

## BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

**Mission:** We INVITE all; We GROW in Faith; We GO to share God's love and grace

**MINUTES from:** Monday, February 15, 2021 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:** P = Present A = Absent

Mal Bailey – P	Wanda Bock - P	Tami Bowman – P	Pam Crouse – P
Andy Denison – P	Mike Diercks- P	Bill Evans – P	Alexa Giddings – P
Dave Myre– P	Mackenzie Narins - P	Jennifer Nelson – P	Deberra Slagstad - P
Brad Wiedmann – P			

**STAFF MEMBERS:** Pastor Luci – P Pastor Peter – P Dawn Paul – P

**Guest:** Eldon and Nancy Vrieze are present as observers.

### PREPARATION:

**Devotions** – Jennifer led devotions on times

**Welcome New Council Members**

**Sharing Joys & Concerns** – Prayers to the Jacobson family as they continue in their search for Ben. A member is getting their second COVID shot. P Peter has “a lead” on getting his first shot. Prayers for Dave Wilson going into surgery. Thanks to all who are active on Council. A former Bethany member who is going through Chemo for a second time. Wanda's brother, Tim is struggling with some health issues after a stroke.

**Open Forum** – none

**Election of Officers:** Slate is President Pam Crouse, VP Andrew Denison, Sec. Jennifer Nelson. **Motion** to accept slate BW/DM. Discussion – question on terms expiring at the same time but that seems ok because they won't expire in 2022 but in 2023. Motion carried. New President Pam thanked outgoing President Bill for all his leadership.

**Council Position Vacancy** – Per constitution, Rachel Engel's position has been vacated. Council concurs. Mike Diercks has accepted an appointment to fulfill the one year remaining on her term. **Motion** made to accept Mike's appointment to council to fulfill the vacated term JN/BE. Discussion – Bill pointed out our “moving too fast” error on the ballot and thanked Mike for his understanding our error. Motion carried.

**Meeting Minutes :** 1/18/2021 **Motion** to approve the January minutes BW/MB. Discussion – none. Motion carried.

**Financials:** **Motion** made to accept the financials MD/JN. Discussion – Wendy's recommendation to make an extra payment to the mortgage. We will discuss with her at our March meeting. Dept 180 street lighting, why is this so high. It is a onetime bill each January. Designated Funds – why did we pay out on HS trips in January. It was to purchase Kwik Trip cards for HS fundraising. What is Rise Up Director \$3000 budget amount for? Amy Brekke oversaw this. We believe it was a band. It is on hold right now due to COVID. Motion carried.

### INFORMATION/ACTION:

#### Old Business:

1. Updates: BIC – see minutes attached. No questions on BIC.
2. Budget Follow-up: Annual Meeting comment during budget re: P Luci's family health care package. P Luci's call letter offered full time health benefits. With P Chris's work with Partners in Faith/Trinity, Bethany has benefitted by sharing half the cost of family coverage with PIF paying the other half. With the transition in PIF at this time, they are no longer paying half and Bethany is now charged with paying the full amount. The total benefit is approx. \$2000/month. We had been paying ½ thus this will be an increase of \$1000/month to our budget until PIF can go back to sharing this amount. Some concern raised about the logistics of the payments, but we believe there are protocols in place to catch any issues quickly.
3. Budget Forum – we were hoping to have Wendy here tonight, which she agreed to, but we had to postpone that to March due to time constraints. This item will be put on the agenda for March with the hope that Wendy will be able to join us then.

4. Call Committee – Pam updated the list of potential call committee candidates. How were the names gathered? Some were self-nominated; some were recommended other were approached. **Motion** made to approve the addition of Melissa Tomesh and Laura Doberiner to the Call Committee as voting members and Jennifer Jenkinson as an alternate. BW/BE Discussion – none. Motion carried – 1 dissent vote.
5. Safely Regathering Task Force update – NEW GUESTS joining: Mark Nymo, Amy Brekke, Pat McCann, Melissa Tomesh and Angie Buchli, all from the SRTF. Welcome to our guests. Mark began topic with an intro. Back at the beginning the TF decided to make these decisions with data, not opinion. The TF decided to use two pieces of data, number of cases and % of positive cases. What will phase 2 look like? Phase 2 is 25% of room capacity, Sanctuary approx. 75, Gathering Room approx. 25, service length to be shorter, no more than 30 minutes, no gathering before/after, 6 foot distance maintained, masks required, reservation system needed, greeters needed to record who's there to coordinate with RSVP list, ushers needed to seat people and dismiss, only use Newton St. entrance, worship leaders would enter onto the pulpit, singing is considered a high risk behavior for spreading the COVID virus through aerosols so no group singing is recommended at this time, no responsive prayer, removal of items from pews to limit things being handled repeatedly. Would we need to clean the pews between services? Probably, yes. Phase 3 is expected to be recommended when new cases are at or below 10/100K and would increase worship capacity to 50%. May not change actual worship practices much. How did we decide on 30 minutes? We used multiple sources and 2 of the 3 recommended the 30-minute time frame. **Motion** made to accept the task force's recommendation to move to Phase 2 with an anticipated effective date of 2/28. JN/BW. Discussion – Would the 8am service still be an hour? Yes, but that will be unattended. The live versions would be at a different time and would be a different format. This information will go to Staff and Worship/Music tomorrow. Mark noted that the SRFT will continue to meet and monitor the data and changing guidance, but if viral spread worsens, we may need to revert to more restricted options again.

**Motion** made to extend meeting until 8:00 pm. BE/BW. Discussion – none.

Motion was re-read, no more discussion. Motion carried.

**Staff Reports:** attached. Question about Pastor Peter's new Navy assignment...just a new assignment, he's not leaving. If/when he does travel to his fleet for any Navy days, it will be in a new location.

**Committees Reports:** attached, Question is about Amy's Communication Specialist idea. Amy is able to do an internship with her current school assignment here at Bethany that will look at communication. **Committee**

**Assignments:** Please email Exec committee what your interests are for committee assignments by Monday 2/22

#### **New Business:**

1. Property Committee Request: One of the Heat exchangers went down. The bid came in today. We have 2 boilers. Under normal temps, one boiler can heat the entire building but under these cold temps we are concerned about 1 boiler needing to keep up. Point of reference, boiler 1s heat exchanger was replaced in 2014. Train has NOT recommended to replace the entire boiler...they feel we can do well at replacing just the heat exchanger. **Motion** made to accept the TRANE bid of up to \$20,000 to replace the heat exchanger as soon as we can. BW/DM. Discussion – how are we going to pay for it? Wendy had said it will come out of the building fund, Dawn indicated that fund has approximately \$90k in it. Motion carried.
2. Property Committee: A recommendation was made that the building interior needs to be painted. A group from Property Committee did a walk through and identified what they thought needed to be painted. In addition, some contractors came out and did an assessment of what needed to be painted as well. **Motion** made to accept the bid from White Thermal Coating of \$19742. MD/MB. Discussion – Do we need to add some room in case of over runs? It was decided we do not. The bid states that it includes all materials, labor etc. Motion carried.
3. Transition Task Force Report – Given the time (approximately 7:00pm) the Council concurred that this agenda item will be rescheduled to a Special Meeting, tentatively Monday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> 5:30 – 6:30pm. Thanks to the TTF that was waiting for this agenda item tonight.

**Motion** moved to adjourn BE/MD. Discussion – none. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Executive Council Meeting:** Tuesday 3/9/2021 @ 10:30am

**Council Meeting:** Monday 3/15/21 @ 5:30p

**Assignments:**

**Mar Devotions:** Andy Denison

**Apr Devotions:** **TBD**