

Swedish Lutheran Church of Washington DC

Church Council meeting *Kyrkorådsmöte*

Meeting minutes *Mötesprotokoll*

Sunday, May 1, 2016, 10.30 am – 12.40 pm

Söndagen den 1 maj 2016, 10.30 – 12.40

Augustana Lutheran Church, 2100 New Hampshire Avenue NW
Washington, DC

Present: (*Närvarande*): Pether Ström Broman (pastor, *kyrkoherde*), Sören Karlsson (chairperson, *ordförande*), Marie Jeffsell-Lema (vice chairperson, *vice ordförande*), Rahel Tekle (treasurer, *kassör*), Elin Hofverberg, Agneta Mitchell, Anneli Sexton, Gunnel Hamilton (secretary). **Not present:** Ann-Marie Brisbois och Peter Edwardsson.

- 1. Opening of the meeting.** *Mötets öppnande.* Council Chair Sören Karlsson opened the meeting welcoming all and Pastor Pether Ström Broman said a prayer.
- 2. Proof of Notice.** *Godkännande avkallelsen.* Notice was approved.
- 3. Review of Quorum and Agenda.** *Fastställande av beslutsmässighet och dagordning.* Council Chair Sören Karlsson said that he had not had the time to do an agenda for the meeting. Instead the reminder list for today's meeting made by the Secretary should be used as agenda. Quorum was met.
- 4. Social Media Update.** *Uppdatering av sociala medier:* George Mitchell and Kenneth Hamilton were invited to give updates on the revision of the home page implementation with new software from Church of Sweden and the status and usage of FaceBook. Both reports were received with interest.
- 5. Election of Reviewer of the minutes.** Val av justerare. Elin Hofverberg was elected Reviewer of the minutes.
- 6. Reviewing and approval of last meeting's minutes and the final draft of the Annual meeting's minutes.** *Föregående protokoll och utkast av årsmötesprotokollet.* The board approved last meeting's minutes and the draft of the Annual meeting's minutes
- 7. The writing of minutes in English.** *Skrivande av protokoll på engelska.* Council Chair Sören Karlsson and Secretary Gunnel Hamilton informed about the rules of writing minutes in English according to our Bylaws and according to District of Columbia Deputy Superintendent of Corporations Josef Gasimov. We are a nonprofit corporation that should be able to verify our actions immediately at any time for the authorities in DC. Members that do not speak Swedish perfectly have the right to read the minutes in English. The church board decided to go on writing the minutes in English and also try to follow the Swedish setup of minutes when possible. Easy English should be used at all times. Gunnel Hamilton suggested that the Bylaws should be sent to each member of the churchboard. It was decided that she is going to send them to each member.
- 8. Treasurer's Report.** *Kassörens rapport.* Treasurer Rahel Tekle reported that SKUT had reimbursed us with \$1.037 for a ticket to Sweden, someone that urgently needed to return .She reminded us that the budget for 2017 should be sent to SKUT before 2 June. She and Annika O'Hara will make a proposal. We are asking for money for special music and Sunday school. It was suggested that the budget could be approved by the board by means of e-mail. The churchboard approved the suggestion.
- 9. The Pastor's Forum.** *Pastorn har ordet.* Pastor Ström Broman informed that the new hymnals "Sånger i 2000-talet" had not been ordered. He suggested that we wait before ordering them, since they are not used very much even in churches in Sweden. There are many hymns we have not yet sung from the ordinary hymnal. He recommended a very new "Swedish Hymns" book by Per Harling/Lina Sandell published 25 April, 49:- per book. We will review the book and see if we like to order it. Pastor Ström Broman will check into Children's Bibles, when he is in Sweden this summer. We could use a few more. Elin Hofverberg had counted three Bibles in our storage. According to Pastor Ström Broman, we learned that the former pastor forgot and missed the deadline to request

for funds from SKUT for Swedish Church in Washington, DC. We are not getting any money from SKUT this year.

10. Other Business. Övriga frågor.

- a. **Storing old minutes.** *Förvaring av gamla protokoll.* Bengt Boström has binders with old minutes in his cellar. He is asking the board to take care of them. The churchboard will investigate how old minutes may be archived for the future.
- b. **Discussions.** *Diskussioner.* Churchboard discussed activities with other organizations and in other spaces than church. Marie Jeffsell suggested hiring a half time employee to work for our church. Pastor Pether Ström Broman thought our need right now was not immediate since membership has gone down.
- c. **Suggestions from church members.** Church members have suggested activities like Bible studies and Children's choir. Churchboard are taking notes of these suggestions for the future.
- d. **Outdoor service June 5.** *Friluftsgudstjänst 5 juni.* Council Chair Sören Karlsson informed that he had booked site: 10 in Rock Creek Park for the June 5 service at 11.00. He will send out an information flyer of the service and also include an invitation to the Jenny Lind concert June 27. Different members of the board were assigned various tasks for the picnic. Kerstin Hendrickson and her music group will sing and play at the service.
- e. **Contracts.** Sören Karlsson also said he will sign the renting contract with Augustana this week.
- f. **Social Ministries.** Marie Jeffsell informed the board that she had investigated the needs at "Mary Center" a nonprofit shelter for women. They are in need of bibs, formula and diapers. She also was in contact with "Coalition for the Homeless" they have needs too. They may even take toys for Christmas. She requested 3 mats for the children to sit on at Sunday school which was already approved in October 2015.
- g. **Travel.** Council Chair Sören Karlsson is going to New York for Pastor Pether Ström Broman's installation service on Sunday May 8 at 11.00 am. Marie Jeffsell suggested that SLCW pays for Sören's bus ticket to New York. The churchboard approved this. Anneli Sexton reminded that before there had been an invitation to the board from New York to attend "mottagningsgudstjänsten" for the new Pastor. Gunnel Hamilton decided to send out information about the service to the board. The churchboard will plan through e-mail before next meeting.

Next meeting. *Nästa sammanträde.* Next meeting will be September 11.

Adjournment-Mötets avslutning. Chairman Sören Karlsson thanked everybody for their contributions. The meeting was adjourned at 12.40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Gunnel Hamilton
Secretary

/s/

Elin Hovferberg
Reviewer