

Minutes from the Annual meeting in Immanuel church, Sunday 28 April 2019 at 13.00

Present: about 205 members at the start of the meeting and 180 after lunch.
Simultaneous interpreters: Johan Ahlberg, Hanna Zuring Peterson

§ 1 Introduction

Stephen James, Chair of the congregation, welcomed everyone. He began by referring to the fact that the Annual meeting really started two weeks ago at the congregational meeting when there were stations for various topics within the church's activities and preparations for the Annual meeting. He also referred to Probitas' Annual meeting and the clarity expressed about why the Probitas group exists. Stephan summarized his introduction with the words gratitude and wonder and said a prayer for the Annual meeting.

Then he declared the Annual meeting open.

Stephen called up the CEOs of two of the church's companies: Probitas and Immanuel Care, and thanked them for their efforts with a bouquet of flowers.

All present staff members of Immanuel church were called up and thanked for their valuable efforts with a symbolic flower.

§ 2 Announcement of the meeting

Senior Pastor Ulla Marie Gunner informed that the Annual meeting was first announced in the magazine Immanuel at the turn of the year 2018/2019 and then several times in agendas, newsletters, the church's website and other documents.

It was confirmed that the meeting had been announced according to the statutes.

§ 3 Agenda

One additional point "Any other business" was added to the agenda and three issues were announced under this point:

- a) Report from the Environmental & Fair trade group
- b) Greeting and vision by Ove Andersson
- c) Question regarding the budget by Rune Larsson

The Annual meeting decided to approve the agenda.

§ 4 Election of Chair and Vice chair of the Annual meeting

Dan Svanell was elected Chair of the Annual meeting and Chinedo Deborah Oji Vice chair.

§ 5 Election of secretary, tellers and two reviewers, who will verify the minutes together with the Chair and Vice chair

The meeting decided to elect Cathrin Sjöström as secretary.

The meeting decided to elect the following persons to count the votes at the meeting: Ture Thorgren convenor, Eva Pilenvik and Kjell Walfridsson.

The meeting decided to elect Agnetha Dalemark and Karin Sandström to verify the minutes together with the Chair and Vice chair.

§ 6 Annual report, encl. 1

Senior Pastor Ulla Marie Gunner apologized that the printed publication of the church's Annual report had not arrived in time this year

Then she shared something that had become extra clear to her during the past year, namely that everyone knows a part, but nobody has the full picture of what is happening in this large congregation that has such a broad and extensive ministry. "I see from where I stand", and that means that someone else sees other things. This perspective she wanted to pass on to all the members, both when we look to the past and to the future.

From the Annual report she emphasised that worship, devotion and prayer are central in the congregation. In 2019 a Portuguese worship group has started. This group belongs to the Swedish fellowship and has financial support from the Uniting Church. The Korean fellowship celebrated their 40th anniversary with a big feast and a lot of Korean food.

Music is an important and necessary pulse in the ministry of our church. For the first time confirmation is common to all the language groups. There are a lot of children in the International fellowship, a bit fewer in the Korean fellowship, and in the Swedish fellowship activities for children have lately been more in the form of a project. In the autumn a more traditional Sunday school is planned in the Swedish worship service at 11.00, and maybe also in the worship service at 16.00.

Our social welfare work has had an intensive year with Lunch in community, Christmas in community, overnight stays at cold nights, young migrants who don't have anywhere to live and who might not be allowed to stay in Sweden, and much more for people in needy situations and various care acts for church members.

Culture means growing. During the year there have been lectures, exhibitions, weaving, carpentry workshop, and the book about the Congo and the painting, which was taken down, was published.

The Mission and Aid committee has sent ultrasound machines to our sister church N'djili. In Panvel water supply is finally in place. The Korean fellowship supports theology students in Burma and builds houses.

Pete Anderson, pastor in the International fellowship, began working with us during the year. The church has an active Environmental & Fair trade group. In November, the Board met the three Councils for a day with discussions about the future and what we are passionate about. "Fika" is important for the fellowship. The staff's coffee time on Wednesdays, to which also Probitas' staff is invited, is an important part of the working day.

Ulla Marie mentioned that the congregation got on average a new member per week in 2018 and she challenged the Annual meeting to invest in two new members per week until 2020.

