

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

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

MINUTES from: Monday, June 21, 2021 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: P = Present A = Absent

Mal Bailey – A	Wanda Bock - P	Tami Bowman – P	Pam Crouse – A
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 – A			

STAFF MEMBERS: Amy Brekke, Dawn Paul

PREPARATION:

Devotions – Alexa led devotions from the book *The Space Between Us* by Sarah Bauer Anderson.

Sharing Joys & Concerns – *Deb's daughter got married. The day was great! Amy is happy that the first Bethany on the Go event had over 200 people attend. It was a fun night! Dawn was honored to have P Berg & Roxie over for lunch. He's doing really well. Andy was thankful for P Greg here last Sunday.*

Bill Evans shared a prayer.

Approval of the Agenda: **Motion** to approve the agenda. DM/BE Discussion – none. Motion carried.

Open Forum– none

Meeting Minutes : **Motion** to approve the May minutes. AD/WB Discussion: MD added as the 2nd for the amendment to the first motion regarding the agenda. Under item #2 change Mortgage Fund to Building fund. Motion carried.

Financials: **Motion** made to accept the financials. DS/BE Discussion – none. **Motion** carried.

INFORMATION/ACTION:

Old Business:

1. Call Committee Update – Jennifer updated that the committee is now working on narrowing down our questions for potential candidates. We will begin meeting every month on the 2nd Monday at 5:30. MSP is at synod...we are in waiting game. We will be meeting soon to begin going over interview questions.
2. Audit Update: Dawn has been working with Mike Bock. They have started the process. He hopes to have a report to the Council in July. Thank you Mike for taking on this task!
3. Transition Task Force Roll-Out Update: Deb began by reporting on the minutes from May 14th. To clarify, these were just our thoughts from the past two Cross Talks. We felt that the RIC, ELCA/ Social issues have had enough voice for now. We will do more Council Cross Talks but transition to other topics. Lay leadership, Deacon vs Assoc Pastor, What's happening at Bethany? What happens at a typical Council meeting? What is the Trust Fund? Budget/financial health? Status of Strategic Planning? This update led to much discussion:
 - a. We need to have a conversation about RIC as a Council so that the Council can be united in our communications going forward.
 - b. The difference between a Pastor and a Deacon was discussed. A Pastor is trained in Word and Sacrament. A Deacon is trained in Word and Service.
 - c. Have we addressed what we heard from the congregation during the Cross Talks? The two CT had been an opportunity for members to voice their concerns but have we, Council, responded to those concerns?
 - d. Are we creating a problem by having these CTs?
 - e. What are the actual concerns?
 - f. Are the four Commitments from Reconciling Works *Requirements* or *Recommendations*.
 - g. Some think we are in organizational conflict at this time, and we can't effectively deal with any small issues until we address the conflict.
 - h. Isn't Council the Leadership body of the church? As such, we need to unite before we can go forward.

- i. Can we provide all Council members with copies of the book that Alexa did her devotion from? This book would be a good tool for us.
- j. We will do an email chain to try and find a date prior to July 19th with the topic being addressing the conflict within Bethany so that Council can go forward with a united front.

New Business:

1. Pastor Peter – Bill gave an update on the Interim contract. The current contract can go month to month after August if Pastor P and us are in agreement. **Motion** made to authorize an extension of PP's interim contract. BE/DM Discussion – Will extending his contract *discourage* the Synod from acting quickly on our Call Process? 9 yes, 1 no. Motion carries.

DS/AG **motion** made to extend meeting 20 minutes. Discussion – none. 9 yes, 1 no. Motion carries.

2. Green Space – Amy included information about this with her Council Report. We would need to approve her question about forming a Task Force. **Motion** made to approve the formation of a Green Space Task Force. JN/DS Discussion – who would be on the TF? Amy has made some suggestions in her report about whom would be a good fit. Do you already have any names? No, waiting for Council approval. Would TF present to Council before they do stuff? Yes. Motion Carries

Staff Reports: attached.

Committees Reports: attached. Amy likes the idea of Council trying to communicate better but has a little concern over using the “Cross Talk” title. This may be confusing going forward. Deb pointed out that the “name” of these events was discussed at the last Roll Out meeting and will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Security Update – Mal has an update that will get emailed out. Currently he is looking for helpers! Dave and Bill will check in with Mal to add their help/support.

Motion made to adjourn. MN/DS Discussion – none. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Council Meeting: Tuesday 7/13/2021 @ 10:30am

Council Meeting: Monday 7/19/21 @ 5:30p

Assignments:

July Devotions: Deb Slagstad

July Collections: Deb Slagstad