

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
Held March 21, 2022

Voting Council members present: Lead Pastor Chris Bellefeuille; Krista Gossai; Thomas Haugrud; Jill Longnecker; Carol Straka; and Andrew Thelander.

Non-voting Council members present: Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation Peter Weston Miller and Parish Administrator Robert Eiselt.

Absent: William Bjorum.

Guests: Pastor Steve Olson (in attendance only for his presentation to Council).

Location: In person at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m. by President Andrew Thelander.

1. Welcome – Blessing/Devotions.
Council welcomed Carol Straka as the new council member, who was appointed to fill the vacancy on Council following David Martin’s resignation. Carol and all council members also gave brief introductions.
2. Christ Care Prayers.
3. Devotions: Dwelling in the Word – racial autobiography. Bob made a thoughtful presentation regarding his experiences in racial and diversity matters.
4. Pre-distributed items:
 - a. Draft Minutes from the February 21, 2022 council meeting were distributed electronically to Council for review.
M/S/P to accept and approve the Minutes from the February 21, 2022 council meeting.
 - b. The Pastor reports from Pastor Chris and Pastor Peter were distributed electronically to Council for review.
 - c. The Administrator report from Bob was distributed electronically to Council for review. Bob highlighted at the Council meeting certain portions of his report.
 - d. The Re-Entry Team did not submit a report but Pastor Chris gave a verbal update to Council.
5. Old Business or Follow Up.
 - a. Pastor Steve Olson, doing business as Olson Advancement, attending the Council meeting to discuss the feasibility study for a capital campaign, and he distributed to Council a feasibility study timeline and draft feasibility study questions. Council with Steve present also reviewed the draft “Case Statement” for a comprehensive campaign. Upon the

conclusion of Steve's presentation, Council thanked him for attending and he was then excused from the Council meeting.

6. New Business:

a. Pastor Chris announced that Trinity Lutheran Church was awarded a \$15,000.00 grant from the St. Paul Area Synod for the racial justice project. TLC was one of only four congregations awarded the maximum grant amount of \$15,000.00. Council expressed its gratitude to staff for its work in submitting the grant application and to SPAC in making the grant.

b. Tom and Bob provided Council an update on the drive-in property. The property immediately adjoining the drive-in was sold last year. The new owner is seeking from the town board/county a zoning change and approval of construction plans to expand the existing self-storage on the property. Tom and Bob will continue to monitor the matter.

Tom and Bob also advised of a report of unauthorized use/trespassing on the drive-in property by hot air balloon company(ies). Council directed that TLC shall post conspicuous "No Trespassing" signs at the access driveway, to be removed prior to worship and then re-set after worship. Further, the gate shall be securely locked when the drive-in is not in use for worship. Further, any verified report of future unauthorized use/trespass shall be reported to the local authorities.

c. Pastor Peter advised that Christ Lutheran Church in Somerset, WI has again expressed an interest in collaboratively associating with TLC in some as yet undefined manner. Pastor Peter will continue to be the primary contact for any on-going discussions with Christ Lutheran Church.

d. The conference assembly and synod assembly will be held on Friday, May 13, 2022 and Saturday, May 14, 2022. Bob sent emails to those attending with the specifics of the assemblies.

7. Executive Committee.

The Bylaws provide that the Congregation Council shall serve as the Executive Committee. A confidential closed Executive Committee meeting was convened to discuss a confidential matter.

8. Next Council meetings.

A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday April 6, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.

The next regular Council meeting is set for Monday, April 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., to be held in person at TLC.

8. Adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Thomas Haugrud

Thomas Haugrud

Congregational/Council Secretary

Electronically signed