

Annual Business Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2023

Opening and Devotions: Church Chair Dorothy Zimmerman called the meeting to order on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 7:05 p.m. with 37 members present. The lamp was lit, symbolizing the presence of God at the meeting. Neal Trantham led the group in devotions on the theme that every part of the Body of Christ (congregation) has an important part to play just as every part of the human body has an important part to play, no matter how small or insignificant it seems.

Chair Zimmerman gave opening comments regarding her past three years as chair and thanked the Church Board, congregation, and church secretary for making the past three years very enjoyable.

2022 Minutes: The minutes of the January 12, 2022 Annual meeting and June 19, 2022 Pastoral Vote meeting were accepted as presented with the correction of the date of the Pastoral Vote meeting. It is written as July 19 and should be June 19.

Deacons Report: Vern Jantzen thanked the congregation for their guidance and prayers for him the past six years as he's served as Deacon. He gave the Deacon's Fund (Gift and Service Fund) report. Through the congregation's donations to the fund and a distribution of \$2000 from Everence, they have been able to once again help those with unmet needs in our congregation and community.

Deacon Election: The nominee for Deacon is Sue Gerber for a first year term. A ballot vote was taken and Sue Gerber was elected unanimously for a three year term as Deacon. Tallying votes were Lori Thimm and Lynn Gerber.

Main Ballot: Dan Kunzman presented the slate of nominees for open church positions on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Chair Zimmerman asked for additional nominations from the floor. Receiving none, ■ John Penner moved to accept the slate of nominees as presented, seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Auditing Committee Report: Bill Thimm reported that the Auditing Committee had examined the financial records and to the best of their knowledge were found in order.

Committee Reports: The Annual Report contained the committee reports. There were no questions regarding those reports.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Josh referred to his report in the Annual Report and added that he appreciated the Cottage Prayer responses he's received so far regarding FMC's top priorities: youth and children's ministries; immigration, newcomers and minority ministries; services for those in poverty in our area.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Mike Goossen presented the 2022 financial reports. ■ Don Esau moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

2023 Budget: Treasurer Mike Goossen presented the 2023 budget. ■ Mike Goossen moved to adopt the budget as presented, seconded by Ross Reimer. Motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Everence Report: Everence FMC Advocate Vern Jantzen spoke on the Everence Sharing Fund which allocates funds for churches to apply for. The Deacon's Fund received \$2000 to use as needed in the Deacon's Fund. Questions arose about how Everence determines how much money is given to each congregation. Vern explained that there is a point system based on how many FMC members are Everence members. Currently, 21% of FMC members are Everence members. The FMC Everence contact, Homer Friesen, is retiring and questions were fielded regarding the new representative, Keegan LeFevre.

Technology Committee: Pam Kunzman gave the report for the Technology Committee. The original committee has been pared down for 2023 to five members who will address the future needs of technology in the church, including how best to bring internet content to groups inside the church, moving the technology equipment from the front of the church to the balcony, how to move the office operations to a more digital format, reviewing the goals of our social media forums, and our records retention policy. Pam thanked the past and present committee members, Dan Kunzman for his work on the website, and Pastor Josh for helping keep content fresh on the website. Those in attendance thanked Pam for her expertise and leadership in the projects completed.

Other Business:

WCDDT: Don Esau reported that he had been contacted by Barb Smethers of Warren's Community Dinner Table. WCDDT has seven dates open for 2023 and asked if FMC wanted to take any of those dates. After some discussion of which groups might serve those dates, ■ Don Esau moved to add three dates for 2023 to be served by groups consisting of Shepherd Groups, Youth groups and other church groups; seconded by Pastor Josh. Motion passed on voice vote.

Adjournment:

With no further business, ■ Larry Thimm moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Doug Casey. Motion carried by consensus. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The lamp was extinguished, symbolizing that God remains not only in this place, but goes with us into the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, FMC Administrative Assistant