

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
Room 127 & Google Meet

Present: Linda Anderson, Sharman Blake, Quent Boyken, Norm Carlson, Jill Hyda, Pam Lundell, Matt McNamara, Michael McNamara, Bill Morris, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Maren Steensen, John Swanson, Barb Waymire, Donna Yeager

Absent: Kevin Nicolet, Sally Watson

Visitors: None

We Gather in God's Name

I. Call to Order

- Swanson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

- Steensen shared a devotion from *Looking is an Act of Love* by Brian McLaren and opened the group in prayer.

II. Approval of the Agenda

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

III. Secretary's Report

Yeager moved to approve the August 2024 minutes. Seconded by Morris. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Waymire provided the report to Council. August was a more of a down month with some more expenses. A Certificate of Deposit matured in August and was renewed for 12 months. Another Certificate of Deposit matured in September and was renewed for 18 months.

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

V. For the Good of the Order

- Blake shared that Windsor Elementary contacted WHLC about their upcoming wildcat dash. Julie Borseth purchased water bottles and freezer pops with extra donations received earlier in the year. A thank you from Windsor was shared with Council. An update will be shared with congregation in the E-Weekly and the *Window*.
- Blake thanked Maren Steensen and Pastor Chris for the contemplative nature walk at the Brenton Arboretum.

VI. Pastor Report

- Pastor Chris shared he arrived back from the Fall Ecumenical Conference in Coralville. Pastor Angela Danker was the speaker about the present cultural situation and Christian nationalism. The Blessing of Animals service will be held October 6. Stewardship & Consecration Sunday will be in early December with a focus on grace, gratitude, generosity. All Saints Sunday is November 3 and will include a reception afterwards in remembrance of losses. November fellowship will focus on community organizations WHLC supports.

VII. Old Business

- December Council Meeting
 - The meeting will be held on December 19th at 6:30 PM.
- October Fall Festival
 - The Windsor Heights fall festival will be held October 4-5th. A tent design was shared with the WHLC logo that could be used for the festival and other events at WHLC.

Blake moved to approve purchase of a 10x10' grey tent with a green logo and script and poles in black up to \$2,500 and will be allocated from memorials. Seconded by Steensen. Motion carried.

- Fall Clean-Up
 - The clean-up will be held on October 26 from 12:30 – 3:30 PM and will be communicated with the congregation.

Blake moved to approve the Fall Clean-Up date of Saturday, October 26. Seconded by Anderson. Motion carried.

- Foundation Funds Allocation
 - Funds are being used for fixing the awning, a new Mac book, tablecloths and landscaping.
- Other
 - Swanson shared the elm tree is treated every three years and will next occur in 2026.
 - Boyken shared an updated draft of the bylaws with the changes, which will be presented to the congregation at the Annual meeting.
 - Anderson shared Matt McNamara will pick-up and deliver the new stove. The old stove will be set outside for appliance pick-up in Windsor Heights.

VIII. New Business

- Youth Fundraisers
 - On September 29, as part of the Youth Gathering Sunday, donations will be received and go towards the Youth Permanent Fund.

Boyken moved to approve the September 29th youth fundraiser. Seconded by Michael McNamara. Motion carried.

- Nominating Committee
 - Kevin Nicolet, Sharman Blake, Julie Borseth, John Ambrosion and Scott Steensen have agreed to serve on the nominating committee.

Yeager moved to approve the slate of members for the Nominating Committee. Seconded by Steensen. Motion carried.

- Stewardship Drive
 - Stewardship & Consecration Sunday will be in early December. McNamara asked for future discussion on the remaining mortgage now that it is below \$500,000 and in preparation for the Annual Meeting. The mortgage will be refinanced in April 2025.
- Other
 - Steensen shared the ministry team for care packages will be reconvened for the fall. Requests for donations will be placed in the E-Weekly.
 - Blake asked for feedback regarding the choir robes, as they are 11 years old.
 - Michael McNamara asked Council to think about a possible service project to align with a stewardship focus.

IX. Announcements

- Council Meeting – October 22, 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 prayer from La Datto C Prayer Book, *A Prayer before Shopping*.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Minutes taken by Jill Hyda
September 24, 2024