Please also see Annual report 2018, **encl. 1, pp 5-17.**

Ulla Marie concluded by asking the congregation to stand up while she gratefully mentioned the names of the members who had died during the year, and prayed a prayer.

The subject was opened to the floor. There were no further questions about the Annual report and the report was accepted and gratefully submitted.

§ 7 The Ministry Evaluation Committee, encl. 2

Johan Sahlén, convenor of the Ministry Evaluation Committee, reported from the committee's evaluation. This was the second internal evaluation of the church's ministry.

The committee has focused on the worship groups' Councils and their work, the activities of the Board, the conditions for the implementation of the Ministry action plan and compliance with the statutes and constitution.

In its report the committee has presented its conclusions and also points to a number of areas where they make general recommendations for change. For details, please see the report, **encl. 2.**

The subject was opened to the floor and there were no questions. The report was accepted and gratefully submitted..

§ 8 Administrative report and Profit-and-Loss balance sheet, encl. 1 and 3

Mats Engen, Head of Administration, reviewed Immanuel church's financial outcome in 2018. The figures are presented in the printed publications of the 2018 Annual report, **encl. 1, pp 26-55.**

The result of the church for 2018 is minus SEK 200,000, which is slightly better than budget for the year. For distribution of the church's revenues and expenses, see **encl. 3, p 2**.

In the enclosure a graph of the collected income for the past nine years is presented. There it is obvious that gifts via Swish and the church fee have increased. Cash gifts are diminishing, but the total offering in the church is increasing.

Mats then presented the result for different ministry areas in the church, based on the accounting structure that was introduced in 2017. This was the second year that the congregation could have the figures presented in this way with revenues, ministry costs and personnel costs for each area. The areas that were presented were social welfare, Immanuel youth, the music school, the music ministry, mission and aid, and common support functions. Mats also showed a picture of the church's common costs, which as in past years shows that the church's largest costs are personnel costs, ministry costs and costs for premises. For detailed figures, please see **encl 3**.

The subject was opened to the floor.

There was a question why the ministry costs within the music area are so high compared with the personnel costs for the same area. Mats explained that these costs includes care of instruments, costs for choirs and fees to musicians.

The Annual meeting decided to accept and gratefully submit the Administrative report, the Profit-and-Loss account and the Balance sheet.

§ 9 Audit report, encl. 1

Jonas Grahn, certified accountant, began by emphasising that they are a team who work with examining the congregation, the Probitas group and the total Immanuel group. Together with Christina Gotting, certified accountant, he signs the audit.

Jonas mentioned in particular that in 2018 there had been two Heads of administration in the church, Anette Engkvist and Mats Engen, and that the transition between the two has worked well.

The auditors have focused on internal control, that salaries and taxes are paid, and have followed up Board minutes. For 2018 the auditors have no specific information or remarks.

Jonas read the two statements in the audit report and recommended the congregation to approve the income statement and balance sheet for 2018. The auditors have also examined the Board's management and recommended the congregation to grant discharge to the Board.

The report was accepted and gratefully submitted.

§ 10 Profit-and-Loss Account for 2018 and Balance sheet as per 31 December 2018

The Annual meeting confirmed the Profit-and-Loss Account of the church and the Immanuel group for 2018 and the Balance sheet of the church and the Immanuel group as per 31 December 2018.

§ 11 Discharge from liability for the Board for 2018

The Annual meeting granted the Board discharge from liability for the financial year 2018, according to the recommendations of the auditors.

The Chair of the meeting thanked the Board warmly for their dedication and commitment and wished them God's blessing.

§ 12 Information about Immanuel Senior, encl. 1

Rachel Norborg Jerkeby, Chair of Immanuel Senior, reported that the association had 35 meetings in 2018 with at least 100 participants every Tuesday. Almost every time a new person has found the way to Immanuel Senior. In the Annual report, **encl. 1, p 13 and pp 59-60** you can read more about Immanuel Senior.

At the church's information desk there are leaflets with Immanuel Senior's program as well as for cultural walks and journeys. Rachel welcomed everyone who is free during the day and reminded that the association does not have any lower age limit.

§ 13 Information about Equmenia Immanuel Stockholm (EIS)

Tobias Olsson, Chair of the youth association Equmenia Immanuel Stockholm (EIS), was in honour of the day dressed in a scout shirt. EIS scout namely had its first meeting on this day and six scouts and six leaders had gathered in the park to tie knots, among other things.

