

NELC Church Council Regularly Scheduled Meeting | Minutes

July 16th, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. - 10:45 p.m. | Room 301, Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church

Meeting called by: President Wayne Jacobson

Secretary: Julie Creeden

Attendees: Cindy Wilson, Beth Harris, Kristie Lehman, Chris Hansen, Ron Martin, Nate Greiner, Julie Creeden, Wayne Jacobson, Tim Boettger, Mike Brost, Kaylene Hoskins

Guests: Donna Kirschenmann, Randy Kies, Nathaniel Parrish

Absent: Kristina McBurney

AGENDA TOPICS:

Call to Order at 6:30 p.m. | *Wayne Jacobson*

Wayne welcomed everyone and thanked us for attending. Mike read Psalm 119:25 and the Council reflected on the verse. Julie opened us in prayer.

Secretary's Report | *Julie Creeden*

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Approve Council minutes from 6/18/24	Ron	Beth	Pass

President's Report | *Wayne Jacobson*

- Insurance policy review: Kaylene, Wayne, Kristina, Anne, and Ed Hanson (Brotherhood Mutual) met to perform a required yearly review of Nazareth's property/casualty insurance policy per the By-laws. There is typically a 15% increase in premiums each year. Last year's premium was \$28,279. This year's premium without Blessed Beginnings will be \$33,419 with a \$10,000 deductible. Ed emphasized that we should avoid claims as much as possible. All claims should be run through Kaylene first to avoid being put in a higher risk class unnecessarily. If we have no claims this year, we could get a rebate next year.
- Blessed Beginnings Vans: Wayne is assigning Marc the task of researching whether it might be preferable to sell the vans ourselves rather than going through a dealership.
- Trailer purchased for Habitat for Humanity work: Nazareth owns this trailer, but in June when Marc visited with the Council, he had mentioned that most of the tools are individually owned by members. Wayne will ask Marc to provide an inventory of these tools and will let Kaylene know.
- The President's report will continue following guests of the Council.

Guest | Donna Kirschenmann, congregation member

Donna and the Nazareth Gather groups are interested in helping with the Refugee Resettlement Program that is being sponsored by Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI). Through this LSI program, 150 people will settle in the Cedar Valley over the course of this summer. LSI is looking for basic supplies and furniture. Donna would like to open up this opportunity to the entire congregation by placing an announcement of this need in the Naz News. This opportunity would run from the last Sunday in July through the first 2 Sundays in August. Donna would also like to inquire with Mike Knipp, the philanthropic director for LSI, to possibly give a brief update on the effort during announcements of an upcoming worship service.

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Allow an announcement, approved by the Council president, to run in the Naz News which includes a link to the FAQs on the LSI website for members who have an interest in helping this cause. Also allow Mike Knipp to make a 2-minute announcement at a worship service if he is available.	Chris	Julie	Pass

Guest | Randy Kies, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

Randy is a new part-time staff member with the Northeast Iowa FCA who is in charge of FCA Sports. Randy's role at FCA is to establish and promote club sports teams in the northeast Iowa area with a vision to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. FCA's vision is to see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes. Randy has worked closely with Marc Rath to schedule these teams in the Nazareth gym. Interest in these teams continues to grow.

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Fully support a continued partnership between Nazareth and FCA, and seek opportunities to expand this partnership whenever possible including prioritizing FCA groups when scheduling the Nazareth gym.	Julie	Chris	Pass

Guest | Nathaniel Parrish, Director of Music at Nazareth

Nathaniel and the Worship and Music committee have been working diligently to improve the worship service based upon the Worship Mission Statement from Calvary Church. This is the statement that has been used as an example for the 2nd Sunday worship experience since its inception. The Committee is seeking an opportunity to have more consistency within the service from week to week in addition to a higher level of participation and engagement within our worship services based upon this Worship Mission Statement. Nathaniel is now seeking feedback and directional clarity from the Council. The Council will be looking into either adopting this Worship Mission Statement or creating an original one that is similar in order to provide guidance for focusing Nazareth's worship services solely on God rather than individual style preferences. The mission statement could also be the basis of music selection and execution. The Council will take up this topic at a future meeting and continue to receive updates from Nathaniel and the Worship & Music Committee as they continue this work.

