

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

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

*Prior to September Council meeting there was an email vote. **Motion** to approve the compensation package as presented by Pam via email on 8/31/2021. DS/JN – discussion – we should try to get an estimate of moving allowance expenses prior to annual meeting. Motion carried 12 yes, 1 non-vote.*

MINUTES from: Monday, Sept 20, 2021 (prepared by Jennifer Nelson)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: P = Present A = Absent **MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**

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

STAFF MEMBERS: Pastor Peter, Amy Brekke, Angie Buchli & Dawn Paul

GUESTS PRESENT: Bea Evans present through Book Study

PREPARATION:

Devotions – Wanda led a devotional from Matthew 6:34.

Sharing Joys & Concerns – being able to be present for this meeting while also being present with family in CO. Joyful of our Call to Pastor Arthur. 3 month old grandson rolled over for the first time. Thankful for the process and work of all the past 13 months. Prayers for our community as COVID continues to be on the rise.

Pastor Peter shared a prayer.

Approval of the Agenda: **Motion** to approve the agenda BW/MB - Discussion – add Secretary update to agenda. Motion carried.

Open Forum– none

Meeting Minutes: **Motion** to approve the August minutes BW/BE – Discussion – further discussion of the gift usage, is that on our agenda for tonight? Yes. Motion carried.

Financials: **Motion** made to accept the financials BW/AG - Discussion - none. Motion carried.

Book Study: Bea led our book discussion tonight. We discussed chapters 1-3.

INFORMATION/ACTION:

Secretary Update: Jennifer updated on keeping track of Council email decisions/votes in between meetings and will also keep track of how the meeting is held (in person, Zoom etc.)

Old Business:

Congregational Meeting Follow-Up: Congratulations to Bethany on the 96% yes vote to call Pastor Arthur Bergren. P Bergren has given a verbal acceptance to Pam and paperwork has been sent to the Synod Office already. Pam reviewed the “Compensation Worksheet” that goes to the Synod and P Bergren, specifically the “Other Provisions” section. Also, big Thank You to Leah, Dave Wilson and Amy...as well as any others who helped to do a fantastic job of a Hybrid Congregational Meeting.

TTF Roll Out: - Council Corner Live is scheduled 10/31. This appears to be the only 5th Sunday as the others are all on or around holidays. Should we sunset the TTF Roll Out group? If we do, who will organize the 10/31 meeting? Brad indicated that Cross Talks have been canceled for all of fall due to COVID. The TTF Roll Out group will be disbanded and Thank you to all of their work.

Facebook Policy: Wanda opened up the discussion. Questions from the floor: Do we want to limit our FB policy to only things sponsored by or held at Bethany? What about Benjamin's House? What about other ELCA opportunities, EPIC, National Youth Gathering? Etc. Do we have staff to handle this? We don't seem to be able to get even our own activities on there...how can we add more? Our current page seems a little untended. **Motion** made to approve the FB policy as presented with the change of “Publications Specialist” to “FB Administrators” 7 yes, 2 nays 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Pavilion Update: Dave not present so item is postponed to next month.

Building Fund and expenses: The Monarch bill for the parking lot repair was paid out of the General Gift Fund. This fund is an undesignated fund. Normally this would have come out of the Building Fund but that fund ended not having enough funds. What makes up the General Gift Fund? No PPP money is in there. A large anonymous donation makes up a lot of that fund. The gift was unrestricted and could be used for any unbudgeted item.

Motion to extend the meeting for 30 minutes DS/WB – 9 yes, 1 no. Motion carried.

Can we recheck that the anonymous gift was intended for General Gift Fund and not intended to be in the Memorial Fund? Memorial Fund as well as General Gift are both non-designated funds so the net effect would be the same. P Peter and Dawn both agree that the intent of the donor was for the gift to be non-designated.

New Business:

P. Peter's contract extension: Pam sent the contract via email before our meeting. **Motion** made to approve the contract extension as presented. BE/WB – discussion – per the contract, P Peter would be done 10/31 and P Bergren would begin on 11/15. This is typical per Synod guidelines. Is there a potential to have an overlap of both Pastors? This is NOT typical. It is usually preferred to have a buffer between Interim and new Pastors. All in favor. Motion carried.

Staff Reports: attached

Committees Reports: Question in terms of how the finance committee operates...can any changes or updates they make to the budget proposals be brought back to the respective committees before the final budget goes to the Council? Yes. Dawn will make a note of this. In terms of "help" to get us through the transition of a new Pastor and in terms of the lack in numbers from COVID. If you are interested in pursuing this topic, please email Pam. She will get a group together (quickly) to meet and continue the discussion of the potential for a second Pastor.

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

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Council Meeting: Tuesday 10/12/2021 @ 10:30am

Council Meeting: Monday 10/18/21 @ 5:30p

Assignments:

Oct Devotions: Tami Bowman

Oct Collections: Tami Bowman 8am

Pam Crouse 10am