

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present: John Ambroson, Jessica Chance, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Sue Crum, Duane Danielson, Jill Hyda, Pam Lundell, Suzanne Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, John Reed, Halley Ryherd, Amanda Shepard-Eakins, Samuel Steensen, Mitch Yeager

Absent: None

Visitors: Deb Goss

We Gather in God's Name

I. Call to Order

- Ambroson called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

- Nelson shared points from Bishop Eaton's interview on CNN and two quotes from Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Mother Teresa.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Nelson moved to approve the May agenda. Seconded by Chance. Motion carried.

III. Secretary's Report

Reed moved to approve the April 2020 minutes. Seconded by Shepard-Eakins. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson provided the report to Council. We are continuing to monitor several permanent funds. Generous contributions continue to come in to WHLC.

Chance moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Crum. Motion carried.

V. WHLC Foundation Report

- Goss provided the 2019 report. The foundation assets are over \$500,000. Many of the distributions for 2019 were around youth and family charity groups. A gift was received to the foundation in 2019 from the estate of a former member. In 2019, over \$18,000 was distributed to various charities. For 2020, about \$22,000 will be distributed with funds available to WHLC. Council is to submit a request by June 15th to the Foundation for use of these funds with a maximum of \$4,000. Deb Goss is the current Foundation president. John Ambroson is serving as council liaison. Scott Steensen's term has completed, and Ryan Charlton has been nominated to fill this spot on the board.

Council voted to approve the nomination to the Foundation.

- VI. For the Good of the Order
- Members shared updates from their time during the pandemic.
- VII. Pastors' Reports
- Pastor Robin reported she has been reviewing the constitution, by-laws and continuing resolutions. Revisions made to the ELCA Model Constitution for Congregations were voted and approved in 2019. These will go before the congregation for adoption at our next annual meeting.
 - Pastor Chris shared information from the ELCA on guidelines related to return to worship with the pandemic.
 - Both pastors emphasized that small task forces and/or committee support will be needed as we work towards small group worship gatherings.
- VIII. Old Business
- Pandemic Update
 - Council reviewed the ELCA guidelines in detail. This includes a 3-phase approach. The CDC guidelines and cleaning guidelines were also referenced. Other denominational practices and guidance were also shared. The WHLC Health Advisory team has been consulted to review and provide guidance as well. They will be meeting again in June to provide recommendations for Phase 1 return-to-worship. Small group worship gatherings with prayer and communion and one-on-one pastoral care and communion are being explored. Committees, including worship, buildings & grounds, fellowship, will be contacted to assist with decisions and tasks. The 9:30 AM Sunday livestream will continue to be held.
 - Family Promise Update
 - The Charlton family will be serving in June again during WHLC's time to serve.
 - Crabtree Plaque
 - Ryherd will pick up the plaque this month, so it can be mounted.
 - Landscaping
 - Chuck Young and Pastor Chris will be meeting with DeVries Outdoor yet this month to review the proposals in more detail at the WHLC grounds.
 - Mutual Ministry Committee
 - Paul Rogness will serve an additional year. Ken Popken will chair the committee. The group will be meeting this summer.
 - Livestream Services
 - Installation is underway and will likely be completed within the next month. This will provide more capabilities for the livestream services.

IX. New Business

- Southeast Iowa Synod Assembly
 - The meeting has been rescheduled for August in West Des Moines. The meeting will be held for one day and will be focused on election of the bishop and officers.

X. Announcements

- Council Meeting – June 23, 6:30 PM
- Council Congregational Update – Ambrosion

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

XI. Reflections

- Pastor Robin led Council in reflection on the meeting and our daily lives.

XII. Closing Prayer

- Pastor Robin closed in prayer.

XIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
May 26, 2020