

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

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

Prior to August Council Meeting Email vote on RIC letter. This letter originated at the 7/12/2021 Special Council Meeting where Brad W volunteered to write the 1st draft. That draft was then presented and discussed at our 7/19/2021 Regular Council Meeting. Agreement at 7/19/2021 meeting was to continue to revise and ultimately vote on the letter via email so that we could get the letter out prior to our next regularly scheduled council meeting. After many emails, Revision #6 was presented for approval. Motion 10 yes, 2 abstain and 1 non-vote.

Prior to August Council Meeting Email vote on P.Peter's contract extension. Pam presented the contract extension, via email on 8/3/2021. Motion 11 yes, 2 non-votes

Prior to August Council Meeting Email vote on SRTF Recommendation from their 8/4/2021 meeting. Motion made to approve the guidelines as recommended by the SRTF on 8/4/2021. DS/MN – some discussion/clarification occurred via email with responses from SRTF chair, Mark Nymo. Motion carried 10 yes, 3 non-votes.

MINUTES from: Monday, Aug 16, 2021 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: P = Present A = Absent

Mal Bailey – P	Wanda Bock - P	Tami Bowman – A	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 Peter, Amy Brekke & Dawn Paul

PREPARATION:

Devotions – Mal led a devotional from Ephesians 4:28.

Sharing Joys & Concerns –A member's brother was admitted to the hospital with Covid. He is fully vaccinated. Donna Grilley passed away. Call Committee, raise them up in prayer and thanksgiving.

Pastor Peter shared a prayer.

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

Open Forum– none

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the July minutes. BE/BW - Discussion: a question from last month about lead pastor budget numbers off...Pastor P took a few days of unpaid leave during his longer Navy commitment in June. Motion carried.

Financials: Motion made to accept the financials. BW/BE - Discussion - General Gift Fund, \$110,000 was deposited. This fund is for undesignated gifts. The majority of the large gift was from an estate of a deceased member. The gift was not designated for anything. Pastor Grant was here at the time that we were notified of the gift. Who decides where that gift goes? It goes to General Gift Fund until it is decided on where to use the funds. What is the Memorial Gift Fund? This fund is used when someone passes, and family/friends make a donation in honor of the deceased. This gift was left per the member's estate. Perhaps Council and/or Finance Committee should have a further discussion about this. This will be added to next month's agenda. Recent paving project has not yet been paid. The Building Fund has a balance of approx. 13K the bid for the parking lot is \$17k. Where will those extra funds come from? As a result of the \$25k mortgage pay down that we voted on in May, that fund is down some (we also had to pay the painter and the boiler in addition to the extra \$25k). Pam and Dawn will discuss the options. Motion carried.

Book Study: postponed until September meeting

Call Committee: Guests present: Carol Hakala, Dave Wilson, Laura Doebereiner, Melissa Tomesh

Pastor Peter began this section with a prayer. Carol led with a thank you to Council. We, the Call Committee, are also so appreciative of the opportunity to serve in this way.

Presentation of Candidate – Council watched a video introduction from the candidate. Carol then asked each Call Committee member to comment. All comments from CC were overwhelmingly positive. Brad commented he has interviewed many, many times in his work life and values the first impression a lot. His first impression was very positive. We contacted 5 references and all 5 were supportive and positive. The timing of this, should he be called? Probably realistic that he would be here around late October/early November. Did CC ask him about engaging congregational members, specifically disgruntled members? Yes, we did. One answer from candidate was that he would like to begin by meeting members in small groups. One thing he would like to do is make another “in-person” visit to Rice Lake to meet with Staff and to meet with Council. Can we (Council) view his RLP? Carol will double check, but probably that is OK. How many pastors has CC interviewed? We received 2 RLPs and did initial interviews with both. What do we think about his connection to youth ministries? Very positive! He’s very supportive of our mission to grow young as well has been very involved with youth in his previous ministries. **Motion** made to affirm the CC’s recommendation to call the candidate. BW/MB – Discussion – none. Motion carried. Call Committee guests left the meeting at 6:43pm.

INFORMATION/ACTION:

Old Business:

1. **Audit Report:** Guest present: Mike Bock joined the meeting at 6:44pm. Mike presented his results. In terms of the Trust Fund, it was discussed that this group should have more interaction with Business Manager, Treasurer and Council. Records retention and consistency would benefit with a more uniform connection with the office/council. Dawn commented that she thought it was reasonable to make implement these recommendations. A discussion was had about designated funds. Is there a better way to go about using designated funds. Perhaps the better way to go about this would be to document in council minutes when we take funds out of specific DFs and transfer them to the “main” df that will be used for that bigger project and then when the final invoice is paid out, it is paid out of ONE df.

7:03pm **Motion** made to extend the meeting 30 minutes BW/WB – Discussion – none. Motion carried.

We may want to look at hiring an outside accounting firm to do “a review of the agreed upon accounting procedures”. This is not a formal audit but could be done less expensively. Mike left the meeting at 7:10pm

2. **TTF Roll-Out Team** – Deb began with asking about postponing the August 25th previously scheduled Council Cross Talk. There were no comments against postponing so Deb will get info out to the congregation notifying them that event will be postponed. Also, is the TTF Roll-Out team done? Have we completed what we were set out to do? This topic will be revisited at the September Council meeting.
3. **Tent Funding** – Due to spike in COVID numbers, Worship and Music would like to continue having the 10am church services outside as long as we can. Can we extend the tent rental? How will we fund it? Amy indicated that Trust Fund has stepped forward and offered to fund another \$2500 towards tent rental. Tent is available. Amy is waiting on confirmation of cost. Sounds like it will be a go!
4. **Pavilion Update** – postponed
5. **Pastoral Workload & Support** – postponed

New Business:

1. **Budget Related to Call Committee:** Dawn and Pam reviewed the budget proposal for the Lead Pastor candidate’s compensation package. The proposal is pretty straightforward per Synod rules. **Motion** made to allow Pam to move forward with the presented compensation package to the candidate. DS/BW – Discussion – none. Motion carried.

Staff Reports: attached. Bill commented on Amy’s report. Excellent report!

Committees Reports: attached.

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

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Council Meeting: Tuesday 9/14/2021 @ 10:30am

Council Meeting: Monday 9/20/21 @ 5:30p

Assignments:

Sept Devotions: Wanda Bock

Sept Collections: Wanda Bock