

ERLC Council Meeting Minutes

Elk River Lutheran Church, Elk River, MN - ELCA

The ERLC Council held a regularly scheduled meeting on **Tuesday, June 17, 2025.**

Call to Order

President Jeff Schrock called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Devotion led by Justin Howland.

Roll Call: Name Highlighted Indicates Present

Δ Jeff Schrock - President	Δ Kent Larson - VP	Δ Julie Marie Haugen - Treasurer
Δ Pastor Nathan Mugaas	Δ Pastor Anne Schaefer	Δ Kelli Horner - Secretary
Δ Amy Anderson	Δ Zoey Day	Δ Sue Hales
Δ Justin Howland	Δ Conni Natwick	Δ Dan Nelson

ERLC Congregation Member Comments and Council Listening Session

At this time visitors to the meeting are welcome to present information of interest. The members of the ERLC Council will receive such input without comment and will not discuss or act relative to any items brought forth at the meeting. The ERLC Council may direct consideration of presented information at subsequent meetings.

- Nothing was presented at this time.

Action Items in BOLD

May Council meeting minutes review and approval (Kelli Horner)

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2025, ERLC Council meeting made by Sue Hales and seconded by Julie Marie Haugen. Approved. Motion carried.

Additional updates from Pastor Nathan and Pastor Anne

Pastor Anne:

- Mission Trip next week (Sunday, June 22 – Saturday, June 28) with 12 students and 4 adults to Colorado Springs.
- Mid-July Summer Festival Camp (High School) for sure, maybe attending Middle School.
- End-July Columbus, OH cohort time as part of a grant with other people in children's ministry.
- VBS at the beginning of August, ~35 children expected.

Pastor Nathan:

- Building update: stucco work is underway, expected to take the month of June, but due to weather it may extend into July. Window work will hopefully be starting this week as it is also weather dependent.
- Hired Tom Clements as the online specialist to replace Nick Campbell. Nick's last day will be July 15.
- June bounce house day was rained out; next one is scheduled for July 10.

- Upcoming funerals in June for Darrell Gildemeister and Doug & JoAnn Stillwell. June wedding (not at ERLC) for Katie Bedbury (daughter of Sarah & John Auel)
- Thankful for graduation party season; extra special because have known the kids all throughout their confirmation and high school years.
- Twins game in August; more information coming soon.

May 2025 Financials review and approval (Julie Marie Haugen)

- Share a financial update via email/bulletin in July after we get June financials.

Motion to approve the May 2025 Financials as presented made by Conni Natwick, seconded by Kent Larson. Approved. Motion carried.

New & Continuing Business:

- Endowment Requests for Council Approval
 - Youth Mission Trip \$1000

Motion to approve \$1000 from the Endowment Fund to the Youth Mission Trip made by Jeff Schrock, seconded by Julie Marie Haugen . Approved. Motion carried.

- LSS Refugee Resettlement Fund up to \$4000 matching gift

Motion to approve up to \$4000 as a matching gift in August from the Endowment Fund to the LSS Refugee Resettlement Fund made by Jeff Schrock, seconded by Conni Natwick. Approved. Motion carried.

- Preliminary Plans for Fall Capital Appeal
 - Current campaign ends in 2025, so need a way to encourage giving in 2026.
 - Met with Blair Anderson (previous consultant) who recommended a 3-year campaign vs. 1-year campaign.
 - Campaign to include mortgage & construction loan payments, pay off construction loan early, deferred maintenance funds, and further debt retirement. Also, a focus on legacy giving.
 - Scaled back campaign – no consultant, not as many volunteers or as much “pomp & circumstance” as previous campaigns.
 - Strong suggestions by the Council to not call it a capital campaign due to previous precedents.
 - Three year vs. One year
 - 1-year is less time, different from the past
 - 3-year can tie to strategic plan, can pay off the entire construction loan, spread out donations
 - Transparency & education is key, especially that the mortgage is not paid from general fund and the amount owed for the mortgage and construction loan; make clear in communications.
 - Make the legacy giving front and center
 - **Action:** Council will further review materials and agree to path forward in July.
- Nick Campbell – farewell gift budget

- Nick's last day is July 15th. As staff leave, it has been customary for Council to approve a parting gift. Nick has been the online specialist for 3.5 years.
- Council agreed to a \$200 gift and recommend cash.
- Church Insurance Increase Task Force Update:
 - Insurance recently increased by 24% / ~\$2,000 per year.
 - Jeff Schrock, Kent Larson, Julie Marie Haugen, and Lori Sundman (bookkeeper) met with Blake Beaudry, an insurance broker, and are not sure we would get much savings by switching insurance agencies (~\$1,200).
 - Getting quotes require a lot of effort and time on the church's part. We should explore getting a quote before the end of 2025 as input into 2026 budgeting, but do not need to rush. Kent will take the lead with Julie Marie working with Lori.
- ERLC Strategic Plan (Jeff / Pastor Nathan):
 - Summarized the retreat notes and met with staff (Pastor Nathan, Pastor Anne, Taylor and Linda). Each year we will define specific initiatives toward the 2028 goals.
 - **Action:** Provide feedback via email to Jeff & Linda by July 1. Discussion will take place at the July meeting.
- ERLC By-laws and Constitution:
 - Tabled to a future meeting

Adjourn and Lord's Prayer

President Jeff Schrock adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm and led the council in The Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 15th 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Horner, Secretary

Addendums – None.