

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

1. Call to Order at 7:03 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. Todd opened the meeting with a prayer.
4. Approval of Minutes from the June Regular Council Meeting
The minutes were unanimously approved: Marty Hauser motioned; Scott Geiser seconded.
5. Approval of Minutes from the July 14 Special Congregational Council Meeting
The minutes were unanimously approved: Ed Becker motioned; Marty Hauser seconded.
6. Committee Reports: (* = report on file; ° = no meeting/no report; + = no report submitted)

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|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 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 + |
7. 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.
8. Staff Reports
 - a. No comments.
The staff reports were unanimously approved: Scott Geiser motioned; Jeff Wise seconded.
9. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Ed reported that the total deficit as of June 30 was \$39,996.18.
 - b. He also noted that income at the end of June (50% of the year) was at 60.5% and expenses

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were at 56.5%.

- c. Todd noted that the Learning Center fund code has been set up to track expenses/income for this ministry.
- d. Todd also noted that the Nester bequest specifics continue to be investigated to determine where portions of it have been used and/or paid back to date.

The treasurer's report was unanimously approved for audit: Jim Gross motioned; Scott Geiser seconded.

10. 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. Sanctuary Air Conditioning Status

- Jim reported that (2) of the (3) units are working and that they will hopefully last through the summer season. He is waiting to receive an initial quote for a full replacement of the system.

ii. Learning Center

- Todd reported the Congregational Meeting vote results: 71 total votes, 61 yes votes, 10 no votes
- Todd provided a brief overview of the Traffic Study Proposal prepared by Traffic Planning and Design (TPD), noting that our legal counsel (Jeffrey Karver) has reviewed it and recommends acceptance of it. Todd requested approval of TPD's \$10,600 not-to-exceed fee budget to complete the work.

The Proposal was approved (9 yes; 1 no): Steve Eisenhart motioned; Nancy White seconded.

- Todd reported that the sewer agreement is being finalized and will incorporate a statement saying that NHELCC will not be paying for the EDU's until closer to the Learning Center opening.
- Steve reported that the bids for the alterations are due to him on July 26 and will be reviewed by the Learning Center committee on July 30.
- Todd requested that Jeff determine with the Endowment Committee about how anything borrowed from Endowment is to be repaid. He will do so.

iii. Pictorial Directory

- Nancy is in the process of entering addresses and gathering photos.

iv. Food Ministry Board

- Todd reported that Chef Chris has returned.

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- Todd also reported that the ministry is operating in the black.
- v. Garden of Hope Expansion
 - Todd reported that the shed donated by Bill Allen has been delivered, repaired, painted. A thank you letter will be sent to Bill in the near future.
 - Todd reported that the fencing will be installed in late July.
 - Todd also noted that electric and water will be provided to the garden as part of the Learning Center alterations and paid for through the PA Urban Ag grant.
- vi. Audit of 2023 Funds
 - Todd reported that the General Fund audit is expected for approval at the August 2024 Council meeting.

11. New Business

- a. Todd noted that after a schedule review, it was determined that the best date for the Congregational Meeting and Dinner is February 23. It was also noted that February 22 should be reserved for preparations for the dinner.

Both dates were unanimously approved: Yvonne Peto motioned; Scott Geiser seconded

- b. Todd shared that Nikki Young requested some funds (\$224.00) for the purchase of software required for her Greek and Hebrew seminary courses. After some discussion, a source of the funding was determined.

The funding was unanimously approved: Scott Geiser motioned; Marty Hauser seconded.

12. Congregational Feedback

- a. Nancy asked if members at Walnut Woods could be included in the directory. Answer = yes.

13. Upcoming Events

- a. Camp Faulkner: July 22 - 25

14. 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)
- d. The results from the July 14 Special Congregational Meeting were 71 total votes: 61 yes votes, 10 no votes. This action gives the Council permission to approve expenditures for the NHELIC Learning Center planning process and feasibility study continuation above the constitutionally imposed limit of 3% of the 2024 annual budget total. The amount for this approval has been capped at \$50,000 above the 3% limit.

15. Next Council Meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

16. The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:05p.m.

The adjournment was unanimously approved: Yvonne Peto motioned; Jeff Wise seconded.

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