

Meeting minutes – final
Mötesprotokoll
SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, D.C. (SLCW)
Church Council meeting
Kyrkorådsmöte
Sunday, November 2, 2014
Söndagen den 2 november 2014
10:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Augustana Lutheran Church, 2100 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Present: Anneli Sexton, Eva Perdahl, Gunnel Hamilton, Christina Hoffman, Ann-Marie Brisbois, Pastor Mona Svensson, Peter Edwardsson, Kristina Åberg, Sören Karlsson, and Annika O'Hara. Congregation member Kenneth Hamilton was also present.

1. **Opening of meeting – *Mötets öppnande*.** Council chair Anneli Sexton opened the meeting by asking the Council to join her in a silent prayer.
2. **Review of quorum and agenda – *Fastställande av beslutsmässighet och dagordning*.** It was established that quorum was met. The agenda was approved with three additions: discussion of the music program and how emails are sent (requested by Christina Hoffman) and discussion of activities (requested by Anneli Sexton). The Council approved the agenda with these additions.
3. **Approval of minutes from previous meeting – *Godkännande av protokoll från föregående möte*.** The minutes from the September 7, 2014 meeting were approved with a minor change requested by Anneli Sexton. Annika O'Hara will make the change and send the minutes to George Mitchell for posting on SLCW's website.
4. **Advent service December 7 – *Adventsgudstjänsten den 7 december*.** Pastor Mona Svensson confirmed that a First of Advent service will be held on December 7 with a Lucia procession afterwards. She proposed leaving out the communion since it makes the service too long for the many families attending. The Council agreed to this change.
Mona will prepare the program for the service before going to Sweden at the end of November. Anneli will print it. Christina will put together a flyer, which will be available in the reception of the Swedish Embassy and emailed to the congregation members, Swedish organizations, etc.
Christina expressed reservations about the toy collection for Toys for Tots, but the Council decided to continue this tradition.
The Council decided that musicians Kerstin Hendrickson and Steven Brodd as well as Sunday school teacher Marie Jeffsell will receive bonus checks of \$150 each. No flowers will be given out due to the crowded conditions during the coffee hour.
Anneli will put together a list of tasks that need to be completed in connection with the service and will email it to the Council members. We decided that ...
... The initial procession will be headed by Mona followed by the choir.
... Anneli will contact Kerstin Hendrickson and Steven Brodd about the Lucia procession and tell them that the service will be shorter this year without the communion.
... Peter Edwardsson and Sören Karlsson will be ushers. Peter will coordinate collection of the offering and Sören will buy 10 small baskets for this purpose. He will also contact George Mitchell about transporting the donations to Toys for Tots.
... Eva Perdahl will organize the greeters. No hymnals will be necessary.
... Ann-Marie Brisbois will coordinate the readers. Two members of the congregation have already volunteered to read a Bible text each.
... Anneli will ask Arne Dunhem if he can bring the outdoor candles like in earlier years.
... Christina Hoffman will arrange for the Swedish Ambassador (or a stand-in) to speak.
... Annika O'Hara will arrange gift(s) for the Lucia/Lucior. Annika has one large "SKUT droppe" necklace in stock.
... Ann-Marie is responsible for the coffee service. She needs access to the Social Hall from 2:30 p.m.
5. **Treasurer's report – *Kassörens rapport*.** Treasurer Christina Hoffman reported that today's offering was \$728 and that \$116 had been donated at the coffee hour. Gunnel Hamilton said that 55 people had attended the service and five-six children had gone to Sunday school.

Christina presented the financial report for January 1 through October 31. With two months left of the fiscal year, both income and costs are below budget by around \$5,000 and \$6,000, respectively. Christina said that she had a debit card for SLCW's bank account and asked if anyone had the second card. Former treasurer Peter Edwardsson said he would check.

6. **Membership – Medlemsfrågor.** Sören Karlsson handed out a draft of the revised membership form for 2015 and asked for comments so that the final version can be handed out at the Advent service. Members will get an opportunity to opt out of having their addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses listed in the membership directory, which is distributed by email.

7. **Newsletter – Församlingsbladet.** Gunnel Hamilton said that only a few items are missing from the next newsletter, which she hoped to send out in mid-November. Anneli needs to write her chairman's column and Mona will contribute "words from the pastor." Gunnel will advertise the Advent service and the Christmas Eve service ("julsbön") in the newsletter.

8. **Other business – Övriga ärenden.**

a) **Values meeting.** SLCW has received SEK 10,000 from SKUT for an orientation about the basic values of the Church of Sweden. Mona will consult her calendar and inform the Council of the dates when she is available for this meeting. Instead of going out of town for a day, it was suggested that the meeting should take place after the January or February service, perhaps at the home of one of the Council members.

b) **Grant from SWEA.** Christina will apply for a \$600 donation to SLCW's music program.

c) **New hymnals.** SLCW has applied to SKUT for \$1,400 for new hymnals and \$2,500 for renting a meeting room in Augustana for one year. The total amount of \$3,900 has been granted by SKUT and is expected to be disbursed in January 2015. Mona suggested that SLCW may also want to rent a space outside Augustana for activities like meetings for Swedish au pairs, get-togethers for families with very young children ("kyrkans barntimmar"), private meetings between the pastor and individual congregation members, etc. Someone suggested that we could try to get corporate sponsorship for this from Swedish companies in the area.

d) **Coffee hour.** Anneli told us that Elin Hofverberg will soon have another baby and will therefore no longer be in charge of the coffee hour, but will try to find a replacement. Christina will contact Elin and ask if she has made any purchases for which she should be reimbursed.

e) **"Församlingsordning" and "församlingsinstruktion."** Work on these two documents needs to start soon. Mona will send the documents used by the Swedish Church in New York as examples. Anneli has drafts prepared by Bengt Boström and Arne Dunhem a few years ago. She will send these to Kristina Åberg and Eva Perdahl for a first look.

f) **Email.** Mona will remind SKUT that SLCW needs an official SKUT email address which should be used for announcements to the congregation, newsletters, etc.

g) **Activities.** Anneli reported that a member had proposed a number of social activities for the congregation, but Anneli felt that there are already other Swedish and Scandinavian organizations in the area that arrange these types of activities. She suggested that instead, we may want to consider introducing a second church service (perhaps a layman's service) every month.

9. **Meeting adjourned – Mötets avslutande.** Anneli Sexton declared the meeting adjourned.