

August 18, 2016

RE: Our Savior Lutheran Church
Norfolk, NE
1501

Minutes of the Committee Meetings

August 8, 2016 Meetings

Discovering our Future Together

The minutes of all committee meetings are shared in order for all groups to maintain awareness of the coordinated work of the groups working together in the work of the church. The following notes and comments apply:

1. General comments for all meetings

1. Opening Devotion -
2. Update on Hearings
 - a. District Court Appeal (Vulcraft vs. City of Norfolk)
 - b. Judge's ruling has been appealed by Vulcraft
 1. Brief submittal extension 30 days - Filed July 20 by Vulcraft
3. Update on Eagle Distribution building purchase agreement
 - a. Building is still under contract
 1. initial agreement
 2. extensions
 3. Building now under contract with a firm closing date
 - a. Price has been re-negotiated for considerable savings in initial cost
 - b. Letter to congregation will follow this week with details
4. Update on Building Permit
 - a. Permit rejected July 11th
 1. Email from city confirmed rejection is because church is not allowed in I-1
 2. Subsequent newspaper interview
 - a. City attorney added two additional reasons
 - Owner signature
 - Pending C-3 zoning
 - b. Permit resubmitted with GC signature
 - c. Pending C-3 zoning remains open
 3. Congregation voted July 30-31 to appeal the building permit
 - a. 67% in favor
 - b. Appeal to be filed by August 11th.
 - Hearing likely last Wednesday of the month
 1. 7pm
 2. Information gathered from city website on hearing dates and times.
5. Media
 - a. Media reporting
 1. often inaccurate
 2. articles/reports usually follow City Council meetings

3. rarely includes verification with OSL staff
 - a. OSL spokesperson – Pastor Lee
 - b. Pastor Lee has requested headline changes on a few occasions to make them truthful.
6. RLUIPA update
 - a. Building permit denial
 1. violation of equal treatment
 - b. Permit application will be appealed
 1. denial of appeal will trigger increased interest by the Department of Justice
 - a. DOJ may be able to resolve the matter without lawsuit
 - c. IF the need arises for legal action...
 1. a congregational vote will be required to initiate legal action to call the current zoning matrix into question
7. All meetings opened and closed with prayer.

Proposed Agenda items for all committees at the opening of the next meeting:

1. **Opening Devotion –**
2. **What’s next –**
 - a. **Update on negotiations**
 - b. **Update on Zoning**
3. **Other**

2. Mission and Ministry Committee

Present: Kelsey Miller, Jordon Miller, Pauline Miller (guest), Dennis Beltz, Barb Carstens, Pastor Ryan, Cleve Stolpe, Doug Sunderman, Pastor Lee, Rachel Rardon, Nancy Schulz, James Nord

1. We talked of the zoning status as noted above.
2. Main focus of this meeting was the launching of Small Group Ministry
 - a. Small Group Ministry is important
 - i. People need to know Christ
 - ii. we are called to be in fellowship with each other
3. Small group ministry will develop
 - a. a sense of love and fellowship
 - i. we will grow in love for the Savior
 - ii. we will re-ignite and unify
 - iii. we will forward the vision of the church and move forward in ministry
4. How do we get people involved in small groups?
 - a. This is where we left off last time...
 - i. we see the need to start BIG this time
 1. Small Group Connection Day
 - a. need to be taught from the leadership
 - b. need to be promoted by leadership as well
 2. Kick off will be in September
 - a. starts with sermon series
 - i. Small Group Connection Day follows a week later October 9th
 - b. the intention is to make it easy for people to join
 - i. like groups will gather on Small Group Day
 1. choose a time/date
 2. choose a leader

- c. the intention is not to just do this for 6 months, it is intended to go indefinitely
- 5. We will need many people helping to promote and invite
 - a. callers
 - b. personal invitation
 - c. training
- 6. In other business
 - a. there will be a Christmas Gift meeting on September 18th at 7pm.

Proposed Agenda items for the Mission/Ministry Committee at the next meeting:

- 1. Zoning Update**
- 2. Small Group Ministry**
- 3. Other**

3. Funding and Finance Committee

Present: Pastor Lee, John Gerry, John Pile, Mike Wilke, Ron Stauffer, Pastor Ryan, Doug Sunderman, Myron Kooi, James Nord

- 1. We talked of the zoning status as noted above.
- 2. With the building more secure, its time to talk again about the Capital Campaign
 - a. Joe Crowther will be at Our Savior on September 7th for training of the appeal team
- 3. LCEF is willing to lend OSL up to \$3.8 million for the project. We currently have nearly \$1.4 million in advance pledges, before the campaign started.
- 4. At the next meeting, we will review and update the extrapolated budget developed in 2015 for an new/larger building.
- 5. Now that the building is under contract and empty...
 - a. we need to find uses for it until we renovate
 - b. seek to place ministries in place as zoning allows
 - c. use the building for tours to allow folks to see the vision

Proposed Agenda items for the Funding/Finance Committee at the next meeting:

- 1. Zoning Update**
- 2. Operational Budget**
- 3. Capital Campaign Preparation/Training**
 - a. September 7th – Joe Crowther meetings**
- 4. Other**

4. Building and Planning Committee

Present: Niki Peterson, Randy Wilcox, Phil Rardon, Doug Sunderman, Pastor Ryan, Bill Barritt, Gordon Adams, Robert Reed, Jason Doele, Pastor Lee, James Nord

- 1. We talked of the zoning status as noted above.
- 2. Many questions regarding the details of the purchase price/details of the contract
- 3. Conversations with the city have recently resulted in option to consider:
 - a. Conditional use permit
 - b. Planned development
- 4. Both options above are cumbersome and time consuming per the opinion of those present
 - a. best option is to work with current zoning or current comp plan, as we are currently doing

- b. there’s no additional efficiency in making a new zone just for a church if there are allowed means for us to occupy the area in accordance with the zoning and federal laws.

Proposed Agenda items for the Building Committee at the next meeting:

- 1. Zoning Update**
- 2. Building Permit Update**
- 3. Building use during zoning negotiation and design phase**
 - a. Daycare Expansion**
 - b. Storage**
 - c. Sublease**
- 4. TSP startup**
- 5. Other**

The next series of meetings is as follows:

September 12th - **Mission/Ministry - 5:30pm**
Funding/Finance - 6:30pm
Building/Planning - 7:30pm

This represents my understanding of the contents of our meeting. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Minutes will be forwarded via email, hard copies will be distributed upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Nord
NORD, LLC

attachment:

Cc: committee members (via Church Office email)
Our Savior Lutheran Church Office (via email)