

Board meeting, Immanuel Church

Present: Greger Hjelm, Chairman
Evado Arfs
Cecilia Mjönes
Tobias Ejeby
Hans-Olof Hagén
Mats Bernö
Ingrid Östlund
Peter Dobers
Johan Sahlén

Absent: Karin Pettersson
Barbro Eriksson
Hannah Akuffo Britton

In service: Senior Pastor
The Chief of Administration
The Church Administrator

§1 Introduction and opening

The Chairman, Greger Hjelm welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open.

§2 Opening reflection and discussion

The Senior Pastor shared a Bible verse from 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12. Discussions were held in groups around the topic "What impression do we want to make as a church?".

§3 Adoption of the agenda

Two new questions were added under the item Other matters:
§15e Building a fellowship within the various worship groups.
§15f Report from the course "Enhet i mångfald" (Unity in Diversity).

With these additions, the agenda was adopted.

§4 Minutes from the previous meeting 2023-12-14

The minutes were approved after adjusting paragraphs 12 and 16c and then added to the documents. In paragraph 12, the third paragraph beginning with "In the current articles of association..." was deleted. In paragraph 16c, Tobias Ejeby's name was misspelled.

§5 Approval of per capsulam decision regarding the calling of deacons.

The board decided to confirm the per capsulam decision it took on December 19, 2023 to propose to the congregation, at the congregational meeting on January 21, 2024, to call Margret Josefsson as deacon in Immanuel Church. This decision is documented in a special protocol.

It was noted at the same time that Roelof Hansman notified the board in October 2023 of his resignation from the board with immediate effect due to his private work situation.

§6 Change in decision regarding the policy for the congregation's sustainability work.

The board decided to remove the text in the sustainability policy that was decided upon at its meeting on December 14, 2023, which stated that the Sustainability Committee shall include "an adjunct representative from the board".

§7 A look back at the outcome of the congregational meeting held on 21 January 2024.

The board discussed the outcome of the recent congregational meeting.

Regarding the issue of translation of various documents within the church into, for example, English, the board emphasized that Swedish is the standard language for all our constitutional and formal documents. In the event of any discrepancy between a Swedish text in such a document and a translation into another language, it is always the Swedish text that applies.

§8 Review of the church statutes/constitution

Tobias Ejeby informed about the proposal for changes in the church constitution that the constitution committee worked on. The material will be further processed in order to, after a decision by the board, be presented for a first decision at the congregational meeting on March 17, 2024.

§9 Before the upcoming annual meeting.

Ingrid Östlund informed about the upcoming annual meeting on April 21, 2024. On Sunday, April 14, a congregational dialogue, formerly known as an information meeting, will be held, where the congregational members will be given the opportunity to receive in-depth information and ask questions about the various matters that will be dealt with at the annual meeting.

§10 Grants to external organisations**a) Revised proposal regarding grants to external organizations**

Together with the Finance Committee, Marianne Eriksson has gone through the list of the grants that the congregation annually gives to various external organizations, and produced a revised proposal based on which grants should be given, see appendix.

The board decided in accordance with the proposal, and to give the mandate to the Mission and Aid Committee to come back with proposals regarding how the grants to India and Congo-Kinshasa should be handled. At the moment, there are major problems with sending money to these two countries, which has led to a total of nearly one million kronor from the congregation which could not be disbursed.

b) SIRA

A letter has been received by the board with a request for an extra contribution to the SIRA school's operations.

The board decided to give the Mission and Aid Committee the task of preparing the case and coming up with proposals for action.

§11 Issues regarding premises**a) Renovation of K3**

The board was informed about the renovation of K3 which is planned in order to create a youth floor with space for sports, music and room for creativity. Since such a renovation will be extensive, and may cost up to twenty million kronor, the issue needs to be raised with the congregation. In addition, a more detailed documentation needs to be worked out with different options for action regarding various solutions for the rooms needed for our youth work, including drafting an impact analysis for each alternative.

b) Letter from Ove Andersson

A congregational member, Ove Andersson, has written a letter to the board with thoughts, questions and opinions about how the board handles some of our premises' issues, including the lack of information about the planned renovation of K3. The content of the letter was noted, and since the board has paused the plans for the renovation of K3 until further notice (see above), the letter from Ove Andersson is therefore considered answered.

c) Other possible matters regarding premises

No other issues were raised.

§12 Personnel issues

a) Comprehensive report from the Personnel Committee

The personnel committee gave a report on current recruitments, where interviews are ongoing with applications for the following positions:

- Responsible for children and family activities in the Swedish council.
- Technician
- Strategic Communications Manager

The personnel committee also informed about staff whose employment at Immanuel Church will be ending in the spring of 2024.

b) The situation regarding current recruitment processes.

Ingrid Östlund gave a report on the current recruitment process or a Korean pastor.

c) Other possible matters regarding personnel issues

No other matters were raised.

§13 Whistleblower Policy

The board decided to postpone this matter to the next board meeting.

§14 Reports

a) The Senior Pastor

The Senior Pastor Carin Dernulf gave a report on the start of the year 2024 regarding our ministries and activities in the personnel group.

b) The Chief of Administration

Marianne Eriksson informed that another SEK 87,000 had been received from a previous testament.

c) The Chair

The chairman Greger Hjelm gave a report on the ongoing investigation regarding the diaconal work at Immanuel Church.

d) The committees

Nothing to report on.

e) Probitas & IFAB

Nothing to report on.

f) Other possible reports

No report was given.

§15 Other matters

a) Carin Dernulf is in charge of the Swedish 11-worship service.

The chairman announced that this item was deleted.

b) Claes Jonsson is representing the congregation during a visit to the sister church in Estonia

It was reported that Claes Jonsson will represent the congregation on a visit to the sister church in Estonia at the turn of January-February 2024. A report from this trip will be given at a later board meeting.

c) Building fellowship within the various worship groups

Johan Sahlén raised the question of how we as a congregation can contribute to people meeting and building a fellowship with each other within the respective worship groups.

d) Report from the course “Enhet i mångfald”

Peter Dobers and Ingrid Östlund gave a report on their participation in the first course session on “Enhet i mångfald” (Unity in Diversity).

§16 Upcoming board meetings and other meetings

- 2024: 20 Feb, 21 March, 11 Apr, 16 May, 13 June.
- Regional gathering 22 February.
- New meeting between inner-city congregations Saturday, April 20 at 10:00-14:00.
- Workshop on the future Saturday, 19 October to be held at the end of the Jubilee celebration.

§17 Conclusion

The chairman, Greger Hjelm said a prayer and then declared the meeting closed.

Secretary

Adjuster

Alice Forss

Greger Hjelm