

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 23, 2023
Room 127 & Google Meet

Present: Sharman Blake, Julie Borseth, Tony Dahlman, Jill Hyda, Matt McNamara, Michael McNamara, Bill Morris, Kevin Nicolet, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Maren Steensen, John Swanson, Barb Waymire

Absent: Norm Carlson, Tracey Hirst

We Gather in God's Name

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of the Agenda

Michael McNamara moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Blake. Motion carried.

III. Secretary's Report

Borseth moved to approve the September 2023 minutes. Seconded by Michael McNamara. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Waymire provided the report to Council. September was a higher expense month and lower general offerings.

Matt McNamara moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Blake. Motion carried.

V. For the Good of the Order

- Blake thanked Pastor Chris on behalf of Council and the congregation as part of Pastor's Appreciation Month.
- Blake shared she provided tourniquets and bleed stop for the First Aid kit.

VI. Pastor Report

- Pastor Chris shared about the war in Israel, and the ELCA has resources available. He also reminded people about ELCA partners on the ground there, including The Evangelical Church of Jordan and the Holy Land. Jim Spizale helped work with the Handbell Clinic coordinators held October 21 and provided event coordination services at the facility. Stewardship will be integrated into worship in November with the theme of gratitude and generosity. December 3 will be Stewardship Sunday. A service during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January is being discussed with our community churches.

VII. Old Business

- Windsor Heights Fall Festival
 - Steensen shared the event was a big success. There was a high attendance, and WHLC had a tent with candy and games to play. Several people asked what group our church is a part of and were happy to hear it was the ELCA. Zach Meyer, Kiersten Steensen, Sharman Blake and others volunteered at the event.
- Church Sign
 - Nicolet reported the sign with the verse is installed outside the front entrance. A picture was shared on Facebook.
- Facility Items
 - Most of the painting is complete as well as the work in Parish Hall.
- Shelter Meals
 - No update this month.
- Fall Clean Up
 - The clean up will be held Saturday, October 28. The outdoor clean-up will be postponed due to inclement weather that would prohibit work on the landscaping and lawn. Indoor work will still occur.
- Nominating Committee
 - No update this month. Please forward any names to Dahlman.
- Employee Retention Credit
 - Pastor Chris shared the IRS placed a moratorium on processing applications, so it could be some time before any response is heard.
- Thanksgiving Service
 - The service with Windsor Presbyterian, Windsor Methodist and WHLC will be held Sunday afternoon, November 19. Windsor Methodist will host the service. Pie and cider will be served.
- Heartland Youth Choir Request
 - Pastor Chris communicated with Heartland on options. No response has been heard.

VIII. New Business

- Tree Care
 - A quote was received from Maier Tree Care for maintenance and trimming on the elm. Expenses will be paid from Building & Grounds lawn care & landscaping account.

Dahlman moved to approve tree care expenses not to exceed to \$3,000. Seconded by Blake. Motion carried.

- Snow removal & garbage
 - McNamara will contact the Town Center to finalize plans on garbage expenses and provide a reminder on our new snow arrangement. Payment for 2022 snow has not occurred yet.
- Future Meetings
 - December Council meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, December 20.
 - The Annual Meeting is tentatively set for Sunday, January 28. The Chin Baptist community will be invited to join us for our potluck before their 1 PM service.

IX. Announcements

- Council Meeting – November 27, 6:30 PM in-person and online option.

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

X. Reflections & Closing Prayer

Pastor Chris closed the group in a prayer for peace.

XI. Adjournment

Nicolet adjourned the Council meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
October 23, 2023