Treasurer's Report | Cindy Wilson

Cindy shared that the Finance Committee hasn't met yet this month and will share the June financial statements with the Council via email once they have met on Monday, July 22nd.

****Action Item via email 7/28/24**

	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Approve June Financials.	Cindy	Ron	Pass

President's Report – Continued | Wayne Jacobson

- The Council reviewed the documents that have been updated since the last special congregational meeting/vote regarding our ELCA affiliation. The following actions were taken:

Action items	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Approve congregational letter	Chris	Kristie	Pass
Approve resolutions document	Nate	Ron	Pass
Approve Notice of Special Meeting	Kristie	Chris	Pass

- The Council reviewed the updated script for the upcoming August 28th special meeting and vote. Wayne will share it with our parliamentarian, Luke Zahari, prior to our next meeting.
- Julie will create PDFs of the above three documents and get them to Jordan for printing. Julie will also deliver a copy of each document to Bishop Jones of the ELCA Northeast Iowa Synod in addition to mailing them via certified mail.
- Wayne shared that the members of the former By-laws committee who were previously chosen by the Council to reconvene have all accepted the invitation: John Larsen, Russ Curtis, Maureen Hanson, and Paul Creeden, in addition to Wayne Jacobson and Mike Brost, will serve in this capacity following the second vote on August 28th.
- Wayne will invite Marc Rath to come to our August Council meeting to report on the tasks that he was given by the Council at our June meeting.

Old Business |

- Electronic signage update: Kaylene reported that the bid from Signs and Designs came in substantially less than Nagle. She also shared that Signs and Designs has reached out to the city for confirmation of regulations. After discussion, the Council prefers that the entire sign be electronic so that any branding can be easily updated rather than non-digital branding across the top of the sign that would be costly to update.
- Deery/New Aldaya use of Nazareth parking lot: Chris reached out to Steve Daniels who will spell out any liability in writing to be signed-off by both parties. Chris also suggested that we acquire a count of the cars used by New Aldaya and Deery and negotiate possible snow removal help in addition to help with costs of parking lot maintenance based upon the number of spots they are using.
- Kaylene reported on her research of the larger ticket items from Blessed Beginnings daycare – specifically the more expensive strollers and cribs. She shared that some church daycares from Spencer Iowa that had been flooded had reached out in need of help – the Council agreed that would

be a good place to donate the Blessed Beginnings daycare items. Kaylene also shared that Kim and Meg had been given the opportunity to take any items that could enhance their programs prior to donation. Kaylene was directed to reach out to the daycares in Spencer and proceed with this donation.

New Business |

- Education Committee – The Council has decided to establish a task force to assess what is currently being done holistically with regards to Christian education at Nazareth from kindergarten through adult and create a vision for the committee’s vision and mission moving forward. Beth will make contacts with members who have expressed interest and ask if they are interested in serving on this task force prior to reestablishing the Education Committee.
 - All other committee reports were postponed until next month due to time constraints and lack of any urgent business needing to be dealt with.
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Pastors’ Reports | *Mike Brost and Tim Boettger*

Mike shared that it continues to be exciting and very encouraging to see the momentum of what God is doing at Nazareth. He continues to work on planning of fall events including confirmation. They will meet with a candidate for the food ministry position within the next few days. Tim reflected on the hiring opportunities we currently have at Nazareth – leadership within our personnel hiring is critical moving forward. The pastors, staff, and Council continue to pray that God provides the right people for our open positions who have mature faith and the skills to lead, and that we remain willing and able to wait on the Lord to provide.

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Adjourn	Kristie	Beth	Pass

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m. | Next meeting: Tuesday, August 14th at 6:30 p.m. in Room 301