

**SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
SYNOD COUNCIL MINUTES MARCH 12, 2016-Final
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP, SACRAMENTO**

Present: Bp. Mark Holmerud, Vice President Elaine Whitney, Treasurer Linda Lownes, Secretary Dennis Jones, Sue Michaelsen, Pr. Jeff Johnson, Pr. Patricia Vargas, Eileen Fite, Sheela Boddu, Ed Nelson, Andrew Stevens, Pr. Don Haven, Pr. Gabriele Schroeder, Stephanie Leong, Theresa Landi,

Staff: Pr. Nancy Feniuk Nelson, Pr. Carlton Monroe, Pr. Katy Grindberg

Absent: Pr. Tuhina Rasche, Jordan Haley, Larell Fineren, Pr. Kathryn Gulbranson, Jeff Pennington, Teresa Landi

Visitors: Paul Kalorik, Lou Smith

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Elaine at 10:06 AM. She introduced the two members of the Finance Committee who were present, Paul Kalorik and Lou Smith.

Pr. Don provided devotions.

Adoption of the Agenda

SC16.3.22 MSC (Michaelsen/Haven) moved Adoption of the Agenda.

Approval of minutes of January 29-30, 2016 Meeting

SC16.3.23 MSC (Haven/Lownes) moved approval of the January 29-30, 2016 minutes of the Synod Council as amended to reflect the appointment of Sue Michaelsen to the Executive Committee.

Treasurer's Report/ FY 2017/18 Budget

Linda distributed the treasurer's report and summarized the balances reflected in it. She indicated that they will be adding a fourth data set as part of the changes in how our financial records are kept. She reported that Warner Trust funds have been moved from the Mission Investment Fund to the ELCA Endowment. Accounts in the credit union have been consolidated.

Linda distributed the proposed budget for FY 17/18 that is being recommended by the Finance Committee. She commented that some of the numbers in the budgets for FY 2014/15 through FY 2016/17 have been cleaned up from previous versions based on a review of actions taken at prior synod assemblies.

Linda went through the budget section by section, and answered all questions. There were a number of motions made regarding changes and all of the motions are reflected in these minutes. There were also several formatting suggestions that received consensus support and were included in the updated document.

After the presentation and discussion:

SC16.3.24 MS. (Schroeder/Lownes) moved passage of the FY 2017/2018 budget recommended by the Finance Committee. This motion was later amended and passed in an amended form.

SC16.3.25 MS (Stevens/Boddu) moved to amend the previous motion by taking the existing line 11 and renumber it as line 65 under the existing category of “cash flow transfer”. This motion was later withdrawn in favor of a subsequent motion that was passed.

SC16.3.26 MSC (Johnson/Lownes) moved that sections 16 and 16a be moved to the Synod Mission and Ministry section and placed between sections 21b and 22 with renumbering in that section as necessary.

SC16.3.27 MSC (Johnson/Lownes) moved that line 29 be increased by \$1,500 and a number 37 be added titled “Young Adult Ministries”.

SC16.3.28 MSC (Lownes/Nelson) moved that line 41 be changed from \$113,772 to \$98,470.

Bp. Mark requested that line 41 be reduced to \$95,000-the cost of his current compensation package. After much discussion, the council determined to reduce the recommended increase to line 41 but not to zero as the Bishop had requested. Several members spoke passionately about their desire to have the Bishop’s compensation package reflect Synod Guidelines-which it does not. Several members expressed the hope that the bishop would support his salary moving up to synod guidelines before he leaves office.

SC16.3.29 MS (Lownes/Leong) moved that line 60 be reduced from \$110,000 to \$100,000. Did not pass.

SC16.3.30 MSC (Johnson/Holmerud) moved a substitute motion to:

- Move line 11 to a new line 63
- Renumber existing lines 63, 64, and 65 to 64, 65, and 66
- Add “ before non-recurring items” to the end of the title “NET INCOME (REVENUE)EXPENSES on the first page titled “SPS Operating Budget” and change the amount to (\$31,395)
- The new line 63 is “Non-recurring 15% of net from sale of property “ \$187,500

After significant discussion the Question was called by Pr. Jeff and it passed.

The motion then passed with one abstention (Linda).

Report on Cupertino Property

Sue reported that she has received three offers for the sale of the Cupertino Property. She is conducting due diligence on all of them and should be ready to report to the Executive Committee soon. It appears that at least two of the offers would be able to be completed in approximately ninety days.

Update on Assembly

Bp. Mark provided a brief update on the assembly.

Consent Agenda

- Approve IT Contract

- Approve Special Synod Call for Pr. Casey Kloehn to serve at the Belfry

SC16.3.31 MSC (Stevens/Nelson) moved the consent agenda.

Resolutions Committee

SC16.3.32 MSC (Holmerud/Vargas) moved to appoint Pr. John Valentine Chair of the Resolutions Committee, with Pr. Katheryn Gulbranson, Pr. Steve Sabin and Rev. Diane Bowers as members and Dennis Jones as an ex-officio member. The Executive Committee was authorized to identify and appoint up to four additional members on the Council's behalf.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer and a lunch was served at 1:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Jones, Synod Secretary

Council Meetings

June 2 Reno Holy Cross Lutheran

June 24-25 Sacramento

Executive Committee Meetings

May 19 Burlingame 10:00-2:00

June 9th Burlingame 10:00-2:00