

Unapproved Council Minutes

August 9, 2020 at 6:00PM

Present: Nancy Melson, Mike Wootton, Daniel Hayes, Joey Wagoner, John Dancoff, Joni Smith, Pastor Chad, Lisa Crowder, Pat Mosteller, Chelsea Morrow **Absent:** Brian Sigmon, Eric Anderson, Tracy Goodwin, Madison Crowder

- Joey called the meeting to order
- Devotions: Pat Mosteller

Minutes from the June council meeting were reviewed, no corrections needed. John Dancoff made the motion to approve the minutes, Daniel Hayes seconded, approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

- Evangelism/Social Ministry: With schools starting back, discussions were made whether we can still do this ministry with the COVID requirements. Council believes we can still fulfil these obligations as only a handful of people back the bags. Questions on how the schools want to disburse the food since kids are only going to school 2 days a week based off last name. Joey will get up with Tracy to see if she has a contact person to work out the logistics. Project Matthew is coming up and we are still planning on doing this ministry. As we get closer, we may have to alter how we handle this to comply with CDC. Our next bread of life is set for September 19, 2020. More information will be sent out. Pat reports we are trying to participate in the Relay for Life again this year. We are looking to get enough luminaries to light up our sidewalk on September 20, 2020.
- Property: We have painted all the doors on the back of the church. We have also built a storage area for all the banners, so they are stored property. All issues with the fire inspection have been resolved and signed off by the fire marshal. Special thanks to Dave Johnson and Lee Burnette for working so hard to get the sound system up to code.
- Fellowship: Everyone is enjoying the early morning Sunday worship and Wednesday afternoon worship. Getting good feedback to still see everyone.
- Stewardship: SYNOD is offering a program to help churches our size. It's entitled Cultivating a Culture of Generosity. Holy Cross will pay \$450 for the program and once completed; SYNOD will reinvest the cost back into our congregation. The program will help with everything from fundraising to webinars to leadership roles and much more.
- Youth: Looking at doing some type of blessing of the bookbags. It will be difficult this year with the COVID restrictions. Pastor Chad is considering doing multiple sessions with different school ages (elementary, middle and high school) to make it more personal. Wanting to reach out more with high school right now especially during this pandemic. Pastor Chad will lead a course on racism with the High Schoolers on zoom in the fall.
- Finance: We applaud and are grateful for the congregation's support of our congregation's financial needs. We need continued support as we move into the fall and continue to adjust our ministries during these times of uncertainty. January 1 – July 31, 2020, actual giving is down

\$11,826.48 or 8% from budget. Expenses are down \$23,742.21 or 15% from budget. Joey expresses thanks to the committees, especially staff for cutting hours, to help control our bottom line. These numbers only reflect actual giving and not the PPP loan. If you include the PPP loan, then it appears we are doing much better than we are but this will not be a recurring income. A lot of savings comes from having the church building essentially closed for multiple functions and cancelling a lot of programs since mid-march.

Pastor's Report

- We thank Toni for her dedicated years to Holy Cross as our treasurer. She accepted the position in 2013 on a temporary basis and has stuck with it ever since.
- Quentin Surace has been accepted into seminary and will start next summer. Holy Cross went ahead and paid the \$200 candidate registration for him to enter Seminary. Churches our sizes normally issue a "Form of Support" for candidates that go into Seminary. Pastor Chad looked at the prior budgets and it appears Holy Cross normally gives \$500 per year for this form of support. Joey confirmed that is the traditional amount and finance committee as also talked about putting that in the budget for next year. Mike Wootten motion that Holy Cross dedicate \$500 for support for Quentin next year and motion was seconded by Nancy Melton. Motion approved unanimously.
- Pastor has received numerous requests about doing communion. He is still working on the best way to provide this vital sacrament.
- Funerals have been weighing on the Pastor's mind since last meeting in June. Thankfully he has not had request but wonders the best way to handle these due to COVID. Warlick funeral home is recommending only a graveside service. While council shares in the grief of the loved ones who may pass away, we must also be concerned with the safety and wellness of the living. It was decided that we maintain whatever the CDC and NC taskforce recommends in terms of indoor gatherings. Currently this allows for a maximum of 10 persons allowed for an indoor gathering.

New Business:

- We need a treasure ASAP. Toni states that it only takes about 2-4 hours to do the reports and balance the books. A few names were mentioned on who could take on this position and a few people have been spoken with. No one has agreed to this position. If someone is interested in both treasurer and council, the bylaws allow doing both. Council discussed potentially paying someone to do this job if no one volunteers. Joey said that he believes it would be in the best interest of the church to keep this as a volunteer position. However, if it must be paid, Joey does not feel Holy Cross is in a financial place to take on another paid position. We may have to look at having the treasurer share some paid hours with another office staff position.
- 2021 budget process has begun. Finance committee is hoping to have a proposed budget to council by the October meeting. This budget will be harder to make than in other years due to COVID. It's hard to compare where our financial needs are due to a lot of programs being shut down. Any committee that is wanting to make budget request is to submit them to Sandy Johnson or Joey by 12pm on September 13, 2020. As of July 31, 2020, we are on track to make

significantly under budget for the year. Joey is concerned about continuing to propose a budget that giving traditional shows we don't get especially during a pandemic.

- We will need 4 new council members for 2021. Daniel Hayes, Lisa Crowder, Pat Mosteller and Joey Wagoner will complete their 3 year term and the end of this year. Pat Mosteller is completing another's term and is eligible to be on the ballot for next year. Joey encouraged council members to talk to people about putting their names on the ballot. Council discussed possible ways to have a congregational meeting in November to vote on the budget and council members in case we are still restricted by COVID.

Upcoming Important dates:

- Next Council Meeting: September 13, 2020 at 6pm
- Chelsea Morrow is the Deacon for next month

Pastor Chad closed the meeting with prayer