

Motions to ELCSA (N-T) Church Synod, 10-13 October 2019

Motion 3

Motion by Church Council of ELCSA (N-T) to Church Synod

1. The Church Council of ELCSA (N-T) requests Synod to ratify the moving of ELCSA (N-T) office from the Lutheran Church Centre, Bonaero Park to the Johannes Congregation, Pretoria.
2. Synod ratifies the building of Office Buildings on the property of the Johannes Congregation
3. Synod mandates Church Council to enter into an Agreement with the Johannes Congregation to govern the smooth running of ELCSA (N-T) operations from that property.

Motivation

The current financial crisis of our landlord ELCSA leads to much uncertainty.

Due to non-payment of rates and taxed we had been without electricity at some stage.

ELCSA had to increase the rent significantly, and presumably will continue to do so to bring it in line with market prices.

The present lease for the offices at Bonaero Park will terminate on the 31st December 2019.

These matters forced Church Council to look at alternatives.

Research showed that long term renting in ELCSA (N-T) 's case, is not a good financial option

Building on an own free-standing property or buying own office space is even more expensive.

Building on the property of an existing congregation and entering into a long-term cost sharing agreement with that congregation is the best option.

Criteria for the venue:

The office should be easily accessible by road and air travel.

The surrounds should be healthy and safe.

Long term viability of the congregation should be probable

The vicinity should provide good accommodation opportunities for future staff and good schooling for children of future staff.

Sleepover accommodation for meetings should be available close by

Board Room Facilities for Church Council meetings or smaller meetings need to be available on the property.

Ultimately Church Council agreed that the Johannes Congregation meets these criteria best, and therefore obtained their agreement on the matter.

Building plans integrating the office with the existing facilities at Johannes Congregation have been finalised and submitted for approval.

An agreement with Johannes Congregation has been finalised-conditional upon ratification by Synod.

If Synod ratifies the proposal, building will start as soon as possible after Synod.