

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Traverse City Michigan

“We journey with God to serve with love”

MINUTES TO CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: June 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Maureen Bauer, acting President called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: was said by Cindy Monroe relating Luke 10:27 to 4C's: connect to Christ, Come to health in God, courageous in Love, collaboration

QUORUM CALL: acting Secretary Cindy Monroe; Maureen Bauer, Denice Bossardet, Pastor Paul Busekist, Gail Goldsmith via ZOOM, Laura Hahn, Jim Hinds, Jana Rockne, Paul Wiemerslage. Scott Farley excused (Leonard Graf & Jim Monroe-BLC officers but not voting members of council)

VISITORS OR CONGREGATIONAL COMMENT: Nancy Ammann brought up 2 main issues:

1. Consideration to return Sunday School to a longer time, perhaps at 9:00. Some have felt that the shortened time has shortchanged the kids. The change this past year did not significantly “grow” Sunday School. Discussion: will the kids who are coming keep coming if the time is longer and earlier? If at 9:00, there should be an activity for parents. Annie should be involved in the discussion, and Paul W will send out email seeking input from parents of school age kids. Continue discussion next meeting.
2. Request to resume Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation after the service-given the ok. Will rely on volunteers with assistance from Nancy and hopefully Laura and her Fellowship Committee and others.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Denice made the motion to approve the agenda & Laura seconded. Approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM May 17, 2022: Cindy made the motion to approve the minutes with 1 correction Pastor Paul seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

REPORTS: PRESIDENT'S REPORT: none

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Working on covering the office on days when paid staff is not available. Thanks to all volunteers especially Hahns and Grafs.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Paul reports:

*Continued member engagement w/ visits and phone calls, especially birthday greetings

*Setting personal goals in “Discern by Doing”

*Looking to remainder of 2022 to set time for monthly traditional service (Second Sunday), Third Thursday, and increasing Food Pantry visibility. Motion for 3rd Thursday service made by Denice, 2nd by Jim H and approved.

*Consider reducing size of council based on “best practices”

* Planning a few times away.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Leonard Graff reports we spent \$3000+ more than budgeted, but we are making it up. Fortunately, one driver's training program has taken the place of the program that left.

Financial Secretary Report: Jim Monroe reports May was a good month for contributions, but not as good as April. Unpledged income is 200+% over expected.

COVID update: Positivity rating is no longer reliable so need to be aware of the CDC guidelines. When air purifiers are working doors should be closed so that the space to be “cleaned” is confined.

CONSENT CALENDAR: COMMITTEE REPORTS: The committee reports are; Treasurer's report; Financial Secretary's report; Financial and Executive Committee report; Christian Care; Fellowship; Membership and Evangelism; Personnel; Property; Stewardship; Worship and Music; Youth/Y2A; Endowment Fund (quarterly); and Sustaining Endowment Memorial Fund (quarterly). All reports are submitted and on file. Personnel had 10 names from INDEED to consider for office position, but only actual contact with 2 to date.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Sunday School update:** discussed in visitor section; need further info from others.
- B. **Refresh Committee Update:** last meeting to be held on June 26. All pledges should be in by July 15
- C. **Security Plan-Building locks update/cameras:** The lock work is completed, there are limited amounts of keys. The door for the food pantry items was not re-keyed. Leonard will check on this. The report back from property members is that the whole camera system is outdated. The magnetic switch on the front door is inoperable. Men's work group will discuss what the specific needs are with the camera system.
- D. **Ad updates in STAR:** no report
- E. **Purchase of fellowship hall tables:** Leonard will follow-up on this

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Nominations/elections for Council Officers:**
President-Gail Goldsmith
Vice-president-Maureen Bauer
Secretary-Jana Rockne
Treasurer-Leonard Graf
Financial Secretary-Jim Monroe
 Other council members continue to represent their previous committees:
 Christian Care-Jim Hinds
 Christian Ed/Youth/Y2A-Paul Wiemerslage
 Fellowship-Laura Hahn
 Membership/Evangelism-Cindy Monroe
 Personnel-Maureen Bauer
 Property (Jim H will try to find a volunteer from men's group for monthly report)
 Stewardship-Scott Farley
 Worship and music-Denice Bossardet
- B. "pilot" for a 1 yr council member-would this be a way to have another volunteer if the initial time commitment was only 1 year? Shouldn't there be a rep from property? Can there just be a volunteer for a monthly report? Pastor Paul has info that says we have a "Large" council. Tabled until next time. Would need to change bylaws to modify from our current expected 10 elected members.
- C. Exit and security plan: much discussion. Jana made motion that BLC appoint an ad hoc committee for safety and security. Seconded in unison by Paul W & Denice. Passed.
- D. By-law and handbook modifications-NEEDED! The synod provides guidelines.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: A time for general/undocumented comments by each Council Member, if so desired. Welcome back to re-elected Cindy and Paul W, and a warm welcome to our new member Jana.

LORD'S PRAYER: said by all

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Monroe,

Substitute Council Secretary (one and done!!)