

**New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes**  
**January 18, 2024**  
**7:00 pm**

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1. Call to Order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Attendance: (\* = excused absence; ° = late arrival)

Becker, Edward	Mutter, Vicki	Wise, Jeff
Eisenhart, Steven *	Repa, Barbara	White, Nancy
Geiser, Scott *	Rothermel, Todd	
Gross, James	Staub, Pastor Scott	
3. Devotions – Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.
4. Approval of Minutes from the December Regular Council Meeting  
The edited minutes were unanimously approved: Nancy White motioned; Ed Becker seconded.
5. Committee Reports: (\* = report on file; ° = no meeting/no report; + = no report submitted)

a. Audit +	h. Fellowship +	o. Mutual Ministry +
b. Building Fund +	i. Finance +	p. NYG +
c. Cemetery +	j. Flutter +	q. Personnel +
d. Christian Ed +	k. Garden of Hope +	r. Property +
e. Constitution +	l. History & Archives +	s. Stewardship +
f. Endowment +	m. Memorial Fund +	t. Swamp Picnic +
g. Evangelism +	n. Mission Svc/Social Min. +	u. Worship & Music +
6. Staff Reports  
The staff reports were unanimously approved: Jim Gross motioned; Barbara Repa seconded.
7. Treasurer’s Report
  - a. Ed reported that the total deficit as of December 31 was \$75,000 (with Endowment modification below). This is in-line with the 2023 projections.
  - b. He also noted that income at the end of December (100% of the year) was at 99% and expenses were at 99.4%.
  - c. Ed noted that an edit was made to the General Ledger, will be reflected on next month's financial sheets.
  - d. Total transferred from the Endowment Fund to General Fund for 2023 will be ~\$50,000.
  - e. Endowment Fund increased by ~\$100,000 for 2023
  - f. Garden of Hope seed money borrowed from the General in 2020 (\$14,200) may not have been paid back. Investigations are on-going.The treasurer’s report was unanimously approved for audit: Edward Becker motioned; Nancy White seconded.
8. Unfinished Business and Prior meeting Action Items
  - a. Family Learning Center
    - Donna Kehs provided and explained the updated budget.
    - Council committed to the Learning Center and to continue the process moving forward.
  - b. Pictorial Directory

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- Nancy reported that pricing on printing was investigated through Everything Printing: \$875.00 per 100 booklets.
- The committee wonders what to do with people who are not responding and for whom there is no contact information.
- c. By Laws Update – on going
  - Nancy noted the need to update the committee/board list
  - Todd will send Harry the committee/board list.
- d. Swamp Pike Sign Repair
  - Jim reported that the Property is recommending to repair it versus replace it.
  - The Hollenbach sign is under investigation as they are going out of business and may be willing to sell.
  - Todd will continue to investigate with DakTronics about repair.

A motion to allow the Property Committee to spend up to \$4000 to the repair sign was approved 7 to 1. Pastor Scott motioned; Jeff Wise seconded.
- e. 2024 Council Terms and Elections
  - To date, Marty Hauser is the one person running.

9. New Business

- a. Building Security and Cameras
  - Pastor shared that it was suggested that the staff checking doors each morning. The staff does not feel comfortable doing this.
- b. Committee Communication
  - Pastor noted that occasionally a committee will make a decision, but not notify anyone else.
  - It was determined that committee work should not be done at Council meetings - if there is no report or recommendation on agenda, then there should be no discussion.
- c. Reconciling in Christ
  - Pastor noted that some perspective new members have commented that we don't engage/welcome very well.
  - It was suggested that we look into pairing new members with established families.
- d. Constitution Committee
  - Nancy noted that there are some Constitutional modifications: period after sentence, removed parenthesis, C.15.11 - corrected "resolution"
  - These will be shared with the Congregation at second vote.

10. Upcoming Events

- a. Congregational Meeting and Dinner – Sunday, February 11 following the 9 a.m. service

11. Council Highlights (from this meeting)

- a. If you unlock doors for church access, lock door behind you. Doors have been left open causing a security risk.
- b. Giving/offering envelopes - if you do not need offering envelopes please see Scott Geiser or Susan Gutshall

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12. Next Council Meeting: Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
13. The council meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.  
The adjourned meeting was unanimously approved: Nancy White motioned; Jeff Wise seconded.
14. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.