

Minutes, BLC Congregational Meeting
04 December 2016

Attachments:

Agenda

Program and Short Term Strategic Plan Review slide deck

BLC Budget FY17 slide deck

Mr. James Trump, President of the congregation, opened the meeting.

On motion duly made by Mr. Kevin Metzger, seconded by Mr. Jay Sharp, and unanimously carried by acclamation, the agenda for the 2016 annual congregational meeting was approved.

With an attendance of 39 adult members of the congregation, a quorum was achieved.

Mr. Trump's opening remarks included a summary of the vestry's actions to date and the focus of the vestry's efforts in 2017. The key efforts of the vestry in 2017 will include modification of the BLC governance documents to align with the synod requirements for church governance and guiding the church through the process of developing the mission site profile and initiating a call for a pastor. The congregation's key efforts in 2017 are to achieve an increase in giving and membership.

On motion duly made by Mr. Kevin Metzger, seconded by Mr. Anning Smith, and unanimously carried by acclamation, the minutes of the 2015 annual congregational meeting were approved.

Ms. Janet Samuelson provided a Program and Short Term Strategic Plan Review based on the slide deck as attached. The review consisted of 1) a presentation of the demographics of Fairfax County and the County's needs assessment to focus thought on how BLC could support the needs of its neighbors; 2) a review of the priorities identified by the congregation and the strategic plan developed and approved last year to potentially address them; 3) an update of the progress in implementing the plan; and 4) discussion of how to move forward in 2017 with the elements of the plan that the congregation is still interested in pursuing and a culling of the actions no longer considered priorities. Elements of the plan have not been implemented over the past year as the vestry and congregation has prioritized its efforts on bringing on Pastor Kern and reducing the mortgage debt load.

Discussion then focused on the diversity, and lack of diversity, of the congregation, the willingness of the congregation to choose actions to engage in and then commit to actively be involved in those actions. Plans approved in the future need to be realistic to what the congregation can support and execute.

Mr. Trump had to leave the meeting due to a family emergency. Pastor Kern continued to facilitate the meeting.

Mr. David Cross presented the 2017 budget for the church as provided in the attachment.

On motion duly made by Mr. Kevin Metzger, seconded by Mr. David Hartmann, and unanimously carried by acclamation, the congregation approved the budget for 2017.

An election was held to fill the vacant vestry seat and remaining term of Ms. Mitzi Hendrick, who resigned her vestry position in September, 2016. Mr. Jay Sharp, who had been appointed by Vestry to fulfill Ms. Hendrick's term, was nominated. A nomination from the floor to add Ms. Tsion Tesfaye to the 2016-17 vestry slate was made by Mr. Kevin Metzger. Ms. Tesfaye accepted the nomination.

On motion duly made by Mr. Kevin Metzger, seconded by Mr. Anning Smith, and unanimously carried by acclamation, Ms. Tsion Tesfaye was added to the slate as a 2016-17 Vestry Member.

At this point, Mr. Sharp withdrew from the election.

On motion duly made by Ms. Kevin Metzger, seconded by Anning Smith, and unanimously carried by acclamation, Ms. Tsion Tesfaye was approved as a Vestry Member for the remainder of the term 2016-17.

Paster Kern briefly discussed the next step in in the call process, developing the Mission Site Profile (MSP), which describes BLC and its congregation to a prospective pastor.

On motion duly made by Mr. Kevin Metzger, seconded by Mr. Anning Smith, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10PM. Pastor Kern closed the meeting with prayer.


ATTEST:

Anning Smith



Acting Secretary

James Trump



President