There will be three scout occasions during the spring and the plan is to have regular meetings from the autumn. EIS sees great potential, as there are about 200 children and young people in Immanuel church every week. The problem is how to effectively reach out to the young people in the various church activities.

The EIS Board's goal for the coming year is to support and develop the work among children and youth in the whole congregation, arrange a winter camp in 2020, increase the number of members and help leaders develop.

Contrary to Immanuel Senior, EIS does not have any upper age limit. EIS is rather in need of more older people who through their commitment will be role models for children and young people. Tobias warmly welcomed everyone to join.

He ended by asking the congregation to pray for EIS, for its Board and for all the children and young people in the church.

There was a question how EIS is recruiting new members and how the youth in the church will know that EIS exists. Tobias explained that there is information material, but that this is where EIS is today, they have not yet reached out in the activities and channels in the way they wish. This is one of EIS' focus areas for the future and the goal is to encourage all those who take part in the church's various activities for children and young people to become members. EIS is for the whole church's children and youth and there is no membership fee.

§ 14 Election of the chair of the congregation, one year, encl. 4

Karin Pettersson, chair of this year's joint election committee, said she was thankful for the confidence that the congregation has had in her and informed on what the structure of the election committee had been like this year. Every language group has had their election committee and their chairpersons have been a part of the joint election committee where Karin has been chair.

Karin introduced the election committee's proposal; to re-elect Stephen James for one year.

The chair of the meeting opened the floor. No other proposals were made for the chair post.

The annual meeting decided to re-elect Stephen James as chair of the congregation for a period of one year. The decision was unanimous.

§ 15 Election of board members for the congregation board, encl. 4

Karin Pettersson, chair of this year's joint election committee, informed on that three board members had announced that they would not run for re-election. Three new board members therefore need to be elected. The election committee has, this year as well as last year, chosen a flat list and Karin presented the election committee's proposals for the congregation board.

The floor was opened and no other proposals for candidates were made.

The annual meeting elected the following persons as members of the congregation board for two years:

Barbro Ericsson	new election
Evado Arfs	new election
Lynda Eneh	new election
Claes Jonsson	re-election
Emma Darelid	re-election
Peter Dobers	re-election

Up until the annual meeting 2020 the following persons remain as board members: Gunilla Hjelmåker, Hans-Olof Hagén, Ingrid Östlund, Malin Emmoth, Mats Bernö and Roelof Hansman.

§ 16 Election of two accountants and two substitute accountants, as well as the operation examining committee, encl. 4

The annual meeting elected Jonas Grahn and Christina Gotting to main accountants for one year and Susanne Westman and Tobias Andersson as substitute accountants for one year.

Regarding the operation examining committee, Karin Pettersson - chair of the joint election committee - referred to this as a work that takes time to fully get into. Therefore the election committee has asked the current committee if they are willing to serve for another year and they have all accepted. Thereby the election committee's proposal is that the current operation examining committee is re-elected for one year.

It is the election committee's strong opinion and proposal that the operation examining committee from 2020 and onward will be elected for a two year-period.

The annual meeting decided to elect, as operation examining committee, Johan Sahlén convening, Jacques Lombard and Kim Skoglund for one year.

§ 17 Election of other volunteers and leaders, encl. 5

Karin Pettersson, chair of the joint election committee, informed on the proposed names for the three councils. An adjustment of the proposed encl. 5 is that Monica Ahlberg will not be running for re-election.

The annual meeting decided to, with the adjustment mentioned above, elect the names and periods that have been proposed according to encl. 5.

Karin further informed on adjustments in the translator committee. Cameron Armstrong, Erin Peterson, Hannah Clarkson and Johan Sahlén are resigning, Paulina Fröling is added.

The annual meeting decided to, with the adjustment mentioned above, elect the committees and the names that have been proposed both for the committees and for the supporting committees according to encl. 5.

Regarding the congregation's groups, an adjustment was made of the Swedish communion servers, where Stig Robertsson resigned and Bengt Waldemarsson was added. Moreover, Anna Walfridsson and Sven Britton left as representatives for the church conference in Jönköping. This means that both of the substitutes will go as main representatives. As new supplement representative, the election committee proposed Göran Gunner.

