

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 26, 2018
Room 127

Present: Les Aasheim, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Duane Danielson, Jill Hyda, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Ken Popken, Bob Prigge, Randy Ratekin, Ann Rowland, Linda Russell, Mitch Yeager, Marilyn Warling

Absent: Jamie Charlton, Amanda Franklin, Liz Nelson, Kahlan Rowland

- I. Call to Order – Popken called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

Russell shared a devotion about enjoying the journey and verses from Psalm 102.

- II. Guest Speaker

Pastor Gabriel Dar Lian visited with Council about using WHLC's facilities to provide worship space for their Chin Baptist congregation. Their group worships on Sunday afternoons at 1 PM, and many members are from the Windsor Heights area. Their congregation is currently about 75-80 members and meets in members' homes, but the space to accommodate everyone is challenging. Pastor Gabriel shared information on Chin Baptist history and his previous work. Council discussed logistics and potential conflicts and liabilities. Council recommended providing a clear agreement on facility and equipment use (lights and microphones) and reviewing liabilities.

Aasheim moved to provide Council's endorsement to invite the Chin Baptist congregation and Pastor Gabriel to use WHLC's facilities with the standard written documentation in place. Seconded by Rowland. Motion carried.

- III. Approval of May 2018 Minutes

Aasheim moved to approve the May 2018 minutes. Seconded by Ratekin. Motion carried.

- IV. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson presented the report to Council for review. Year-to-date giving remains ahead.

Warling moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Russell. Motion carried.

- V. Unfinished Business

- Subgroup Breakouts – Council reviewed the goals from last June's Council retreat, what actions have been completed, what still needs to be accomplished and future direction for each goal.

- Invite – The group has met with Windsor Heights’ city service groups and leaders, local schools and the Windsor Heights Chamber of Commerce to learn more about the community and possible initiatives. The group suggested working with Zach Meyer on volunteers for upcoming initiatives and think about opportunities to reach out to local residents as well.
- Grow – The group conducted an initial survey, but concrete actions need development. It was recommended the group meet with the pastors on the content delivery and possibly develop a vehicle around faith literacy.
- Serve – The new Time and Talent survey was implemented, and the group will be reviewing service opportunities and evaluating if these still meet a need, adequate energy to sustain current projects or new opportunities that may be available. Warling will share the survey results with Council. Committee liaisons can then review further with their respective committees. A recommendation was to explore how people are serving in their daily life and encouraging to share their stories.
- Security Task Force Report
 - A spreadsheet on the top 13 actions were discussed. A schedule of priorities and individuals or groups responsible were reviewed. Committee liaisons are responsible to provide specific tasks to appropriate committees as noted for action. Hyda will provide an updated table to Council, and actions will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and Council as required.

VI. Pastor Teaching Time

- The ELCA statements on family separation and travel ban were discussed. A wide range of religious groups co-signed the statement on family separation. Pastor Chris shared several quotes from Martin Luther King, Jr. on social transformation, church & state relations and church & society.

VII. Consent Agenda

- None were received.
- A follow-up was provided by Aasheim on his discussions regarding a digital sign to replace our current one. Aasheim has asked for several proposals. More information will be provided to Council for consideration.

VIII. Pastors’ Reports

- Pastor Robin reported updates on the building insurance policies. Positive comments were received on the facility and WHLC volunteers from participants at the Southeastern Iowa Women’s Organization, which held their 31st annual gathering and convention at WHLC. WELCA has spent many hours planning to host this event.
- Pastor Chris reported that the capital appeal team has been formed and currently consists of Matt McNamara (chair), Maren Steensen, Chuck Safris, Paul Rogness, Tracey Hirst, Dwight DuBois and Pastor Chris. Campaign planning will occur this summer. Pastor Chris also shared that staff are currently reviewing the four focus

areas created during the vision development process to determine further potential or actions that have been implemented.

Council met Executive Session to discuss personnel related matters.

Executive session was closed.

- IX. Announcements, Correspondence & Assignments
- Council Meeting – July 24, 6:30 PM
 - Council Meeting Devotion/Refreshments – Charlton
 - Council Updates to Congregation – June 30/July 1
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Popken
 - Sunday 9:30 AM Service – Rowland/Ratekin

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

- X. Adjournment

Pastor Chris led Council in a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
June 26, 2018