

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, February 21, 2023 (prepared by Wanda Bock)

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

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

STAFF MEMBERS:Pastor Arthur

PREPARATION:

Devotions: Dave led devotions with "Have a Good Day".

Sharing Joys and Concerns:Prayers requested for Rebecca and Bob for health concerns, for family and friends of Doug who recently passed away, to keep cattle safe during the upcoming storm, and for Bethany church staff for health and strength during this upcoming Lenten season.

Pastor Arthur offered an opening prayer.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda. BH/JB Discussion. Add Worship and Music request for \$6,000 for tent to new business. Take hiring of a temporary person to fill the interim position off the agenda as both candidates have withdrawn. Property would like to address black top bid. Motion carried.

Council Resignations: Deb Slagstad is resigning her position on council as she is heading up the Employment Transition Team and this will require a significant amount of time. Wanda read a letter we received from Alexa Giddings. It states her resignation from council. Motion to accept resignations. DM/TH.Motion passes.

Election of Officers: Call for nominations for president. Dave Myre nominates Audrey Kusilek for president. Call for further nominations. None offered. Motion to accept nomination. BH/MD. Discussion-none. Audrey Kusilek is elected by unanimous voice vote. Call for nominations for vice-president. Dave Myre nominates Mike Diercks for VP. Call for further nominations. None offered. Motion to accept nomination. DM/TR. Discussion-none. Mike Diercks is elected by unanimous voice vote. Call for nominations for Secretary. Mike Diercks nominates Wanda Bock. Call for further nominations. None offered. Motion to accept nomination. BH/AK. Discussion-none. Wanda Bock is elected by unanimous voice vote. Audrey motions to elect Wendy Markgren and Joe Erickson as co-treasurers. Motion to accept nomination. WB/BH. Discussion-none. Wendy and Joe are elected by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes January 16, 2023: Motion made to approve the January meeting minutes. MD/BH. Discussion- none. Motion passes.

Approval of Special Council Meeting Minutes February 6, 2023: Motion made to approve the special meeting minutes.TH/JB. Discussion-none. Motion carried. 10 yes, 1 abstain.

Approval of online Vote RE: Hiring of CLA Accounting firm February 9, 2023: Motion to accept the online vote accepting the hiring of CLA to help with accounts payable and payroll. DM/TH. Discussion- Mike asks if online voting is an acceptable way to pass items. Pastor A says that through covid it has been established that the Synod and Bethany consider online voting as acceptable. Motion passes.

Financial Report: No reports this month since Dawn has left. Working to get interim in place to do this.

Guest Committee. Green Team. See written report by Wanda Bock

OLD BUSINESS

Updated Process for Handling and Recording Offerings: Audey and Tammy have presented an updated policy for our review. Motion to approve. TH/BH. Discussion-none. Motion passes. Dave suggests we may need a protocol or advice on what needs to be done for lock up of the church following the second service. Pastor Arthur will check with staff and come up with a list of things to be done.

Bids for Blacktop: Dave (property committee rep) reports that we still don't have a price for the striping and sealing that needs to be done this summer. That will be forthcoming. We did receive a bid to do the clearing away and blacktopping of the east part of the parking lot from Monarch for \$24,731. This is almost \$2,000 less than the bid we had last year. Bid is only good for one week after today with work to be done this summer. Motion to accept the bid. JB/DM. Discussion. Ted feels we should wait on this until we see how the budget looks later in the year. Dave notes funding for this comes out of the building fund and not the general budget. Discussion. Call to vote. 8 yes, 3 no. Motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Worship Schedule: Worship and Music Committee is asking for approval to change Sunday worship times when they coincide with the holiday with Pastors approval. Motion to approve. TR/BH. Discussion. Pastor A states he is hesitant to change service times because people may show up for worship at the wrong times. He is willing to consider this as it comes up. Motion passes.

Tent: Music and Worship is requesting \$6,000 from the general gift fund to use for the tent this summer. A member has offered the remaining \$6,000 needed. The plan is to hold Sunday 10:00 services and bible studies outdoors. We will look for other ways to utilize the tent. Motion to approve \$6,000 to pay for tent rental from the general gift fund. TH/TR. Discussion- Could we use money from another designated fund? Maybe Weddings or Facility Deposits? It was felt right now was not a good time to use those funds since we don't have input from Dawn and we are in transition with financial reporting. Motion passes.

INFORMATION

Guest Committee Schedule: Personnel committee has asked to be moved to later in the year so we will not have a guest committee report in March.

Council Meeting Times: Audrey requests moving meeting times as she and Bun are on the county board and many of the meetings coincide on the third Mondays. Could we move the executive meeting to the first Monday and regular council to the second Monday at 5:30? Dave states that Property meets on the second Monday but he will check and see if they are willing to move their meeting date and report back next month. We will still plan to meet on Tuesday March 21st for our next meeting. More discussion next month.

Movin' Out Update: Ted and Pastor Arthur had a video chat with Kathryn Auerback, executive director. She was surprised and grateful to have our offer to help them in this process. They are probably starting sometime in June. There will be 47 units. We are encouraged to think of ways we can welcome them.

Sign Up Sheets: Sign up sheets for Offering/Lockup and also devotions are circulated around the table. Audrey will also send out an email for committee sign ups.

Office coverage: Question is raised on how we are covering the office in Dawn's absence. Who is covering the phone? Pastor Arthur expects messages to be answered within 24 hrs. Do we need volunteers or a temp agency? A temp agency would provide better continuity. A new phone system that would transfer calls would be helpful. That is something to be looked at in the future. Pastor Arthur will ask the staff for their recommendations.

New Council Members: Next month we will look at choosing new council members. Look at the constitution for rules regarding this. We need new members to help with committee assignments.

HandyMan: Has the Property Committee looked at candidates for the handyman position? Dave says not yet. Pastor Arthur would like to be a part of the interview process. He will supervise the person who is hired and the property committee can suggest tasks needing to be done.

REPORTS

Staff reports: See reports

Committee Reports: See reports.

Meeting Adjourned. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

NEXT MEETINGS:

March Council Meeting- Tuesday, March 21, 2023 5:30 p.m.

March Executive Meeting- Thursday, March 2, 2023 9:00 a.m.

March Devotions- Audrey

March Offering: 8:00

10:00 Tammy