The annual meeting decided to, with the adjustment mentioned above including by-election for a new supplement for the church conference, elect the the groups and participants in these that had been proposed according to encl. 5.

The chair of the meeting thanked Karin Pettersson and everyone in the election committee for their sound and solid work.

§ 18 Election of nominee committee to the election committee for the annual meeting 2020

Head of the congregation Ulla Marie Gunner informed on that the councils have been responsible to present proposals for a nomination committee to the election committee for the annual meeting 2020 and thereafter presented the councils' proposal.

The annual meeting decided to elect Patrick Amofah convening, Chinedo Deborah Oji, Young-Soon Vikström, Mi-Kyong Park, Anders Andersson and Göran Johansson as nomination committee with the task of presenting proposals for the election committee of 2020.

§ 19 Report on the current work on the operational plan of 2020, encl. 6

Ulla Marie Gunner, head of the congregation, referred to the report that was handed out before the meeting, which is the second report out of the operational plan.

She mentioned that it was positive to read in the operation examining committee's report that the congregation seems to be operating according to the operational plan. We're not quite there yet and some priorities need to be made, but a lot is already going in the right direction.

She informed that as of the fall of 2019, the new website will be in place. Further she reported that the board and the councils' day together last November resulted in good material to work with onward and that she is looking for ways to get everyone involved and engaged in the new operational plan that the congregation is adopting for 2020.

The subject was opened to the floor and there were no questions regarding the report.

The annual meeting decided to shelve the report.

§ 20 Other matters, enclosure 7a, 7b

a) Report from the environment and justice group encl. 7a

Anna Berndes presented a report from the environment and justice group who at the annual meeting 2018 were given the task to go through the congregation's environmental policy and the congregation's corporations' capital placement policy, with the purpose of proposing possible changes to these.

The congregation's environmental policy has not been changed since 2008. The group has therefore been over the policy and worked out a proposal with some changes. The group has also worked out an action plan for the work on environmental and sustainability issues that will secure that the issues are handled in line with the congregation's policies in this area. The plan also includes a distribution of responsibilities. Anders presented the action plan briefly.

According to the environment and justice group, the church's capital placement policy is elaborate, but since the world around us is changing and the demand for responsible organizations are constantly increasing, it is appropriate to introduce annual revisions.

The group has gone through different investment strategies that sustainable organizations can use in their work and have proposed some changes and additions to the congregations' corporations' capital placement policy. This in the purpose of taking the next step toward a more sustainable administration. See encl. 7 for the most important proposals.

The environment and justice group's proposals around the environmental policy as well as the capital placement policy will be sent to the board and will after processing also be published on the congregation's website.

Anders finished by saying that new members in the environment and justice group are warmly welcome.

b) Greetings and visions from Ove Andersson, encl. 7b

Ove Andersson opened his matter by, inspired by today's preaching, ask all congregation members he has hurt for forgiveness.

Thereafter he presented his enclosure "vision Immanuel" consisting of a number of visions and ideas for the congregation. He also expressed a wish that the congregation's written vision would be changed to something shorter; for example "Come as you are!".

Ove finished his enclosure by proposing that the board itself should decide the order of the proposition list.

c) Question around budget from Rune Larsson

Rune Larsson had attended Probitas' company evening and understood that the companies' contribution to the congregation is at a constant 20 million SEK. He wondered with what index the contribution drops and what he as a congregation member therefore needs to give in addition, to make sure the congregation's economy remains stable.

Congregation chairperson Stephen James replied that Rune had mentioned just what the board is struggling with right now. What needs to be done for the budget to remain stable and balanced? The concern will be brought to the board which will return with answers around the index and these issues.

§ 20 Conclusion

The chair of the meeting handed the word to congregation chair Stephen James. Stephen thanked everyone who had come to the meeting and shown their commitment, as well as all volunteers who stand by in the congregation's varied activities and different needs. Thereafter he called the resigning board members up, gave out flowers and thanked them for their service.

Stephen also thanked the presidium and declared the annual meeting 2019 closed.

By the protocol

Cathrin Sjöström
Secretary

Adjusted:

Dan Svanell
Chairperson

Chinedo Deborah Oji
Vice chairperson

Agnetha Dalemark
Adjuster

Karin Sandström
Adjuster