

NELC Church Council Regularly Scheduled Meeting | Minutes

September 17th, 2024 | 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. | Room 301, Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church

Meeting called by: President Wayne Jacobson

Secretary: Julie Creeden

Attendees: Cindy Wilson, Beth Harris, Kristina McBurney, Ron Martin, Nate Greiner, Julie Creeden, Chris Hansen, Wayne Jacobson, Tim Boettger, Mike Brost

Conference Call: Kristie Lehman

Absent: Kaylene Hoskins

AGENDA TOPICS:

Call to Order at 6:40 p.m. | Wayne Jacobson

Prayer & Devotion

Wayne welcomed everyone and thanked us for attending. He read Psalm 119:30 and Pastor Mike led us in prayer.

Secretary's Report | Julie Creeden

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Approve Council minutes from 8/14/24	Ron	Beth	Pass

Report of Guest Staff Member

Director of Visitation Ministry's – Andy Walser

- Brings two gentlemen to church – one is already a member, the other is not, but has been attending since at least 2013. Andy requested that he become a full member of Nazareth.
- Andy requested clear communication and possibility of input regarding his continued role at Nazareth.

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Accept Andy's request for R to become a full member	Chris	Kristie	Pass

Treasurer's Report | Cindy Wilson

Cindy shared the August financials with the Council. The general fund is \$3500 above what was budgeted. CDs are staggered so that every month there is a CD coming due in case we would need it. \$240,000 will be taken out of checking and put into CDs. \$26,000 was put down for the new sign. (This money came from a private donation.)

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Move \$240,000 from checking to CD	Cindy	Julie	Pass
Approve August Financials.	Chris	Nate	Pass

President's Report | Wayne Jacobson

- Defer to executive session

Pastors' Reports | Mike Brost, Tim Boettger

Executive session began at 8:00 p.m. and ended at 9:30 p.m.

Reports of Committees

- Building & Grounds – Nate – no report
- Endowment – Chris – new brochure coming – clarity on funds
- Finance - Cindy (see treasurer's report above)
- Education - Beth – met with Kim and Meg – wait until the bylaws are updated
- Personnel – Chris – Reviewing the severance research
- Local Missions – Ron – Positive PR about joining the NALC? Ask David on Friday?
- U.S. & World Missions - Ron – first Sunday of a three Sunday series,
 - o State of missionary sending and funding,
 - o Randy H and Ron will go through an intro of the 14 missionary families
 - o Danny Schaefer will talk about the importance of having people support the missionaries with prayer and encouragement.
- Stewardship – Julie - Stewardship mailing will go out September 30th
- Worship and Music Committee - Wayne – no report

Unfinished Business

Update from Marc

1. Marc will have "Tornado Safe Space" signs created and installed in the proper areas around Nazareth designating the following inclement weather safe-spaces:
 - o Tunnel under the Worship Center
 - o Older education hallway
 - o Underground areas, if time permits
 - i. The current signs are old and not attractive – Marc will reach out to Signs and Designs to inquire about new ones. Not sure if there is extra liability insurance coverage – Marc will follow up.
2. Marc will reach out to other area churches who have volunteer security teams and/or professional security people in place and report his findings back to the Council.
 - o Reached out to Prairie Lakes – they have a retired officer who also has back-ups. They are paid professionals in plain clothes.
 - o Reached out to Trinity – they have a volunteer team who are carefully chosen: two per weekend who carry. One qualification is that they go through the BH County sheriff's office for proper paperwork. New ministry for them and working out the kinks. They worked with Candeco, who also has a volunteer team. They are also trained in CPR and first aid – don't all carry – those

who don't carry cannot respond to certain issues. The command staff makes the decisions – arrests have been made. Some are certified to carry, some are not. Usually 4 people per Sunday.

- Marc's recommendation is to look into asking an off-duty police officer who could head this up.
3. Marc will provide training to our ushers, pastors, and worship leaders around the NELC safety guidelines that he shared with the Council.
 - Working on this – figuring out the best process to proceed so they are trained for AED, etc.
 4. Marc will look into the advantages of selling the BB vans ourselves.
 - Gave info to Orchard Hill – they may be interested in purchasing at least some of our vans – specifically our 2016 and 2007 (but low miles). There are two others (2006ish) – Kelly Blue Book appraised at \$9,000,. Marc called Colwell Ford, who agreed they probably aren't worth that. Probably more like \$4,500. Marc knows of someone who might be interested in one of those. Will follow-up with Orchard Hill this week. Daycares have also reached out, and Caldwell Ford. Wayne suggested calling Doug Witham. We currently have one true Naz van left, and will be keeping two of the newer BB vans. Keeping two and selling 4. 15 passenger vans are hard to find to rent – so that is why we will keep two.
 5. Dogs/pets in the building – No dogs in the building allowed except for service animals was the consensus of the staff. Marc may need to create signage for the outside doors to make sure all are aware.
 6. Update on parking lot – they started yesterday – brought out barricades today. Will start pulling up concrete and curb work later this week. Asphalt will be the following week. Gates and barricades have been put up and locked – will be opened up for Sundays, Wednesdays, and funerals. Marc will also check so that we are not inconveniencing New Aldaya.
 7. Update on the status of our new digital sign – Julie
 - Signs & Designs received the deposit last week. Upon its receipt they applied for and received approval of the permit from the City for the project. They have mailed off the deposit to Daktronics and confirmed the primary account information with Kaylene. I have not yet received a planned delivery date from Daktronics, but it is typically 5 weeks from the receipt of the deposit. The hope is to have the installation completed by the end of October.
 8. Update on Bylaws Committee – Wayne
 - This committee has begun meeting – will meet every two weeks at 6:30 a.m. Will work through the Bylaws a paragraph at a time.
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New Business

1. Status of ELCA disaffiliation and NALC affiliation -- Wayne/Julie
 - Council members who are available will meet with David Keener, NALC Director of Renewal and Discipleship on Friday at 3:30 at the church.
2. Evaluate scholarships on naz.org website: Suggest removal of EPIC Scholarship and temporary pause of Seminary Scholarship – Julie
 - Julie will have Sam remove EPIC scholarships from the naz.org website. The seminary scholarship may change as the bylaws are updated, but the information will remain on the website until further information is known; however, the application will be removed as it currently references the ELCA.
3. Revisit moving to one blended service instead of two – Julie/Wayne
 - Several members have encouraged individual Council members to move to one service:
 - i. To raise the energy for worship after enjoying worshipping together as one body prior to the church picnic
 - ii. To not over-extend our current staff and volunteers who are limited

- iii. To provide the opportunity for families to worship together
 - iv. To provide the opportunity for adults to gather for education options at the same time their children are in Sunday School
 - v. To provide the opportunity for parents to volunteer in their children's Sunday School classroom
- Congregational survey would be helpful
 - Input from staff needs to be considered
 - What is our vision? After the evaluation of the identical blended services in January 2025, Council can revisit this one-service option.
4. Creation of NELC Family Life Center Use Policy – Julie
- Julie shared a draft of a use policy for the Council's consideration. They will look it over and revisit it at an upcoming Council meeting.

Other Business

New member class – Mike requested that the Council approve new members from the most recent Belong class –

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Accept new members from most recent Belong class	Chris	Nate	Pass

Any future Transfer of membership into Nazareth from an ELCA church will be required to take the new member Belong class prior to becoming a member of Naz.

Pastor Tim closed us in prayer.

Action item	Moved	Seconded	Vote
Adjourn	Julie	Beth	Pass

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. | Next meeting: Tuesday, October 15th at 6:30 p.m. in Room 301