

**Hinsdale ECC**  
**November 15, 2010 Council Meeting**

**Present**

Chad Burlet  
Carla Erickson  
Jim Scott  
Lars Stromberg  
Paul Allen  
Jim Kramer  
Jen Secola

Linda Noonan  
Yogi Mahendra  
Arlene Cheff  
Craig Wright  
Jean Regan  
Jim Brorson  
Jan Peard

Jim Scott led us in devotions and then opened in prayer.

Chad read an email from John Scruton-Wilson requesting prayer for wisdom in choosing a surgeon and for successful surgery for prostate cancer.

**Minutes – Carla Erickson**

- ❖ **Moved, seconded and passed to accept the October minutes as submitted.**

**Budget – Arlene Cheff & Jim Scott**

- Arlene presented the Admin Committee's recommendation for additional budget cuts IF we end the year with a deficit. If our income meets budget by the end of 2010 none of this will be implemented.
  1. Both of the co-pastors take 3 week furloughs over the summer (this instead of paying part of their health insurance; less salary means they pay less taxes so they would have that benefit to help offset less pay)
  2. Cut back on custodial care (basically eliminate Carlos's job) to barebones cleaning
  3. Ruth would take a 3 week furlough over summer
- The above changes are not reflected in the proposed budget. If they are implemented, the budget will need to be redone to reflect the changes before our business meeting to vote on the budget.
- The business meeting will be Sunday, February 6 to allow time for all late year-end giving to come in.
- The budget will be finalized at the January 17 Council meeting. The new slate of officers will be invited to this meeting.
- Right after the December 20 Council meeting the tentative budget will be sent out, clarifying the contingency items so people will have a chance to give more to offset the anticipated deficit.
- Chad suggested we revisit the Capital Reserve line item at year end. (If we are furloughing staff, should we include this item.)
- Staff salary detail to be included in the Annual Meeting book (not listed as one lump sum).
- Paul suggested that all three pastors should be included in the furlough
- Caring
  - The Benevolent Fund as a budget line item has been greatly reduced. We will need

to rely on plate contributions to make up the difference if we are not to have to reduce the help we can offer.

- We increased the line item to cover our support of HCS and Love, Inc.
- Education
  - Reallocated some small amounts but the total is the same
- Fellowship
  - No changes
- Outreach
  - Lowered the line item for Grace & Peace as people are giving directly to this ministry. The ministry is still fully funded.
  - Southwest Covenant – we will start paying a monthly amount toward what we owe them
- Worship
  - The animal rental and sound technician are now line items There was much discussion as to whether to eliminate the animals for cost cutting
  - Decided to rotate every other year between “Return to Bethlehem” and the choir concert.
  - Change line item to read Christmas Program
  - We need to include 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> service in special needs for holidays. Jim will see if Dan & Joel have any requests.
  - Need to find a way to be sure income from special events is posted to the correct account.
- Revenue
  - The current proposed budget reflects a 2% increase for 2011
  - This is at or under the 2010 budget for expenses
  - Plate giving controls whether we come in on budget
  - The funds we are withdrawing from NCP will be here by Thanksgiving
  - If we need to adjust the current proposed budget for the more drastic cuts proposed by Administration, it will only be in a few areas

### **Pastor’s Report – Lars Stromberg**

- The High School retreat at Covenant Harbor went well  
30 from our youth group / 240 total conference wide
- He did a wedding for one of his former HS youth workers in MSP
- Summer Discipleship Retreat is full (12 students)  
Even number of church & non-church students  
1 student from Hope Covenant / Orland Park

### **Pastor’s Report – Paul Allen**

- Attended the pastors Retreat at Covenant Harbor
- Stephen Ministry training continues
- Monthly Senior Lunches – 30 people in November
- Attendance counting for 5 weeks in November
- New members class has 3 participants

### **Pastor's Report – Jim Kramer**

- Harvest Festival best one yet  
Lots of neighbors attended
- Thanksgiving service at Oak Park church
- 60 people attended the India mission trip dinner
- Handed out Who's New in the Pew

### **Worship – Jim Brorson**

- No report

### **Education – Jen Secola**

- Mary has interviewed 2 people for the Preschool music position
- Handed out the Preschool financial report  
Will have comparison numbers next year  
In a good cash position

### **Caring – Linda Noonan**

- Have set up a Memorial Service calling chain
- Have changed the format for the Memorial Service receptions so it is easier for the volunteers

### **Administration – Arlene Cheff**

- No report

### **Outreach – Craig Wright**

- Giving Tree will be up  
Notice to be in the bulletin
- Possible new outreach with Austin church (ACBC)  
Work on repairing/rebuilding front porches

### **Mutual Ministries**

- No report

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Balance Sheet reflects the withdrawal from NCP
- 4th Street house project is fully funded
- Plate income is \$18,000 behind last year after ten months
- Expenses have been below or right on budget
- Check request for Southwest Covenant will be coming through
- We need to celebrate all the non-budget giving during 2010
- ❖ **Moved, seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried.**

### **Old/New Business**

- Need to watch parking on the back lot by the utility box

Jim Scott closed in prayer and the meeting was adjourned,

Carla Erickson, Secretary