

Bethany Lutheran Church Council Meeting

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

MINUTES from: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 (prepared by Wanda Bock)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: P= Present A=Absent Z=Zoom

Jodi Babineau-P	Jack Berkseth-P	Wanda Bock-P
Bill Evans-P	Ted Hakala-P	Bun Hanson-P
Audrey Kusilek-P	Dave Myre-P	Tammy Roberg-P
Mike Diercks-Z	Mackenzie Narins-A	

STAFF MEMBERS:Pastor Arthur

PREPARATION:

Devotions: Audrey led devotions with "We are all here".

Sharing Joys and Concerns: Prayers requested for Tim, Larry, Sherm, and Greg for health concerns, for family and friends of Dave's friend Jim who recently passed away, for Diane as she cares for Vern who has alzheimer's disease, and for Bethany church staff for health and strength during this Lenten season.

Pastor Arthur offered an opening prayer.

Approval of the Agenda: Wanda requests to add cemetery clean up to the New Business and take approval of the special meeting minutes from February off the agenda as they have already been approved. Motion to approve the agenda. Motion to approve agenda as amended. TH/BH Motion passes.

Approval of the Council Minutes February 21, 2023: Motion to approve February meeting minutes. DM/BH Discussion-none. Motion passes.

Financial Report: Deb Slagstad reports there are no financial reports printed but January and February are balanced as of today. Wendy needs to do some work before they will be ready to be shared with the council. Deb will send out these reports to the council as soon as they are complete. Deb assures us that income looks OK. Deb also wants us to be informed about funds coming into Bethany from Thrivent. Contributions are generally put into the general fund but our members are able to have their portion of the contribution put into the fund of their choice. They do need to come forward before March 31 to make their choice known. Otherwise, it goes into the general budget. Ted brings up possibly putting some of the money in the designated funds into some sort of account that will pay more interest. This will be added to New Business. The contract for the tent has been received and has gone up some from last year. The anonymous donor is still willing to pay for half of the rental. Thanks was expressed to Deb for all of her work since Dawn resigned. Pastor Arthur informed us that Deb has been compensated with a stipend for her travel expenses as a way to say thank you. Deb excused herself from the meeting.

Guest Committee: None

CLOSED SESSION:

OLD BUSINESS:

Update from ETC (Employment Transition Committee): Pastor Arthur reports that Lee Shores has been hired as interim cleaner. She is working 20 hours per week. Amy is helping train her. Pastor Arthur says Lee is doing a great job and brings a positive attitude to staff. She may be a long term solution to that position.

NEW BUSINESS:

Appointment of New Council Members: Motion to appoint Tammy Lundquist and Pat McCann to fill the open positions on the council until the annual meeting in January 2024. TR/DM. Discussion-none. Motion passes.

Council Meeting Dates/Time: Next meeting Monday, April 17 at 5:30 p.m. Motion made to move council meetings to the second Monday of the month. BH/TH. Discussion- Dave reports the Property committee has agreed to move from the second Monday to the first Monday of the month so there will be no conflict with moving our meeting dates. Motion passes. Council meetings will be held the second Monday of the month starting in May.

Investing Designated Funds: Ted makes a motion to recommend the Finance Committee look into investing some/all of the designated funds into some kind of interest bearing account that we could access if needed. TH/BH. Discussion. The money is currently in a money market account. Possibly look at a CD? Some of the funds would be left in the money market account account so it is easily accessible. Motion passes. Pastor Arthur and Audrey will speak with Wendy about this.

Cemetery Clean-up: We received a letter from the City of Rice Lake Community Services Department. They are asking for volunteers this spring to help with clean-up of the cemeteries. The heavy snow this winter did a lot of tree damage. General consensus is that we think the congregation will be willing to help. We will put an announcement in the bulletin when we get a date from the city as to when they are planning clean-up. There was a question about liability and it was felt there would be no liability for Bethany as it is a volunteer situation off site.

INFORMATION

Guest Committee Schedule: Amy is scheduled to present a report on Mission Outreach in April. Angie is scheduled for May. We will schedule Personnel for later in the year.

Church Lock-up Procedures: Audrey passed out a new procedure for church lock up. Look it over and we will discuss and look for approval at our next meeting. It was brought up by Bill that auto lights in some areas of the church would be something to consider. Dave will check with the Property Committee to see if that could be done.

REPORTS:

Staff Reports: See reports. Also, Pastor Arthur shares that he is really enjoying his ministry here. We have moved past some of the hard times we were experiencing.

Committee Reports: See reports. Dave reports that the Property Committee is working with Trane to see what can be done to keep temperatures in the building from fluctuating so much. One solution may be to keep doors to many of the rooms shut. Audrey reports the Worship Arts Committee is working on a new sign to be located in the parking lot in the planter. They have an estimate of \$3500 from Perfect Image. Amy and Angie are working on ideas and will run it by Pastor Arthur who will then have Leah work on the actual design.

Motion to adjourn. BE/BH. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETINGS:

April Council Meeting: Monday, April 17, 2023 5:30 p.m.

April Executive Team: Monday, April 3, 2023 5:30-6:30 p.m.

April Devotions: Ted Hakala

April Offering/Lock Up: 8:00 a.m. ???

10:00 a.m. Tammy Roberg

DRAFT