

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 22, 2018
Room 127

Present: Les Aasheim, Jamie Charlton, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Duane Danielson, Amanda Franklin, Jill Hyda, Phil McIlrath, Liz Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Ken Popken, Bob Prigge, Ann Rowland, Linda Russell, Marilyn Warling

Absent: Randy Ratekin, Kahlan Rowland, Mitch Yeager

I. Call to Order – Popken called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

Nelson shared a portion of a sermon from the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry and a reading from the Song of Solomon.

II. Approval of April 2018 Minutes

Prigge moved to approve the April 2018 minutes. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson presented the report to Council for review. The report was accepted.

IV. Unfinished Business

- Subgroup Reports
 - Invite – Charlton shared that she met with the principals of Clive Learning Academy and Cowles Montessori about setting up a program with both groups in partnership with WHLC. More details are being finalized before rolling out the program to the congregation.
 - Grow – No report this month.
 - Serve – The group will meet in June to review the Time & Talent Survey results and path forward.
- Report from SE Iowa Synod Assembly
 - McIlrath reported about the changes to the governance structure and resolution votes, including on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, gun violence and commemoration on the ordination of women. Franklin described the booth fair and various topics. Results from the water campaign were presented by ELCA World Hunger. A written report will be provided in the Window as well as an insert in the bulletin from the Synod on a summary of actions taken at the annual assembly.

V. Pastor Teaching Time

- Pastor Robin talked about the upcoming Youth Gathering in Houston, TX and the theme verse from Ephesians 2:8. The group studied Ephesians 2:1-10.

VI. New Business

- Security Task Force Report
 - Aasheim shared the report from the task force and the security audit report from the Iowa Homeland Security. An initial 12 recommendations from the task force were provided to Council for consideration. Council is to further review the report and recommendations for initial actions at June's meeting.
- Council Member Appointment
 - McIlrath was thanked for his service to Council and the congregation. McIlrath's term ends in 2018. The WHLC bylaws require a minimum of ten voting members at one time. Council decided that McIlrath's position will not be filled for the remainder of 2018, as Council remains above ten voting members.
- Pictorial Directory
 - Prigge met with Bruce Dodgen and Paula Virtue to discuss options on a new directory. Prigge informed that the congregation would need to staff volunteers to work on sign-up, schedule and direct families for sessions. An online directory version, which is capable of continuous updates, is an option. Council asked to review further details at the June meeting.
- Janitorial Service Update
 - Pastor Chris reported that Merritt has started cleaning the facility. A thorough cleaning is completed on Monday, and spot cleaning is completed on Thursday. Several volunteers have signed up to assist with set-up and tear down with events.
- Memorial Committee Member Confirmation
 - Popken recommended Jessica Chance, Ron Stoen, Bob Prigge be appointed to the re-instituted Memorial Committee with one member rotating off the committee each year in accordance with the WHLC bylaws. Pastor Robin will serve in an advisory role and will schedule the first meeting.

Aasheim moved that the recommended Memorial Committee members be appointed for the period specified. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

- Bylaw Amendments
 - Updates are needed regarding the start of terms for Council Members and Officers. The proposed amendments read as follows:

C5.03.02 shall be amended to read:

"Election of Congregation Council Members. Positions on the Congregation Council shall generally have three (3) year terms, with approximately one-third of the terms of the positions on the Congregation Council expiring annually. Each position's term on the Congregation Council shall begin **immediately** ~~as of January 1~~ following the close of the Annual Congregation Meeting at which an election is held to fill the position, and the member elected to fill the position shall continue to serve until their successor has been duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation or removal. No member of the Congregation Council who has served a full term shall succeed himself/herself until one year has elapsed."

C11.01.03 shall be amended to read:

“Terms of Office. The officers shall hold office ~~immediately beginning on the January 4~~ **immediately following the close of the Annual Congregation Meeting at which an election is held to fill the position, or immediately following their appointment,** for a term of one (1) year or until a successor shall have been duly elected or appointed and qualified or until death, resignation or removal.

There is no limit on the number of successive terms that the Secretary and Treasurer may hold.”

Nelson moved that the Congregation Council recommends these bylaw amendments and directs that they be published and considered at the next annual congregation meeting in accordance with Section C16.03 of the Windsor Heights Lutheran Church constitution. Seconded by Charlton. Motion carried.

VII. Consent Agenda

- The Worship and Fellowship committee May meeting minutes were presented.
- Nelson reported that the chair for Family Promise is open and to bring any interested persons to Ellen Graham, Liz Nelson, the Global Community & Action committee or the pastors.
- Charlton updated Council that the summer celebrations will be held once a month after the 9:30 AM service in Parish Hall.

VIII. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Robin provided an update that she met earlier in the month with Polk County Emergency Management to discuss using WHLC's facility as a cooling center during hot weather. Parish Hall would be used for a few hours for people to cool off and then depart for home. During a prolonged heat wave, Parish Hall may be used for people to spend the night. This would only be at most a few nights. The site would be staffed by Polk County Emergency Management, and they would provide needed supplies. WHLC only provides the space.

Nelson moved that Council recommends WHLC be listed as a cooling facility during hot weather. Seconded by Warling. Motion carried.

- Pastor Chris reported that Windsor Heights was looking to eliminate the Fourth of July parade, but this is now being handled by the City Chamber. Windsor Methodist and Windsor Presbyterian have not participated in the parade for several years. It was decided that WHLC will not participate this year due to short notice of a parade occurring unless a large volunteer effort comes forward. Pastor Chris is looking to start a pub theology group this summer. Information will be communicated in the bulletin, E-Weekly and the Window. Pastor Chris reminded Council that WHLC's 75th anniversary will be in the fall of 2018. Further plans on recognition and celebrations are being discussed.

- IX. Announcements, Correspondence & Assignments
- Council Meeting – June 26, 6:30 PM
 - Council Meeting Devotion/Refreshments – Russell
 - Council Updates to Congregation – June 2/3
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Warling
 - Sunday 9:30 AM Service – Charlton

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

- X. Adjournment

Pastor Chris led Council in a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
May 22, 2018