

# Hinsdale ECC Council Meeting

February 21, 2011

## Present

Chad Burlet	Jenn Secola	Joan Oney
Jim Brorson	Scott Morrow	Jen Peckenpaugh
Roger Johnson	Todd Jensen	Kevin Barry
Lynwood Larson	Linda Noonan	Jim Bell
Jill Rhiner	Lars Stromberg	
Paul Allen	Arlene Cheff	
Jim Kramer	Gene Beube	

Chad called the meeting to order. Todd Jensen led the devotion.

## Minutes – Chad Burlet

- The January meeting minutes were amended to clarify that first bullet point on the last page refers to 2006.
- **January meeting minutes moved, seconded and passed as accepted with the above modification.**

## Treasurer's Report – Kevin Barry

- Kevin presented January's Treasurer's Report, *Statement of Revenues and Expenses*, for acceptance.
- **Treasurer's report moved, seconded and passed as accepted.**

## Council Orientation – Paul Allen

- Paul distributed a *2011 Leadership Manual* and led the council through its contents.
- Corrections, revisions and additions are welcome. Direct them to Paul.
- The *Manual's* page 26, under *Committees 2011, Nominating*, has a blank space, as no liaison from the leadership council has volunteered.
- Todd Jensen volunteered to be the leadership council liaison to the Nominating Committee.
- All six ministry teams are encouraged to meet *face-to-face* at least once a quarter. While phone and e-mail communication is very useful, face-to-face meetings create very positive benefits.
- Paul requests that each ministry team gives a report at each council meeting.

- Anyone from the ministry team can attend the council meeting and report, and teams are encouraged to give each team member this opportunity.
- Paul recognizes that ministry team leaders bear a lot of responsibility, and encourages them to utilize the senior pastor assigned to that team.
- Paul distributed the *2011 Ministry Support Teams* hand-out, listing leader, at-large council member/advisor and nominating member for each ministry team.
- Paul encourages the council members to take a more active role as a ministry team's needs dictate, and to act as a go-to person for team members.

## **Task Forces – Jill Rhiner, Chad Burlet**

- Chad distributed the *2001-2010 Attendance Summary*, and noted that attendance is the backdrop for all our assumptions: financial, staffing, etc.
- **Staffing Task Force**
  - Chad distributed the *Staffing Task Force* hand-out.
  - Note the ministry headings to see how staff changes would affect them.
  - Fifteen positions get a weekly/monthly check.
  - In this illustration the custodian and bookkeeper salaries are included in the “staffing” line versus the “administrative” line.
  - Note that for the past two years expenses exceeded income by \$30K; we need to rebuild reserves as a matter of good fiscal management and knowing the seasonality of giving, so we avoid a summer cash flow problem.
  - If additional cuts are necessary, they lie in the personnel line, though we pray that's not necessary.
  - An attendance increase would help remedy our budget shortfall.
  - Paul handed out a summary of the responsibilities of each of the 15 positions which, as he pointed out, is somewhat different than a job description.
- **Health and Growth Task Force**
  - Jill distributed the the Health & Growth Task Force report and led the council through it, requesting feedback.
  - The report is not considered final, but rather the first set of ideas to help invigorate the church.
  - Next steps: get together with ministry team leaders to see if they need more help; possibly break into smaller groups for more investigation.

## **Pastoral Reports – Paul Allen, Jim Kramer, Lars Stromberg**

*Paul:*

- We're already gearing up for Lent, deciding on a sermon series and special

activities.

- We're thinking about using the first Sunday in June to build on rally day.
- We're concerned about three consecutive Sundays with different schedules.

*Jim:*

- Read from their Who's New In The Pew report, coming out of their staff meetings.
- He and Jim Scott will meet with the custodial contractor to renegotiate their rate.

*Lars:*

- The winter retreat season just finished. (He came straight from the bus to this meeting.)
- 75 total students – the biggest showing yet.
- Five first-time commitments, one a brand new girl.
- The focus now is confirmation—their weekend retreat with their confirmand friends.
- Preparations start this year for CHIC 2012. You'll see more about that around the church.

### **New/Old Business**

- Arlene: an update on JoAnn's health insurance expiring, mentioned in the annual meeting. It's due to COBRA through John's previous job running out (not the church's doing). The denomination's plan is only for pastors, and the church has never offered insurance to non-professional staff. They're looking into their options, and concerns about precedent were noted.
- Chad: though the staff evaluation committee typically does their work in the fall, it was interrupted this year and needs to be reauthorized and done in the spring. We'll decide if we need to do it again in six months. Scott Morrow and Yogi Mahendra are looking for a third person to join them. Ideally it will be a long-time church member in good standing. We'll approve three people at the March council.

Closing prayer given by Todd Jensen.