

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 23, 2019
Room 127

Present: Les Aasheim, John Ambroson, Jamie Charlton, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Duane Danielson, Amanda Eakins, Jill Hyda, Ken Popken, Suzanne Nelson, Ann Rowland, Mitch Yeager, Marilyn Warling

Absent: Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, John Reed, Linda Russell, Samuel Steensen

I. Call to Order & Quorum Established – Aasheim called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

- Eakins provided the devotion from Proverbs 3:1-6.

Nelson moved to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Rowland. Motion carried.

II. Approval of June 2019 Minutes

Popken moved to approve the June 2019 minutes. Seconded by Ambroson. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson provided the report to the Council. Contributions are 105% year-to-date to budget.

Ambroson moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Popken. Motion carried.

IV. For the Good of the Order

- Parking spots close to the main front doors of the church are recommended to leave open for guests and those who need better accessibility. Communication will be included in the E-Weekly.
- Ambroson noted that VBS is off to a good start and thanked all the volunteers and supporters.
- Aasheim talked about the Apollo 11 mission and Buzz Aldrin's faith during his career, including receiving communion on the lunar module.
- Danielson will review the funds used to date from Olsen memorial.

V. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Robin has started a new part-time position as the parish steward at Grace Lutheran in Adel. Pastor Robin will have two full-days of office hours during the

week at WHLC. The insurance company completed an audit of WHLC's worker compensation policy. A refund of just over \$700 will be sent to WHLC. The WHLC facility has been designated as a heat relief emergency facility in the Des Moines metro area.

- Pastor Chris provided his report to Council, as he is currently on vacation. A thank you was received from the head of the Easter Seals for Iowa for WHLC's generosity to their program and members. WHLC will engage in three important issues during the rest of 2019-2020: gun violence (fall), racism (winter) and care of creation (spring).

VI. Unfinished Business

- Listening Posts
 - A review of feedback received from all three sessions was shared and discussed. The Executive Council provided a recommendation for consideration by the Council. Polling revealed considerable interest in having one service on Sunday; however, the listening posts and other informal discussions provided Council with information that many members have difficulty in preparing to attend services earlier than the present 10:45 AM Sunday schedule. Changes with Sunday School and Wednesday evening programs will occur starting this fall.

Ambrosion moved for the 2019-2020 church year to

- (1) continue the current schedule of two Sunday services in the period between Labor Day and Memorial Day, one Sunday service during the "summer schedule" and 5:30 PM Saturday service throughout the church year;
- (2) incorporate regular Sunday School activities into the Wednesday faith formation evening program including a family-friendly worship, community meal, music rehearsals, bible studies and other gatherings;
- (3) continue convening adult forums and fellowship time on Sunday mornings; and,
- (4) prayerfully continue considering our worship service offerings in the future.

Seconded by Nelson. Discussion occurred. Council appreciated the congregation's time and feedback to the surveys and discussions so that a complete picture was gathered. Motion carried.

- Security
 - Aasheim has communicated with the chief of Fire and Police at Windsor Heights. He will visit with Council at the September 24 meeting. Representatives of the Chin Baptist Church will also be invited to attend this session.
- Capital Campaign & 75th Anniversary Recognition
 - A recognition will be planned in the fall.
- WHLC Mission
 - Aasheim highlighted Pastor Ostrem's sermon from when he visited WHLC in July and his message about love and mercy and how a mission can be simple and not a complicated message.

VII. Book Discussion

- Council discussed the chapters 10-11 of *Surprised by Hope* on the transition from life to death and back to life again and what this means to each person. Council will read and discuss chapters 12-13 for August's meeting.

VIII. New Business

- Railing Installation
 - Aasheim has discussed with Buildings & Grounds about installing a railing besides the lectern to assist with individuals moving up and down the altar stairs. Aasheim will obtain several quotes.
 - A railing in front to assist with communion was also initially discussed. Options will be gathered and reviewed.
- Committee Nights
 - August 13 is an all-committee night.
- Council Photo
 - A council photo is completed each year. A list of the 2019 Council members will be provided in several of the WHLC communications.

Popken moved to replace the present Council photo with placement of a photo on the WHLC website. Seconded by Charlton. Motion carried.

Warling moved to take a group photo, which will identify members, at the Annual Meeting and post in the church building. Seconded by Ambroson. Motion carried.

- Landscaping
 - Aasheim provided a quote on maintenance on weed control in the beds. There are city requirements for the site landscaping.

Popken moved to approve weed control maintenance every other week for the next two months under Buildings & Grounds. Seconded by Yeager. Motion carried.

IX. Committee Reports

- The 75th committee report was provided. Ticket sales for the luncheon are at 168. Summer receptions have been a great time of fellowship. An article was in the *Windsor Heights Living* on the WHLC's history, and a link is available to view on the web.

X. Announcements

- Council Meeting – August 27, 6:30 PM
- Council Updates to Congregation – July 27/28
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Nelson
 - Sunday 9:30 AM Service – Yeager

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

XI. Adjournment

Pastor Robin closed in prayer from Romans 8.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
July 23, 2019