**COSLC Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 14, 2024**

**Call to Order:**

President Jessica called the meeting to order at 11:46 a.m. in the pastor’s office.

**Roll Call:**

Terrie Brown - present

Amy Hellmich - present

Ky Holland – absent

Gary Matthews - present

Jessica Morrison - present

Carol Roadifer - present

James Spillane – absent

Pastor Anna Silco – present

Five of seven voting members were in attendance establishing a quorum.

**Devotional:** Carol opened the meeting with prayer.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

**Motion –** Amy **moved** and Terrie **seconded** – “to approve the minutes of

the December 10, 2023 Council meeting” - motion **approved** unanimously.

**Review of Proposed Agenda:** The Council agreed to add the following items to the agenda, to be discussed as time permits.

1. Garden Committee Report/Discussion
2. Internet Service

**Reports:**

**Pastor** – Pastor Anna reported the following activities in which she was

involved since the December Council meeting:

-Prepared props/costumes/script for Christmas Eve day

-Edited Christmas Eve PowerPoints

-advertising for Christmas Eve on website/fb

-met with Heather for Admin conversations

-planning meeting for Winter confirmation

-sang carols to Barb

-Met with Cindy Adams

-created and sent out January newsletter

-met with Habitat for Humanity outreach people

-made children Worship bags

-gather bible study prep and met

-reorganizing office/planning ideas for church basement use

-sledding event with Alaska synod youth

-Garden meeting/WAM meeting

-attending a “Thriving Leaders” group for pastors (once a week 1 hr. for 12 weeks)

-Preparing for Lenten Theme Planning

**Hours: December10- January 7: 22/ 20/ 20/ 23**

**Total Hours Work (since started regularly keeping track)**

8/27- 20 hours, 9/3- 20 hours, 9/10-25 hours, 9/17-19.5 hours, 9/24- 21 hours, 10/1-20 hours, 10/8-22, 10/16-28, 10/22- 18.5 hours, 10/29-24.5, 11/5-15.5, 11/12-22.5, 11/19- vacation (20) , 11/26-20 hours, 12/3-21 hours, 12/10-22 hours, 12/17-20 hours, 12/24- 20 hours, 1/7-23 hours

**22.5 hours over (time off of 20 hours- advent recalibrate), 2.5 hours over**

**Future:**

-Lent: Stone Lenten Series (Scripture with stone references, using stones as ways to engage with the scripture, song with stone/rock or on theme), can be done with Holden or other music service

-brainstorming church basement use- Pastor’s office turn into meeting room, secretary office turns into Pastor’s office/shared office, conference room turns into youth room. (or could have room across from the kitchen turn into something?)

-Event using Thrivent seed money for camp? Easter Breakfast fundraiser? Spaghetti Dinner in April?

-Pancake palooza? February 13th? (Also known as Shrove Tuesday, day before Lent starts aka Mardi Gras) How did this go in the past?

**President** – Jessica reported that she has been preparing for the annual meeting on January 28. Letter notifying congregation has gone out. Has notified those responsible to prepare reports for the meeting.

**Treasurer** – Amy gave an update on financial activities since the last Council

meeting.

- Concerning the uncertainty of the shared cost for Portico coverage for Pastor Anna and her husband Aaron, COSLC has overpaid our understood share by $1,338.62 during 2023. Either Amy or the council president will email Gloria Dei church seeking reimbursement for 2023, and for each additional year moving forward where there is split coverage costs that exceed the agreed-upon 1/3 – 2/3 split.

**Motion –** Carol **moved** and Terrie **seconded** – “that Amy send an email to the Gloria Dei President and Treasurer seeking reimbursement for the amount COSLC has overpaid based on the 1/3 – 2/3 split of costs as proposed in the spring of 2023 during discussion between COSLC - VP Ky Holland and the President of the Gloria Dei council.” - motion **approved** unanimously.

-Amy reported that Jamie is willing to continue on as bookkeeper at no charge to the church

**Facility** – Gary reported that Steve Oyler removed some hanging ice build-up from parts of the church roof

-Kleb Mechanical was called to trouble shoot the church boiler, part of the building was without heat, it was determined that the boiler and expansion

tank were low on water because the auto fill provision was not working, we

will be more vigilant in monitoring the water level in the future

-removed ice blocking preschool door

-installed new batteries in the thermostat in pastor’s office

-Oyler family took down the Christmas tree and ceiling banners

­To Do:

-bulbs in a basement ceiling light fixture need replacing

**Old Business:**

**Angelus Memorial Burial Plots** –Gary reported that for many years the church has owned two burial plots at Angelus Memorial Garden on Klatt Road. During a recent meeting of the Garden Committee it was recommended that the plots be sold and that the proceeds be placed in a memorial/park account towards future development of the neighborhood pocket park just south of the community garden. Following discussion it was decided to take action under new business.-

**Eternal Light** – Tabled until next meeting

**New Business/Future Business:**

**Congregational Lead Initiative** – Pastor Anna reported on this new synodical program to review and possibly revise areas of emphasis within the Alaska Synod, involving representatives from various ELCA churches. After discussion, the council learned that three individuals have expressed a willingness to participate in this endeavor – Martha Enslow, Jessica Morrison and Pastor Anna. A motion to participate was made-

**Motion –** Amy **moved** and Terrie **seconded** – “to propose that COSLC participate in the ELCA Congregational Lead Initiative.” Motion **approved** unanimously.

**New Admin. Proposal –** Pastor Anna reported that she has been in

discussion with a potential new admin. to replace Jessica who is stepping down from her temporary position. This person named Heather also works in a similar position at Gloria Dei church. Following discussion, a motion was made-

**Motion –** Carol **moved** and Amy **seconded** – “to bring Heather on as a contract admin for 5 hours per week at $20. per hour.” Motion **approved** unanimously.

(Note:) Heather will not have office hours at the church. Amy will continue to check the church’s snail mail and Pastor Anna will check the email.

**2024 Budget** -Carol has been working with Amy and Jamie to prepare the draft of the 2024 church budget. The council reviewed Carol’s draft and asked for clarification on some income and expense categories such as amounts budgeted for bank/credit card fees and an extra ELCA benevolence payment that was made in 2023 among other items. This budget will be presented to the congregation during the budget workshop following the service on January 21.

**Garden – Memorial/Pocket Park –** From Old Business –

**Motion –** Carol **moved** and Amy **seconded** – “Gary to contact the Angelus Memorial Garden management and ask them to sell the plots for the church, understanding that a fee will be charged.” Motion **approved** unanimously.

**Internet Service –** Borealis Broad Band, the church’s internet provider has proposed the installation of a repeater on the church roof to extend its footprint to the surrounding area. The proposal includes waiving the church’s internet service fee as a trade-out for the repeater. Pastor Anna will seek more specific information on the proposal such as location and size of the repeater.

**Council Elections** – The Council will have 3 vacant positions to fill during the annual meeting – Jessica, Terrie and Gary. Council members are working to find interested individuals to fill the 2 year terms. The council discussed these vacancies and potential members interested in replacing the departing

members. It was noted that the Constitution lays out the details for council membership.

**Decisions Action Items prior to Next Meeting:**

**-**No items were addressed at this time

**Future Council Meetings:**

-January 21, 2024 - Congregational Budget Meeting following service

-January 28, 2024 - Congregational Annual Meeting following service

- Council Reorganizational Meeting following conclusion of

Annual Meeting

**Closing Prayer:**

Pastor Anna closed the meeting with prayer.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Matthews

Secretary