

Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster  
Council Minutes  
June 2, 2016

Present: Cynthia Stayrook, Adam Miller, Lamar Weaver, Lori Bergey, Sue Stoesz, John Thomas, Susan Gascho-Cooke, Dave Lutz, Chad Martin, Cheryl Weber

Absent: Sarah Shirk

1. Tour the Grant Street house: Discussion regarding possible uses of Grant Street building, and possible investment financing. Cal Yoder is willing to look at the Grant Street building for possible housing use. Cal has worked with East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church on their housing units. The board of East Chestnut Street housing units is eager to partner with other churches. Lamar will arrange for Cal Yoder to come and visit the Grant Street building.
2. Opening: Cheryl Weber
3. Call to Order
4. Approval of May Minutes: Motion was made and seconded and unanimously decided to accept the May minutes as written.
5. David Lutz: Church building insulation has a cost of around \$16,000. We're presently approximately \$10,000 short of income for the insulation. We will wait until August to be certain that we will have the income to cover it. We would need to average around \$10,000 per Sunday's offering to match the expenses as projected. The fiscal year ends in August. The budget submitted last year would have balanced without the insulation and added staff. It may not have been clear to the congregation that unless pledges would be expanded, insulation would not happen. The sanctuary is currently insulated, but is less efficient than it could be. In 5 years, our mortgage will be paid off, and then we would have more financial means to cover the insulation. It would be good to update the congregation on the decision to hold off on insulation until adequate funds have been raised and the need for increased pledges. Mention could be made of the Creation Care Committee pledge towards the insulation. Sunday morning announcements could be made, followed by an e-mail to everyone, as well as bulletin announcements. John Thomas volunteered to do the Sunday morning announcements on June 12. Discussion ensued over which budget figures to use. Dave will work on budget figures, and average weekly offerings needed to meet the budget and give that information to John. The insulation could possibly be done by end of August.
6. Finance Report: was sent out ahead of time.
7. Sue Stoesz: Update on search for Associate Pastor of Children and Youth. Rediet Patterson and Ian Martin have joined the search committee. Chris Hoover Seidel

expressed that she thought the position would be better served as two half-time positions. She advocated for someone well-suited with conflict. Chris also recommended that the new staff person or persons attend council meetings. The committee submitted the announcement to ACC and other agencies. Pastoral credentials are not required, but valued, though LGBTQ persons would probably not be able to be credentialed.

There is concern regarding the interim time between Chris' leaving and the new staff person starting. There could be hiring of a temporary staff person by pastors and staff relations to fill in the gap. There could be a \$\$ amount set aside for a temporary staff person. A motion was made that \$4,000-\$5,000 that would have been paid to Chris during the summer months be used to pay this temporary staff person. This was seconded and unanimously accepted. Cost for advertising the position will be taken out of Chris' summer salary, as well. Council expressed appreciation for the work done by the search committee.

8. Other church committee reports: None.

9. Council Members:

Who is leaving? Beth Oberholtzer and Lori Bergey are going off council.

Recruiting new members (How and Who) Discussion ensued regarding 3 potential new council members and the process of calling new members. John Thomas and Adam Miller will work on recruiting new members, along with leadership selection committee.

10. Leadership Selection: Chad updated the leadership selection roster and distributed it to council. A meeting of committee chairs happened two weeks ago and will happen every 3 months. Chad will send out written committee reports to council.

11. New Business: None.

12. Pastor's Report: Susan gave the pastor's report.

Adjournment (next meeting August 4)