

**SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
SYNOD COUNCIL MINUTES March 26, 2015
ELECTRONIC MEETING-Final**

Present: Bp. Mark Holmerud, V.P Elaine Whitney, Treasurer Linda Lownes, Secretary Dennis Jones, Ed Nelson, Pr. Gabrielle Schroeder, Gisela Daetz, Jack Pease, Pr. Jeff Johnson, Joseph Husary, Pr. Katheryn Gulbranson, Larell Fineren, Pr. Patricia Vargas, Pr. Carl Wilfrid

Absent: Jim Anderberg, Jordan Haley, Mark Nelson, Nicki Schedler, Sheela Boddu, Sue Hertless, Pr. Tuhina Rasche, Pr. Adisa Armand Miller

Staff: Pr. Nancy Nelson, Pr. Katy Grindberg, Pr. Carlton Monroe, Pr. Jose Luis de la Torre IV

Visitors: None

V.P. Elaine Whitney called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM on March 28, 2015.

Dennis Jones provided an opening prayer

The consent agenda was amended by the removal of the appointment of a new Director for the Synod Resource Center based on a member's request.

SC15.3.26 MSC (Daetz/Lownes) moved the approval of the Consent agenda (below)

- On Leave from Call Status
 - Rev. Robin E. Ressler
- Call to Specialized Ministry
 - Pr. Richard Rubio Bowley
- Approval of minutes of January 30-31, 2015 meeting
- Approve Recommended Appointment of Adriene Iverson Interim CEO of Elder Care Alliance
- Approve 5th Amendment and restated bylaws of Elder Care Alliance
- Approve recommended appointment of Janet Lane Synod Resource Center Director
- Approve rules for selecting voting members for FY 2015 Synod Assembly used last year
- Approve Eileen Fite as Synod Council member for the remainder of Kristina Garabedian's term

SC15.3.27 MSC (Daetz/Lownes) moved the appointment of Janet Lane as Director of the Synod Resource Center subject to completion of the following three processes/documents:

- Successful Completion of the Background process

- Filing of an I-9 document
- Completion of a W-4 for tax purposes

Bishop Mark briefly reported that earlier in the day staff had participated in a Chrism Mass at Trinity Lutheran in Pleasanton and a second mass was scheduled for March 27th at Faith Lutheran in Santa Rosa. He indicated that he did not have any recommended appointments to bring forward at this time.

Treasurer Linda Lownes provided copies of both a proposed budget and an income based budget that she had prepared. Both budgets had been discussed with the Finance Committee at a meeting on March 25th.

Linda went through the recommended budget section by section focusing on those areas that were different from the FY 15/16 approved budget. She also went through the income based budget with a focus on those areas where it was different from the recommended budget.

Jack Pease suggested that the recommended budget be amended by adding \$25,039 to line 59 to reflect that the shortfall of that amount contained in the budget would be covered through the use of undesignated liquid funds.

SC15.3.28 MSC (Johnson/Daetz) moved the recommended budget, including the suggestion that Jack Pease had made to add \$25,039 to line 59 so that the Total Net line would be 0.

There was significant discussion about several areas where there appeared to be interest in future action. There was concern about Synod Council expenses being \$5,000 over budget in FY 14/15 and an expressed desire to determine how this happened and make sure that it did not happen again. There was a comment that this meeting was electronic and, as a result, had almost no cost.

There was significant discussion about the recent appraisal of \$1.75 million received for the Cupertino property. Larell volunteered to ask her brother in law, who works for Santa Clara County as a property appraiser, to take a look at the property and share his thoughts on both the value contained in the appraisal received as well as the likelihood of changing the current zoning of the property which reportedly will only allow the property to be used to site a church or a school. There was considerable support expressed for getting an additional appraisal. Pr. Jeff suggested that the Executive Committee take all of the conversation under consideration and move forward as appropriate. There seemed to be support for this suggestion.

There was discussion of the desire to hold pre-assembly meetings as we did last year to give voting members the opportunity to learn more about the proposed budget. Linda suggested that we have five pre-assembly meetings on the weekends in April and May. There was significant support for holding the meetings. There was discussion about doing some of the meetings electronically, as we did this meeting, both to save costs and to allow those living in outlying areas the opportunity to participate without having to drive long distances. Linda will follow up on this.

SC15.3.29 MSC (Daetz/Husary) moved adjournment at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Jones, Synod Secretary

SYNOD COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2015

May 28, 2015 St. John's Lutheran, Sacramento

June 26-27, 2015 Office of the Bishop, Sacramento