

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
Held June 15, 2022

Voting Council members present: William Bjorum; 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: Lead Pastor Chris Bellefeuille (on sabbatical leave).

Guests: Steve Olson for a portion of the meeting as set forth below.

Location: In-person at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Andrew Thelander.

1. Welcome.
2. Christ Care Prayers.
3. Dwelling in the Word. Council discussed the Introductory section and Chapters 1 and 2 of the book entitled “Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the Crucible of Change” by Tod Bolsinger.
4. Pre-distributed items:
 - a. Draft Minutes from the May 16, 2022 council meeting were distributed electronically to Council for review.
M/S/P to accept and approve the Minutes from the May 16, 2022 council meeting.
 - b. The Pastor report from Pastor Peter was distributed electronically to Council for review and he gave a verbal update. Pastor Chris is on sabbatical leave and did not submit a Pastor report.
 - c. The Administrator report from Bob was distributed electronically to Council for review. Budget issues were further discussed.
 - d. The Re-Entry Team did not submit a report.
5. Old Business or Follow Up.
 - a. Steve Olson joined the meeting remotely and provided a status report on the feasibility study. He will submit his written report prior to the next council meeting set for July 20, 2022. At the conclusion of his status report, Steve was then excused from the balance of the meeting.
Council reviewed the list of households identified as potential participants in the feasibility study and who have not yet scheduled a meeting with Steve. The potential participants were divided among the council members for the purpose of a council member contacting each of them.
 - b. Revisit scheduling of a Fall Council Retreat. The matter was deferred to a subsequent council meeting.

c. Recognition of service. Council again discussed some tangible way to express recognition and thanks in a manner that is meaningful but without significant cost and that is sustainable for the significant contributions made by various individuals and groups, including the video/sound booth work done by the men's work group, the Re-Entry Team, Claudia Swenseid, who as served as Chair of the Stewardship Team, and Pastor Chris.

c.1. A mid-morning coffee break with treats for the men's work group on one of their work Tuesdays will be scheduled, at which time toy hammers will be distributed to each member. Krista volunteered to obtain the toy hammers.

c.2. Trinity Lutheran Church coffee mugs along with coffee will be distributed to the Re-Entry Team members.

c.3. A card of gratitude and a loaf of bread and bottle of wine will be distributed to Claudia.

A proclamation of thanks and gratitude will be included with the above, and will also published in Trinity Today.

c.4. A sabbatical "care package" and card were distributed to Pastor Chris. A sabbatical welcome back ceremony will be held on Sunday, July 17, 2022 at both worship services, and cupcakes will be served.

d. The matter of trespassing on the drive-in property was again addressed, with several council members having recently seen on the 10:00 evening news the video of Aamodts Hot Air Balloon Rides prominently launching hot air balloons from the drive-in property. The video was just run on the evening news but appears to have been taken a year ago. Council discussed that the use of the drive-in for launching hot air balloons is unauthorized and creates potential liability for TLC, and must cease.

M/S/P that Parish Administrator Bob shall send Aamodts Hot Air Balloon Rides a letter on behalf of Council and TLC advising in substance that Aamodts Hot Air Balloon Rides may not use the drive-in for launching hot air balloons or for any other purposes.

Council again discussed what signage should be placed on the drive-in property to discourage trespassing. The signage should be direct but also to the extent possible not convey a harsh attitude. After discussion, it was determined that rather than state "Private Property – No Trespassing", the signage should simply state "Private Property". Also, under Wisconsin law, the signage must state the name of the owner of the land and must be at least 5" X 7" in size.

M/S/P that Parish Administrator Bob shall take the steps to post both the entrance and the gate to the drive-in with a prominent sign that reads: "Private Property – Property of Trinity Lutheran Church of Stillwater, Minnesota".

6. New Business:

a. As a best practice to streamline communications among Council and safeguard information, the goal is that all Council correspondence to be done via the Trinity email account.

b. Shout Outs; Gratitude moments.

7. Next Council meetings.

a. A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for June 29, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.

b. The next regular Council meeting is set for Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., to be held in person at TLC.

- c. A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.
 - d. The August 2022 Council meeting is set for Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in person at TLC.
 - e. A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.
 - f. The September 2022 Council meeting is set for Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in person at TLC.
8. Other Important Dates.
- a. The Commission for the Puerto Rico trip will be held on June 19, 2022.
 - b. Pastor Chris' sabbatical welcome back ceremony will be held on Sunday, July 17, 2022 at both worship services.
 - c. Trinity Fest is set for Sunday, September 18, 2022, to be held at the Drive-In.
9. Reflection/Prayer.
10. Adjournment.
The council meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Thomas Haugrud
Thomas Haugrud
Congregational/Council Secretary
Electronically signed