

Bethel Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Minutes
April 10, 2019

Council members in attendance: Pastor David Young (Worship Board Chair) (PD), Traci Shoberg (President), Tom Milburn (Secretary), Beth Garner (Servant), Vonda Wilt (Prayer and Care), Mike Asmussen (Learning Ministries), John Frederickson (Ministry Support), and Ella Carlson (Youth Ambassador). Absent: Julie Shanabrook (Vice President) and Rose Mangold Pierce.

Staff in attendance: Pat Shields (Parish Administrator), Bryan Jaster (Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation), and Kim Williams (Treasurer/Director of Finance).

Opening Devotions – Led by PD.

Call to Order approximately 7:12pm by President Shoberg.

Minutes and Reports

1. Approved Parish Administrator to attend Council meetings as non-voting member. Motion - John Frederickson. Second - Vonda Wilt. Unanimously approved.
2. Approved March 13, 2019 Council minutes. Motion – PD. Second – John Frederickson. Unanimously approved.
3. Financial Report presented by Kim Williams.
 - a. Reviewed monthly giving trends through March. Noted two large gifts/offering in March.
 - b. Updated line of credit application process. Kim working with bank to complete process – very in depth.
 - c. Reviewed and discussed Worship Attendance report.
 - d. Motion to accept Financial Report – Vonda Wilt. Second – Beth Garner. Unanimously approved.
4. Pastor’s Report for March 2019. PD referenced report emailed prior to meeting. Highlighted continued excitement for Lenten services and noted that Heidi will be running for Gainesboro Board of Supervisors seat.
5. Director of Youth and Family Formation Report for March 2019. Noted report emailed prior to meeting. Discussed success of Feed the Need event and plans to make it a Virginia Synod event in future.
6. Board Reports:
 - a. Servant – Beth noted success of Bright Futures event on April 2. Another servant event for Bright Futures planned for end of April. Returning Thanks next servant event – April 19.
 - b. Prayer and Care – Vonda noted quilting ministry activity.
 - c. Ministry Support – John noted ongoing activities going well. Discussed need for some tree trimming that board is working on currently. Potential for tree work to be part of Returning Thanks.

- d. Worship – PD noted plans for prayers. Plans after Easter to begin fundraising for new piano. Organ technician has assessed the organ – noted that it was in better shape than we initially thought and did some maintenance to improve performance. Noted some new members in near future.
- e. Learning Ministries – noted people are beginning to go through background check process through Safe Gatherings.
- 7. Parish Administrator Report – noted busy beginning to the new position. Referenced report previously sent via email. Expressed gratitude for the opportunity. Also noted plans for the 90-day window to develop job descriptions and processes.
- 8. Welcomed Ella Carlson as new Youth Ambassador to Council.
 - a. Noted High School Sunday School is going well. Getting to a good balance of discussions and fun.
 - b. Youth Events are “fantastic” (Winter Celebration). Excited for Caroline Furnace, confirmation and confirmation camp.
- 9. 200th Anniversary Update – nothing new to report. Process is moving forward well.
- 10. Bethel Logo/Brand – PD gave update on process and team. Process is moving forward well with creativity surrounding story of Jacob’s Ladder/Bethel.
- 11. Personnel Committee Update – committee now formed (John Frederickson, Rachel Carlson, and Ron Lauck). Committee to develop process for job descriptions and evaluations, in a common format, with appropriate level of detail. Plans to develop goal setting process that is mutually developed and integrated. Plan is for this process to be easily replicated each year and into the future.

Discussion and Action Items

- 12. Council Member Open Positions – Liz Whitacre to complete Rose Pierce’s term through 2021 and Molly Beyer to complete David Griffin’s term through 2019. Motion – Tom Milburn. Second – John Frederickson. Unanimously approved. Traci to call candidates to let them know they have been invited.
- 13. Council unanimously passed resolution of gratitude for the faithful service of Rose Pierce and David Griffin on Congregation Council, Rose on executive committee and Dave as Congregational Life Chair. PD to let each formally know of this resolution.

Other Business and Future Discussions

- 14. Request for Bethel to have table at annual Winchester Pride Festival, June 29, 2019. Motion – John Frederickson. Second – Tom Milburn. Unanimously approved.
- 15. Noted success of Bethel on Tap restart.
- 16. PD presented draft of “New Day Initiative” for Bethel moving forward in the three-dimensional life of Jesus (Up, In, Out). Plans are still being refined but to be rolled out after Easter. Idea to coordinate Up, In, Out into stewardship process and logo/brand.

Closing

- 17. General discussion of Congregational Concerns and Thank You’s.
- 18. Closing prayer by PD.
- 19. Adjourned at 8:48pm.