

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2024
7:00 pm

1. Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Attendance: (* = excused absence; ° = late arrival)

Becker, Edward	Gross, James	Staub, Pastor Scott
Becker, Monique	Hauser, D. Martin	Wise, Jeff *
Eisenhart, Steven	Peto, Yvonne	White, Nancy *
Geiser, Scott	Rothermel, Todd	
3. Devotions
 - a. Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.
4. Approval of Minutes from the May Regular Council Meeting

The minutes were unanimously approved: Monique Becker motioned; Marty Hauser 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 +
		v. 325th Anniversary +
6. Reminders to Committee Liaisons
 - a. Committees - please work with your Council liaisons/chairpersons to bring Council pertinent information to meetings.
 - b. Please provide all scheduled meeting information (onsite, offsite/online) to Susan Gutshall or Todd Rothermel to add to the church calendar (Google Calendar)
 - c. If your Committee/Board has a recommendation for Council, or something that needs to be discussed with the Council, please let Todd Rothermel know in advance of the meeting. He will add it to the agenda.
 - d. Keep Committee work at the committee level. Council meetings are not where Committee/Board work should be performed.
7. Staff Reports
 - a. No comments.

The staff reports were unanimously approved: Marty Hauser motioned; Ed Becker seconded.
8. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Ed reported that the total deficit as of May 30 was \$23,972.00.
 - b. He also noted that income at the end of May (42% of the year) was at 54.2% and expenses were at 47.9%.
 - c. Ed noted that the reason for the minor decrease in the deficit between April and May is because of the recent Endowment Fund distribution into the General Fund.

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- d. Todd reminded the council that expenses (other than previously approved for recurring invoices) need to be approved by Committee, Board, Staff, or Council before the Bookkeeper makes payment.
 - e. Todd noted that he has not provided a set of categories for setting up a fund code for the Learning Center to track expenses/income for this ministry. He will provide.
- The treasurer's report was unanimously approved for audit: Scott Geiser motioned; Marty Hauser seconded.

9. Unfinished Business and Prior Meeting Action Items

a. Parking Lot:

- i. Food Ministry Space Usage (Jim)
- ii. Additional Sound System Training (Steve)
- iii. Benevolence vs. Debt (Finance)
- iv. Directional Signage – on going (Steve)
- v. Reconciling in Christ – hospitality training (Pastor)
- vi. Solar Energy research (Property)
- vii. Unconventional Building Usage Requests – on going (Jim)

b. Completed Recently:

- i. None this period

c. Ongoing Actions:

i. Learning Center

- Todd reported that the Browns gave us permission to use the site plan in hopes of lessening the cost of the traffic study.
- Todd reported that the sewer agreement is being finalized.
- Steve presented the Proposal for Bidding and Construction Administration Services prepared by him on behalf of his employer, Richard Kapusta and Co., Architects and Planners for \$9,760.00. To this point, Steve has donated his time for the preparation of the construction documents. Acceptance of the proposal will allow him to guide the bidding and contractor selection process now and the construction process this coming fall as part of his daily work.
 - Much discussion ensued on the need to update the congregation of the “start-up” costs. It was determined that a Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 14 with informational meetings on June 30 (following worship) and Wednesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m.
 - The acceptance of the proposal was tabled until the Learning Center Committee can review it at their next meeting on Tuesday, June 25. Following their acceptance, Council will vote to accept the proposal via email.
- Todd reviewed the (3) options determined at the joint Learning Center, Finance and Endowment Fund meeting last month:
 - Undesignated bequests,
 - Individual donors, trusts and grants,
 - Endowment Fund.

ii. Pictorial Directory

- Todd reported for Nancy that approximately 60 pictures have been received to date.

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- iii. Food Ministry Board
 - Todd reported that a \$25,000 NAP Grant letter of intent has been received by Martin Stone Quarries. Payment would not occur until late 2024.
 - Chris is on unpaid medical leave (May 20 to July 15) – Jim Davidheiser to cover at half of Chef Chris’s salary.
- iv. Garden of Hope Expansion
 - Todd reported that the shed donated by Bill Allen will be installed tomorrow, Friday, June 21. Thank you to Doug Senne for coordinating all of the work involved.
 - Todd reported that the Trellis proposal was accepted and approved for payment. They begin removing sod tomorrow, Friday, June 21.
- v. Audit of 2023 Funds
 - Todd reported that the General Fund audit is expected for approval at the July 2024 Council meeting.
- vi. Reconciling in Christ Update
 - Todd asked Councilmembers to please wear nametags at worship services.
- vii. Monetary donations were collected from the council members to make a donation in memory of Mark Wylie’s spouse.
- viii. Two Thrivent Action Team cards each in the amount of \$250.00 have been secured for Loaves and Fishes as part of a VP of SEPA access to unlimited cards. The process is being tested to see how often this can occur.

10. New Business

- a. Todd requested that the "Potential Uses for Memorial Fund Donations" form recently distributed to the council be approved.

The donation form was unanimously approved: Marty Hauser motioned; Monique Becker seconded with the following amendment: “Christian Education Fund” should be “Christian Education” as this is a broader expression and can include the Learning Center.

- b. Pastor Scott provided the following persons who would like to be members of our congregation:

- i. Terry Santangelo (transfer)
- ii. Andrew Ayua, Alaina Wojnarek (baptism)
- iii. Autumn Wojnarek (affirmation of baptism)
- iv. Lucille Miller (affirmation of baptism)

These individuals were unanimously accepted: Jim Gross motioned; Yvonne Peto seconded.

11. Correspondence

- a. Thank you from Family Services of Montgomery County for our donation of diapers, tissues and other useful items.
- b. Thank you from The Open Link for our donation of paper products and diapers.
- c. Thank you from the Mitzvah Circle for our donation of diapers, clothing, shoes and socks.

12. Upcoming Events

- a. June 30 and July 10 – Learning Center Information Meeting
- b. July 14 – Special Congregational Meeting

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13. Council Highlights (from this meeting)

- a. Thank you to Jim Davidheiser for acting as our Food Ministry Chef during Chris Fatzinger's medical leave.
- b. If you unlock a door for church access, lock the door behind you. Doors have been left open causing a security risk.
- c. Giving/offering envelopes - if you do not need offering envelopes please see Scott Geiser or Susan Gutshall (Simply Giving, other electronic giving)

14. Next Council Meeting: Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm via zoom.

- a. Scott will set up the meeting and send out the invitation.

15. The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:50p.m.

The adjournment was unanimously approved: Yvonne Peto motioned; Ed Becker seconded.

16. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.