

Meeting minutes – final
Mötesprotokoll
SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WASHINGTON, D.C. (SLCW)
Church Council meeting
Kyrkorådsmöte
Sunday, September 7, 2014
Söndagen den 7 september 2014
10:40 a.m. – 12:35 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, and Annika O’Hara. Congregation member Kenneth Hamilton was also present.

1. **Opening of meeting – *Mötets öppnande.*** Council chair Anneli Sexton opened the meeting with Mona Svensson saying a prayer.
2. **Review of quorum and agenda – *Fastställande av beslutsmässighet och dagordning.*** It was established that quorum was met. The agenda was approved.
3. **Approval of minutes from previous meeting – *Godkännande av protokoll från föregående möte.*** The minutes from the April 6, 2014 meeting were approved. Annika O’Hara will send them to George Mitchell for posting on SLCW’s website.
4. **Announcements by the pastor – *Meddelanden från kyrkoherden.***
 - a) **New book.** Mona Svensson said that she would mail 15 copies of “Uppdrag förtroendevald,” a new book from SKUT (Church of Sweden Abroad) that explains the values of the Church of Sweden, SKUT’s economy and budget, the tasks of local church councils, etc. She proposed that the Council discuss the contents of the book at a future meeting.
 - b) **Values meeting.** Mona told us that SLCW had received 10,000 Swedish kronor from SKUT to hold a meeting about Church of Sweden values (“*värdegrunden*”). Anneli Sexton had received printed material at a conference in Florida that we could use. Ann-Marie Brisbois will check the cost of renting a room at the House of Sweden for a day-long meeting in October or November. (After the meeting, Annika O’Hara volunteered to check with Bon Secours in Marriottsville.)
 - c) **SKUT visit.** Next, Mona informed us that the head of SKUT, Anders Bergkvist, and the new regional director, Elna Wahlgren-Lundqvist, will visit Washington October 3-5. She proposed that they address the congregation at the coffee hour after the October 5 service and thereafter meet with the Church Council. Mona will confirm the proposal with the two SKUT officials and then tell Gunnel Hamilton so that information about the visit can go out in the email announcement about the October 5 service. Mona also suggested that our discussions on a new *församlingsordning* and *församlingsinstruktion* should wait until after the visit from SKUT.
 - d) **Budget.** Finally, Mona reminded us that SLCW’s budget must be signed by her and the Council chair before it is sent to SKUT. She would need some money for a get-together with her old confirmation classes and also suggested that SLCW inquire about renting a room at Augustana for the pastor’s private meetings with congregation members.

5. **Treasurer's report** – *Kassörens rapport*. Christina Hoffman told us that she had visited SKUT's head office in Uppsala during the summer to discuss budget and accounting matters. She had agreed with Uppsala that a budget for 2015 was the most urgently needed document while the 2016 and 2017 budgets could be sent to SKUT later.
Christina reported that SLCW's main sources of income are membership fees, offerings, and donations, including for the coffee service. The main expenses consist of the fee paid to Augustana for use of the sanctuary, insurance premiums, the cost for bringing the pastor down from New York, payments to the organist and for special music, coffee and other consumables, and some administrative costs.
Christina said she had made some minor modifications to the budget published in the latest newsletter, mostly by moving around items between expense and income categories.
Christina asked for all documents pertaining to the 2013 accounts, including the 2013 audit report, which Kenneth Hamilton said he had sent to Uppsala.
Finally, Christina reported that today's offering had brought in \$732 (including one \$200 donation) and that \$104 had been donated at the coffee hour. **Gunnel Hamilton reported that 59 people had attended the service, including 10 children in the Sunday school.**
6. **Membership** – *Medlemsfrågor*. There was no reporting on membership numbers since Sören Karlsson was not present. Anneli Sexton pointed out that the membership form must change for next year, including giving members an opportunity to opt out of the membership directory, which is distributed by email. Kristina Åberg will email Sören about this and ask him to send the new version of the form to the Council before it goes out to the congregation.
7. **Newsletter** – *Församlingsbladet*. Anneli Sexton thanked Gunnel and Kenneth Hamilton for the latest newsletter. We discussed the frequency of the newsletter, Gunnel's summaries of each service, and whether the newsletter should be distributed by email or just posted on our new website and if any issues should be printed and sent by regular mail. No decisions were made.
8. **Other business** – *Övriga ärenden*.
 - a) **Video camera** – Anneli Sexton told us that web master George Mitchell had asked for a video camera to record music performances during the services, which he would put on the website. The Council approved \$200 for the purchase.
 - b) **Pay Pal** – The Council decided that we would ask people to please add \$1.75 when they make payments on Pay Pal in order to cover the service fee. Christina Hoffman will ask George Mitchell to add this request on our website.
 - c) **December service** – We discussed shortening the December service by making it a Lucia Service without communion. Mona Svensson will send the Church of Sweden's program for this type of service to the Council before a decision is made.
9. **Meeting adjourned** – *Mötets avslutande*. Anneli Sexton declared the meeting adjourned.