

Swedish Lutheran Church of WDC

Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2011

Opening Anna-Carin Rooney opened the meeting with a prayer for our church and our congregation.

The meeting of the Swedish Church Board was called to order at 7PM on 3/15/2011 in the home of Arne Dunhem, McLean, VA by Anna-Carin Rooney.

Members Present: Arne Dunhem Social Ministries, Peter Edwardsson Treasurer, Anna-Carin Rooney Chairman, Anneli Sexton Membership, Christina Lazdins Secretary, Anne-Marie Brisbois Volunteer Coordinator

A. Review of Quorum and Agenda:

The quorum was met and the agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

B. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

C. New Church Council Board Members

An overview of the old and new church council members and assignments was made. The church board was elected as officers of the corporation. Please see attached list. The new nominating committee consists of Ragnar Magnusson and Annika O'Hara. The committee will make sure they are introduced to the board and members of the congregation.

D. Membership report by Anneli Sexton

An overview of our current congregation members as of March 2011 includes 30 single members and 1 student member, 42 families in total 84 addressees. Our goal is to increase the congregation up to 200 members. Peter Edwardsson handed Anneli Sexton an additional 7 membership forms.

E. Treasurer's Report by Peter Edwardson

The membership is down by 20%. We have received additional contributions by anonymous donors through the membership fee.

- The Social Ministries income includes the offering from the four churches participating in the **Nordisk Julbön**. The money was given to **Martha's Table** on behalf of the Nordic community.
- Expenses – more of the offerings were given to Augustana during Advent partly due to a new microphone (\$650).
- The Silent Retreat also had a significant shortfall. This was our first experience using PayPal and learned there is a cost of 3% on each transaction. This will have to be factored in to the cost next time.

- We did get property and liability insurance coverage.
- We mailed the directory and one issue of the Newsletter but purchased a number of copies of the Information sheet to be used for advertising.
- (The \$1 donation for the Martin Luther King candelabra currently goes to Augustana church. However, our Swedish congregation pays for the candles and keeps them supplied.)

Peter suggests we make efforts to regain our lost membership, increase contributions and live within our budget this year. We need to publicize the financial status during the year at least once if not twice.

F. Bishop's Visit April 7-8

SKUT's Bishop Koskinen has retired and we now have a new Bishop. Sven-Bernhard Fast. He plans to visit our church and congregation in April. Pastor Mona Svensson in New York will handle the planning. As far as is currently known he will visit with the ambassador and the Augustana Pastor Kidd and Bishop on April 7. On April 8 there will be an open church service by the Bishop at 7PM in Augustana where he will meet the church board and some of our congregation. We will have a dinner potluck after the service in the church hall. Anna-Carin will invite the Nordic churches head of boards and ministers.

G. Social Ministry

Arne Dunehm will be collecting money for Martha's Table during church service. Mona Svensson is very interested in starting a program at Augustana.

H. Newsletter

All contributions should be in on Sunday March 20. Article suggestions welcome. Comments: Some suggested that we keep the newsletter shorter and more concise with fewer additions and less pages to read.

New business

I. Marketing

Anna-Carin is planning to attend the SAC, Swedish American Chamber of Commerce to represent our church and hand our Information sheets and membership forms. Anne-Marie Brisbois will attend the SAC luncheon and do the same. Christina will give information sheets and forms to Sweaborg in Baltimore. We also want to contact Drott Lodge/Vasaorden. Anna-Carin and Arne discussed visiting the Swedish School for Children again.

We will be continuing the small sales table during the coffee break to increase funds lost. Anneli Sexton showed her mother's small hand embroidered pictures she will donate for sale. We also plan on selling books new and used, jewelry and home made jams. Anne-Marie will find volunteers to run the table.

J. Youth Ministry

We will now have a youth ministry with Helen Sundqvist to run the program contacting our youth. Christina suggested that we ask former confirmands to run the Sunday school once every year by giving back to the community.

K. SWEA's Stipend

The board discussed different needs to present to the SWEA stipend committee; A small candle stipend to cover that expense. One suggestion was to have our insurance covered; Additional psalm books and a coral book suggested by Steven that has different music pieces for each service; Possibly to get a new coffee brewer.

L. Other business

We discussed how and where to have our board meetings. Each member expressed their preference. It was decided to make the meetings shorter and more efficient; To have every other meeting after church service at 10:15AM for one hour starting on April 3. It was suggested to have a longer meeting every quarter at someone's home.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM by Anna-Carin Rooney.

Next Meeting - 3 april kl 10:15 at Augustana Lutheran Church

Minutes submitted by: Christina Lazdins

Approved by: