

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 26, 2019
Room 127

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

Absent: Duane Danielson, Amanda Franklin, Liz Nelson

Visitors: Bonnie Hyda, Henry Hyda, Jim Spizale

I. Call to Order – Popken called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

We Gather in God's Name

Aasheim shared a devotional from Joshua 1:7-9 and Psalm 138:7-8.

II. 75th Anniversary Task Force Report

- Bonnie Hyda provided estimated expenses for the task force. To date, \$750 has been received, which partly was used for deposit at the Urbandale Golf & Country Club. Library binders will be made of confirmation pictures with class lists. Discussion continues on how to best incorporate them in to the library binders. A panel display of congregation involvement in the building of the church through the last 75 years will be displayed the weekend of February 16-17. An invitation on the anniversary celebration was sent to the bishop, former pastors, ministers of health, youth directors and children of former pastors who are deceased.

Aasheim moved to approve not more than \$600 for the panel cost to be paid from Thrivent Funds. Seconded by Yeager. Motion carried.

III. Approval of December 2018 Minutes

Ratekin moved to approve the December 2018 minutes. Seconded by Russell. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson provided the report by email to the Council. The giving report was exceeded for 2018. Several gifts were received in December to be applied to 2019 giving.

Warling moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Rowland, A.

V. Unfinished Business

- Annual Meeting
 - Volunteers were assigned for the potluck at the Annual Meeting. The annual report has been printed and is available to the congregation. The agenda was

reviewed. The bylaws change and nominated council members will be available by hard copy at the meeting. Hyda will maintain the sign-in sheet to record a quorum.

- Pictorial Directory
 - The goal is to have the directory available online in February.
- Monument Sign
 - Ratekin reported that approval was received from the city for the variance of the sign. A summary report and quote were provided to Council. An additional \$1,600 discount was received on the sign from the vendors for the 8MM Watchfire. Electrical work is likely needed for circuits. Microsoft Office Windows 7 or higher is needed to run the LED sign, and a computer supporting Windows would be required. The quote requires 50% paid down upon approval. The quote includes lifetime data communication for the sign with no annual fee. The vendor would obtain the necessary city permit. Once the permit is received, the vendor will order the sign.

Ratekin moved to approve not more than \$40,000 for the new digital sign installation and maintenance work. Seconded by Warling. Discussion occurred. Pastor Robin reported that Grace Lutheran's sign was \$37,000. Prigge provided his observations on church signage around the metro area. Restrictions on the variance include but are not limited to static images, image length of not shorter than every 8 seconds and images focusing on church-related functions. Several additional standard restrictions are included. Motion carried.

Ratekin moved Council approve the down payment of \$17,835.67 for the new digital sign to be paid from memorial funds. Seconded by Aasheim. Motion carried.

VI. New Business

- Refrigerator Repair
 - Aasheim noted that the refrigerator in the kitchen has a leak in the coils. Two service repairs have been completed. The service repairman stated that the refrigerator will most likely last only three more months before needing to replace the entire line. The line may cost roughly 40-50% of the cost of the entire refrigerator. Two quotes were received for a new refrigerator ranging from \$1,955 to \$2,799. The warranty period has past. The life expectancy of a refrigerator is typically between 5 to 10 years.

Aasheim moved to approve replacement of the present refrigerator and use \$1,955 from the property maintenance permanent fund. Seconded by Charlton. Motion carried.

- Turning Point
 - The first learning lab was held in January. The team participated in small group exercises on building deeper relationships through conversation. There is an annual fee of \$500 for 2019 with \$250 remaining to be paid.

Warling moved to approve \$250 from Thrivent Funds. Seconded by Ratekin. Motion carried.

- Heartland Gift
 - A gift was received of \$1,000 from the Heartland Youth Choir.

Warling moved to designate the \$1,000 gift to the building fund. Seconded by Russell. Motion carried.

Council met in Executive Session to discuss personnel related matters.

The Executive Session was closed.

VII. Pastor Teaching Time

- Pastor Chris encouraged Council to review the annual report and the section on faith vitality. Pastor Chris recommended *Surprised by Hope* by M.T. Wright as a compelling summary of Christian faith, life and significance of the church, which could be used to guide reflections and discussions as part of the teaching time each month in 2019.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Hard copies of the worship survey will be available at the annual meeting. Over 130 responses have been received.
- Capital Appeal
 - Over \$650,000 has been received to date.

IX. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Robin emphasized that the congregation has been extremely generous and faithful in their financial commitments throughout 2018 and moving forward into 2019. She thanked the outgoing council members for their service and commitment.
- Pastor Chris reported that upcoming forums in February will focus on immigration, including information from LSI. Pastor Chris participated at a subcommittee meeting this past week for the Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations of the Presbyterian Church (USA) at the ELCA offices in Chicago.

X. Announcements, Correspondence & Assignments

- Council Meeting – February 26, 6:30 PM
- Council Meeting Devotion/Refreshments – Yeager
- Council Updates to Congregation – February 2/3
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Charlton
 - Sunday 8:30 AM Service – Popken
 - Sunday 10:45 AM Service – Ratekin

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

XI. Adjournment

Ken provided his farewell as president and thanked Prigge, Ratekin, Franklin, Rowland, K. and Nelson for their terms of service on Council. Council was led in a closing prayer from Psalm 19:1-3,14.

Meeting adjourned at 12:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
January 26, 2019