

First Lutheran Church

Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2023

“Renewed by Christ in Word, water, bread and wine, we serve our community and the world.”

Members present: Pr Chris Culuris, Aaron Banks, Sarah Chambers (zoom), Michelle Doose, Steve Erickson, Randy Frey-Hawkins, Julie Johnson, Dave Kennedy, Mary Spear (President), Nancy Timm, Tobias Twait, Dawn Wenner

Absent: Garrett Paul, Pat Pehrson, Randy Stuckey, Grace Timm, Bonnie Pettis

1. The meeting was called to order by President Mary Spear at 6:35 p.m.
2. Devotions: Steve Erickson
3. Approval of agenda, added items 8C (Fellowship report) and 9B (security cameras). M/S/C
4. Approval of June 2023 meeting minutes M/S/C
5. Pastor’s report (see attached)

Additional: The State Fire Marshall’s office conducted an inspection. They required we have our fire sprinkler system serviced (last done in 2014). System passed and inspection will be scheduled on an annual basis going forward.

6. President’s report: Mary said a special thanks to council members for their activities, committee liaisons. If issues from any committees need to be placed on upcoming agendas, please forward them to Executive Committee in a timely manner.

7. Treasurer’s report: Bonnie was not able to attend the meeting. She will email report to council members (see attached).

8. Committee reports

a. CCM: directory A motion was made to use funds from Misc accounts for postage for mailing. M/S/C

b. Green committee Charter approval: the updated charter was included in minutes bundle from June meeting. M/S/C

c. Fellowship: Nancy reported the committee will be providing fellowship on 10/15/23 and 11/19/23 as part of The Generosity Project dates. Soup cookoff and dessert auction will be held 11/19/23. This committee is also recruiting new members at this time.

9. Unfinished business

a. Stewardship initiative “The Generosity Project” Request from Stewardship to use funds (\$2,000) from Ruth Larson endowment to purchase supplies for activities. M/S/C

b. Cameras: Micelle inquired on status of cameras. Interior cameras have been installed. Exterior will be installed as weather permits. Pr. Chris will include this information in weekly heartbeat.

10. New Business

a. Update Edward Jones account. Names to be changed to Pr. Chris Culuris and Karen Smithers to conduct business with Edward Jones. This is a receiving account for stock donations which are then sold at the earliest opportunity and check is sent to FLC. Motion by Nancy Timm, seconded by Steve Erickson. Motion carried.

b. Audit committee: approved audit committee for 1/1/2024: Terry Hoehn, Dave Anderson, and Randy Frey-Hawkins. M/S/C

c. Committee Liaisons are encouraged to use Angela for help with marketing. Liaisons need to be conscientious with sharing council information with their committees.

d. Staff Support: The staff support committee requests forming two separate committees: **Personnel and Staff support**. Personnel will focus on employee contracts, handbook, work performance and issues as needed. Staff support will handle supporting staff in their work. Discussed looking into ELCA’s guidelines and protocols for Mutual Ministry committees. Discussion was held regarding Emily’s MM committee.

Council approved that Executive Committee craft a continuing resolution to separate staff support into two committees: Personnel and Staff Support. This resolution must be approved by Council and Congregational at an annual meeting. Motion by Randy Frey-Hawkins, seconded by Julie Johnson. This resolution carried.

e. Organ repair costs: Repair part costs have increased for 34 solenoids by 50%. With true commitment for organ repairs, motion was made, seconded, carried to pay up to \$14,000 for repairs with monies coming from Capital expense fund. Discussion was held regarding Employee Retention Credit Grant, request for this grant has been made.

f. Soup and Chili cookoff: 11/19/23 See Item 8c above.

11. Strategic Plan Framework 2023-2028

a. Engaging and Collaborating with the Community: this team will have design proposal for underutilized land to present to the congregation in coming months.

b. Having a Solid Financial Position:

i. This team requests that all committees submit budget requests for 2024 and wishes for the 4 years following. Please relay this information to

rfrey53@gmail.com as soon as possible. Council members please report this to your committees soon.

ii. Council's budget priorities and how it expects to manage debt and short and long term needs of the congregation.

12. Good of the order: ideas, thoughts, affirmations:

a. Approval of Accessibility Improvement grant from the City of St Peter in amount of \$4,000. Steve reported the city approved this grant. Monies will be used to install accessibility entrance on lower level east side entrance. This will assist Ecument Pathways adult day care staff and customers. Thanks to Bill Kautt and committee.

b. Emergency preparedness drill last Sunday: Dawn conducted drill and familiarization of exits from the sanctuary. It was well received by the congregation.

13. Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 7:41p.m.

14. Lord's Prayer

Next Congregational Council meeting will be held September 19, 2023

Devotions for September: Pat Pehrson

Respectfully Submitted

Dawn Wenner (TNT)

Temporary Note Taker