see “Reports” Google folder)
 - Jim Mossman (see “Reports” Google folder)
 - Judy Johnson (see “Reports” Google folder)
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SC20.06.5 APPROVE the following *En Bloc* items:

- 1) Synod letter of call: Rev Kelly Pedersen to St Paul’s, Rockwell City
- 2) Synod letter of call: Rev Matthew Manz to South Enes, Vincent

Motion made and seconded by: Cole McCormick, Karen Post; PASSED

Scott Dalen and Chuck Meyer (the WISECast (**W**estern **I**owa **S**ynod **E**xperience) a.k.a. the Wise Guys) are podcasting interviews with synod staff. Search out their previous interviews and look for the next one.

The next meeting will be August 8, 2020. Location: to be announced.

Brian Underwood will offer devotions.

SC20.06.6 ADJOURN the meeting at 11:24 AM.

Motion made by; Scott Dalen, adjourned by consensus

The meeting closed with a prayer.

Upcoming Synod Council/committee events:

July 30, 2020	6:00 PM	Executive Committee
August 8, 2020	9:30 AM	Synod Council
September 29, 2020	6:00 PM	Executive Committee
October 10, 2020	9:30 AM	Synod Council
November 21, 2020	TBA	Synod event in Fort Dodge
December 1, 2020	6:00 PM	Executive Committee
December 12, 2020	9:30 AM	Synod Council

June 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Post
Western Iowa Synod Secretary