

# Draft

## Lafayette Christian Reformed Church

### Congregational Meeting Minutes of 21 June 2010

#### **I. Opening**

Council Acting President Elder Phil Fisher called the meeting to order. The congregation sang an opening hymn of “Great is Thy Faithfulness” and Elder Bob Dahnke opened with prayer.

#### **II. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the 22 June 2009 Congregational Meeting and minutes of the 27 September 2009 Special Congregational Meeting were reviewed and a motion was made to accept them by Phil Fisher and supported by Greg Veldman. The Congregation voted to approve the minutes as written.

#### **III. Numbering of Members in Attendance**

Fifty-Four members were in attendance equal to the attendance for the 2009 congregational meeting.

#### **IV. Approval of Absentee Ballots for Use in First Ballot.**

A motion to use the 17 absentee ballots in the first round was made by Dave Fisher and seconded by Janeen Jensen. The Congregation voted to approve the motion.

#### **V. Appointment of Tellers**

Stan Poelstra, Janeen Jensen, and Greg Veldman were appointed tellers.

#### **VI. Election of Deacons and Elders.**

A. The new deacons are Greg Morris and Shannon Withers.

B. The new elders are Tom Fisher and Steve Jonker.

C. The new officers will be installed on 11 July 2010.

#### **VII. Report of Christian School Representative**

Retiring Principal Abe Vreeke presented on the progress of Lafayette Christian School. This year 240 students attended the school and they needed to turn away kindergarteners that wished to attend. This will be resolved by the finishing of phase one of the building project. Seven classrooms, a library, a computer lab, and a resource reading room have been completed. The second phase, which will finish the second floor, is progressing. The third and fourth phases await donations for completion. The school has been blessed with donations, just in time, to continue with the work. The new principal is Ken Goff, a veteran of 17 years as the music teacher and at times acting principal.

### **VIII. Acting Council President's Report**

Acting President Phil Fisher recapped the year highlighting the Fellowship on the Farm and the Community Hog Roast / Giveaway. Phil thanked team leaders for their work during the year. Elder Fisher also thanked the departing elders and deacons and thanked all who allowed their names to be nominated for office. Elder Fisher thanked the congregation for their patience with the council during all the changes. In the last year our church has had 3 membership transfers and 5 deaths. The council is planning to hire a Specialized Transition Minister in the very near future and solicits input from the congregation. S.T.M.'s Al Schipper, Neal Rylaarsdam, and Dr. James Busscher are being considered by council. The S.T.M.'s will each preach once more before a decision. The council approved an extension of the Pruim's residence in the parsonage until the end of July.

### **VIII. Financial Team Report and Proposed Budget**

Deacon Veronique Le Blanc discussed the 2009 – 2010 financial report with the congregation. Deacon Le Blanc thanked the financial team for their work over the last year and especially thanked Roger Smith and Jeanette Needham for their work this year. The last year showed a reduction in payment of denominational shares to 50% from 100% and a negative difference between receipts and expenditures of \$6,926.00. Income was negatively impacted by the loss of revenue from investments and the parking fees that St. Elizabeth's hospital normally paid each year. Deacon Leblanc led a discussion of the 2010 – 2011 budget. Steve Jonker asked if the new city water runoff fee was included in the budget. Bernie Smit related that he estimated that the new fee will be approximately \$3,700. Janet Fisher asked if benefits will have to be paid for the S.T.M.'s and Deacon Leblanc stated that she did not know but would research the issue. Wilma Jonker asked if repairs to the parsonage were added to the new budget. Elder Fisher stated that until the parsonage has been surveyed it will be very hard to estimate the money needed for repairs and alternate plans for repairs such as volunteers and donations will be explored. Elder Fisher stated that selling the parsonage will be explored when the market has rebounded and Deacon Greg Veldman stated that most new ministers would prefer to own their own home.

The pastor's salary was retained in the budget due to the unknown timing of new minister hiring. There will not be a raise for other church employees. The church will be paying 75% of health care insurance costs. Family Service team was added to


the budget for this year. A motion to accept the new budget was made by Elder Bob Dahnke and seconded by Elder Brad Todd. The congregational approved the new budget.

XI. **Adjournment and Closing Prayer**

Senior elected Elder Tom Fisher closed in Prayer.

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Pastor Doug Pruum President



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Dale DeYoung, Clerk