

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
Held October 25, 2022

Voting Council members present: Lead Pastor Chris Bellefeuille; Krista Gossai; Thomas Haugrud; Jill Longnecker (delayed and arrived at 7:05); Carol Straka; and Andrew Thelander.

Non-voting Council members present: Parish Administrator Robert Eiselt, and Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation Peter Weston Miller (delayed and arrived at 7:00; attended via speaker phone).

Absent: William Bjorum.

Guests: None.

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. Pastor Chris led the devotional.
Council Learning and Growth: Council discussed Chapters 3 and 4 of the book “Tempered Resilience”.
4. Pre-distributed items:
 - a. Draft Minutes from the September 19, 2022 council meeting were distributed electronically to Council for review.
M/S/P to accept and approve the Minutes from the September 19, 2022 council meeting.
 - b. The Pastor reports from Pastor Chris and Pastor Peter were distributed electronically to Council for review.
 - c. No written administrator report was submitted but Bob provided to Council at the meeting the 2022 fiscal year-end report, the 2023 fiscal year to date financial summary report, and the 2023 draft budget.

The 2022 fiscal year ended August 21, 2022, with a fiscal year end deficit of \$74,925.00.

September 2022 was the first month of the 2023 fiscal year and expenses exceeded income. The line of credit has been further advanced to cover the expenses.

The 2023 draft budget is recommended by the finance committee for council approval.

M/S/P to approve the 2023 draft budget as presented and to submit it for congregational approval at the upcoming annual congregational meeting.

5. Old Business or Follow Up.

a. Update on Comprehensive Capital Campaign.

A status update on the Capital Campaign Leadership Team was provided.

b. Considerations for Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2022:

Bob will ask Gail Olson to serve as the parliamentarian for the upcoming annual congregational meeting.

M/S/P to conduct the upcoming annual congregational meeting in-person at the Church and also via remote means, as authorized by and pursuant to the Amendment of Bylaws effective March 16, 2020.

Notice of the annual congregational meeting shall be given by announcement at the services of worship on the two consecutive Sundays that immediately precede the date of the meeting, as provided in the Amendment to Bylaws. Notice will also be given by electronic communication via e-mail to the members who are on Trinity's e-mail list-serve. Members who wish to attend via remote means shall be required to pre-register for the meeting and the remote meeting protocol from the prior remotely held meeting shall be used.

The order on the agenda of the presentation and voting on the Capital Campaign will be determined after discussions with consultant Steve Olson. Pastor Chris will be the lead on the presentation of the Capital Campaign and responding to any questions regarding it. Council re-affirmed that passage of the Capital Campaign shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of voting members present at the annual meeting.

The agenda shall include seeking the congregation's authorization for Council to elect representatives to the 2023 SPAS Synod Assembly that is being held in May 2023.

The nominations committee is still reaching out to possible candidates to serve the upcoming 3 year Council seat opening.

Lunch will be served prior to the annual meeting, with lunch starting around noon and the annual meeting starting at 12:15. Council will assist in serving lunch.

Thomas may be unable to attend the upcoming congregational meeting due to travelling, and in the event he is unable to attend, Jill agreed to take the Minutes of the meeting.

6. New Business:

a. Andrew requested that council members sign up to volunteer to serve coffee and snacks on TBD Sundays.

b. Council again expressed its gratitude to Carol for serving on Council this past year. Carol said a heartfelt good-bye to Council.

7. Next Council meetings.
 - a. A brief Council connections-huddle meeting will be held immediately following the annual congregational meeting on November 20, 2022.
 - b. The November 2022 Council meeting is set for Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in person at TLC.
 - c. There will be no Council connections-huddle meeting in December 2022.
 - d. The December 2022 Council meeting is set for Monday, December 19, 2022 to be held in conjunction with a Council Christmas party at Pastor Chris' house.
8. Other Important Dates.
 - a. Pastor Chris will make a presentation on her sabbatical on Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
 - b. The Annual Budget forum is set for Sunday, November 13, 2022.
 - c. The Annual Congregational meeting is set for Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 12:15.
 - d. The rescheduled Council retreat is tentatively set for Friday and Saturday, January 27 and 28, 2023.
9. Reflection/Prayer.
10. Adjournment.

The council meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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