

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 3, 2019
Room 127

Present: Les Aasheim, John Ambrosen, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Duane Danielson, Amanda Eakins, Jill Hyda, Ken Popken, Suzanne Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Ann Rowland, Linda Russell, Samuel Steensen, Mitch Yeager, Marilyn Warling

Absent: Jamie Charlton, John Reed

Visitors: Scott Steensen, Zach Meyer

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

We Gather in God's Name

- Aasheim provided the devotion on the revolution of hope and love and a passage reading from John 13.

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

II. Approval of October 2019 Minutes

Ambrosen moved to approve the October 2019 minutes. Seconded by Warling. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson provided the report to the Council and mentioned October YTD general offering was below budget but above 2018 giving. Expenses remain under budget YTD. A Certificate of Deposit matured in October and was renewed. Another Certificate of Deposit will be maturing soon. The 75th anniversary fund will be closed at the end of the year.

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

IV. For the Good of the Order

- Aasheim read a thank you card to Council from Bonnie Hyda and the 75th Anniversary task force.
- The Women's Advent Service was held December 2nd. Positive comments were received on the event, the artwork and decorations at WHLC.

V. 2020 Budget Presentation

- Scott Steensen provided the proposed 2020 budget to Council. There is little variance from 2019. Projections show the year will finish close to budget. The Finance Committee looked for a balanced and realistic budget with feedback

included from the individual committees. The budget includes a 2% increase in total income and total expense. Interest income is slightly decreased due to interest rates, and a small increase is included in the mortgage retirement. The ELCA mission support was increased by 3.6% for 2020.

Ambrosion moved to approve the 2020 budget and recommend to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Seconded by Russell. Motion carried.

VI. Volunteering at WHLC Proposal

- Zach Meyer provided a proposal to increase visibility for volunteer opportunities with different ministries. During a time of a larger group gathering, presenters may discuss 2-3 key areas where volunteers are needed and allow for time to have individual conversations with presenters. In addition, specific events may be identified to be led by a task force with individuals passionate about the event versus a complete committee approach.
- Council will discuss the proposal and ideas at a future meeting.

VII. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Robin highlighted work done behind-the-scenes by Finance & Worship committee members.
- Pastor Chris reported on the last 60-day focus on gun violence. Any feedback is welcome. An article was provided from Dwight Zscheile on cultural trends surrounding decreasing participation with standard religious structure and what are possible ways forward. Council is to read the article, as it will lead to further discussion next year.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- Sunday Services Decision
 - Comments were received regarding volunteers for both Sunday services. This may align with the proposal reviewed earlier in the meeting.

IX. New Business

- Nominating Committee Report
 - John Leahy, chair of the nominating committee, provided the list of nominations for Council: Halley Ryherd – President Elect and Council members Sue Crum, Jessica Chance & Pam Lundell. The slate will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Warling moved to approve the Nominating Committee's report and to present the slate to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

- Synod Assembly Voting Members
 - Two voting members as part of the church can participate from WHLC. The Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly will occur on May 1-3 in Coralville. A new

bishop will be elected this year. The voting members will be elected at the WHLC Annual Meeting. Interested individuals to contact Aasheim and the pastors.

- Audio & Video Transmission to Parish Hall
 - Proposals for audio transmission from the sanctuary to Parish Hall and the Kitchen as well as video transmission to Parish Hall and streaming capability were reviewed. More information will be provided on technical functionality.
- Annual Meeting
 - The annual meeting will occur on Sunday, January 26. Committee reports are due to Heidi Hennig by December 20.

X. Mission Review

- Council liaisons are asked to review their committee charter regarding events listed and identify concrete needs for volunteer help. Are there other duties that are non-essential? The mission review will occur at the December 17 Council meeting.

XI. Committee Reports

- The Global Community Action committee November report was shared with Council.
- Buildings & Grounds reported the damaged front awning was repaired. The rooftop unit leak was also fixed with costs being split between WHLC and Miller Architects.

XII. Announcements

- Council Meeting – December 17, 6:30 PM
- Council Updates to Congregation – December 7/8
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Nelson
 - Sunday 8:30 AM Service – Yeager
 - Sunday 10:45 AM Service – Ambroson

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

XIII. Adjournment

Pastor Chris closed with a prayer of blessings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
December 3, 2019