

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 24, 2022
Room 127

Present: Sharman Blake, Julie Borseth, Norm Carlson, Jessica Chance, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Sue Crum, Tony Dahlman, Tracey Hirst, Jill Hyda, Pam Lundell, Matt McNamara, Michael McNamara, Kevin Nicolet, Halley Ryherd, Barb Waymire
Absent: Pastor Chris Olkiewicz

We Gather in God's Name

I. Call to Order

- Dahlman called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.
- Crum shared a reading and opened the group in prayer.

II. Approval of the Agenda

The phone system was added to New Business.

Blake moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Carlson. Motion carried.

III. Secretary's Report

Chance moved to approve the September 2022 minutes. Seconded by Borseth. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Waymire provided the report to Council. September general offering was down, similar to other years. She discussed how building maintenance needs to be considered in the 2023 budget. Another Certificate of Deposit will mature in November and will be moved to Luana.

Lundell moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Crum. Motion carried.

V. For the Good of the Order

- The rain we are receiving today is much appreciated.
- Blake shared all are welcome to the Blessing of the Animals on October 30.

VI. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Robin reported about the time needed to handle building maintenance, especially as the building ages and several issues with the phone system, projectors, pastor microphones and roof leak continuing to affect the 2nd floor closet and nursery. Ryherd and Crum will assist with the All-Saints' Sunday potluck. The

property insurance policy is including new coverage and likely an increased premium. Pastor Robin will be visiting with the agent to review the letter received. Pastor Robin thanked Chance and Borseth for all their help on recruiting volunteers as well as Heidi and Zach for the additional duties they took on.

VII. Old Business

- Snow Removal
 - Two quotes have been received but need to be reviewed.
- Landscaping
 - McNamara reported that the landscaper will edge with pavers anywhere where mulch has been laid. Red rock will also be replenished. McNamara will work with the vendor and also connect with Chuck Young. Easter Seals is willing to help with raking of leaves, and Pastor Robin will work with them.
- Church Security Drill
 - No update this month.
- Sabbatical Task Force
 - Dahlman thanked the task force and the congregation for their support during sabbatical.
- ReconcilingWorks
 - Hirst and Borseth shared the task force met with several local congregations. The congregations all came into the process at different times and for various reasons and formed committees to help drive the work. Councils were quite involved. All congregations used resources from ReconcilingWorks, including the bible study. Questions they asked themselves included who are we as a congregation, what does “all” mean in “all are welcome.” Various forms of communication were provided to the congregations. Challenges were also shared. It was recommended not to move too quickly so that real engagement and ongoing dialogue occurs with the congregation. Inclusivity should be woven into the life of the church. Suggestions included reviewing the constitution and by-laws to ensure they are not excluding someone being a part of the congregation and that the welcome statement is about who we are. There is a cost to enroll to support ReconcilingWorks, and they ask for annual donations. The group is affiliated with the ELCA.
 - Council agreed to move forward with pursuing enrollment with ReconcilingWorks and will discuss with Pastor Chris on his ideas upon his return from sabbatical.
- Stewardship Program
 - The last two weeks have included a stewardship focus. Letters will be mailed this week, which includes updating contact information and receiving quarterly statements by email.
- WHLC Registered Agent
 - Quentin Boyken has agreed to continue to be the registered agent after his retirement. His address will be updated. Council thanks Quent for his continued service.

VIII. New Business

- Volunteer Coordination
 - Council discussed the need for volunteers during worship services. Questions included how can we make people comfortable and how would you like to share your gifts with the congregation? Dahlman will provide a talk at Consecration Sunday. Hyda will work with Zach to add the Lector and Usher descriptions to website.
- Services Schedule
 - Hyda shared Worship Committee discussed the service schedule and recommended observing fall trends and reviewing further in the spring. This could also be an item to discuss at the Annual Meeting.
- Nomination Committee
 - The council terms for Ryherd, Crum, Lundell and Chance will end this year. Ryherd is looking for three members to participate on the committee.
- Microphones
 - Pastor Robin researched microphones and received a quote, as issues continue during worship. The microphones are especially important for the livestream as well.

Nicolet moved to approve the purchase of the microphones for \$2,900. Seconded by Blake. Motion carried.

- Phone Network
 - The phones went out recently, and parts can no longer be found. A dedicated line is needed for the elevator as well as internet. The vendor recommended a SIP system. McNamara believes a cellular back-up was needed for either the elevator or security system. Pastor Robin will look into the back-up.

Hirst moved to authorize Pastor Robin and Pastor Chris to move forward with a new phone system in compliance with the elevator. Seconded by Ryherd. Motion carried.

- 2023 Calendar
 - Dahlman and Nicolet asked for Council to think of any events and ideas for preparation and motivation heading into 2023.

Ryherd moved to set the annual meeting on January 22, 2023. Seconded by Hirst. Motion carried.

IX. Announcements

- Council Meeting – November 28, 6:30 PM in-person.

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

X. Reflections & Closing Prayer

- Pastor Robin shared a passage from Psalm 119 and closed the group in prayer.

XI. Adjournment

Hirst moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ryherd. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
October 24, 2022