

**Bethel Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Minutes
July 10, 2019**

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

Staff in attendance: Pat Shields (Parish Administrator), Kim Williams (Treasurer/Director of Finance).

Opening Devotions – Led by Vonda Wilt.

Call to Order 7:10pm by President Shoberg.

Minutes and Reports

1. Approved June 12, 2019 Council minutes. Motion by Rose P./Seconded by Vonda W. Unanimously approved.
2. June Financial Report presented by Kim Williams.
 - a. Noted behind ministry spending plan year-to-date. Staff has done a good job controlling expenses but giving is trending down.
 - b. Expenses are lower than plan and will be going forward based on staff changes. Will have better picture of how year will turn out after summer.
 - c. Pointed Council to other reports.
 - d. Motion by John F./Seconded by Beth G. Approved financial report unanimously.
3. Ella C. presented youth report. Not much activity during summer. Noted Bethel Week at Caroline Furnace is coming up. Heidi David-Young will be chaplain at camp. Heidi will also be present on Guatemala mission trip. Ella and church staff continue to meet with Bryan Jaster prior to his departure on upcoming events and other information.
4. Pastor's Report for June 2019. PD referenced report emailed prior to meeting.
 - a. Noted busy June with VBS, Synod Assembly, Confirmation Camp, planning for Bryan's departure, men's outing.
5. Board Reports:
 - a. Servant – Beth noted great volunteer turnout for Hoe Down even with mix-up with NW Works communication and competing volunteer event. Harvest Sunday is next big event (August). September 8 is God's Work Our Hands Sunday with planning under way.
 - i. Reported on success of Bethel booth at Pride Festival – prayers, candy and Bethel information shared.
 - ii. Council acknowledged the immense contribution of Sophie and Beth Garner and Lee Braithwaite in making Bethel's participation in the Pride Festival a success.

- b. Prayer and Care – Vonda noted teams are working well. PD thanked Rose for recent Nienstedt funeral that she prepared reception on holiday weekend.
 - c. Learning Ministries – Mike noted plans for more information in August meeting for Sunday School plans. Debrief on VBS and some thoughts on improvement for 2020 on a successful 2019 event.
 - d. Ministry Support – John noted Underground is wet again. He is investigating what was done with window wells and other issues with Royston. Underground did pass the mold test. Cliff Crowder is getting an estimate on how to keep the area dehumidified. Conversations will also begin with plans for the space once it is inhabitable.
6. Personnel Committee Update – John reported on meeting today.
- a. Committee has committed to future meeting time to review staff job descriptions and meetings with staff. Staff will also be asked to do a “task analysis” to compare to descriptions.
 - b. Committee also began discussions on goal setting process going forward.
7. Parish Administrator Report – Referenced report previously sent via email.
- a. Discussed Director of Youth and Family Faith Formation in interim and that position should be listed as vacant rather than dissolved. Motioned by Beth/Seconded by John. Unanimously approved.
8. Safety Committee Update – Pat Shields asked for direction from Council on development of policy by committee regarding, among other topics, a response team that would potentially carry concealed weapons. PD will approach synod and other congregations about policies in place. Council asked committee to consider non-lethal options and emergency drills. Motion by Rose/Second by Beth for committee to work to develop policy alternatives (no limitation on options regarding concealed weapons) for future consideration. Approved unanimously.
9. Line of Credit – no update available. Kim continues to work on approval process.

Discussion Items

10. Change in Worship Schedule proposal from PD. Referred to written proposal and considerations.
- a. 9:30am or 9:45am Sunday and 7:00pm Wednesday.
 - b. Council likes being responsive to our new reality, the energy, knowing our entire church family, opportunities for new ministries (on Sunday and Wednesday), ease of scheduling assistants, and potential for members to have another day for worship option.
 - c. Council would like to communicate this proposal to the Congregation to get support or concerns for potential vote later in July so that schedules and adjustments could be made in a timely manner. John F motioned that we have considered potential for adjusted worship schedule, had significant discussion, and are seeking Congregation input for Council vote by end of July. Seconded by Rose. Unanimously approved.

11. PD continued discussion from prior meetings regarding the 200th Anniversary. Noted addition of Karen Shipp to team with Jennifer Lafollette and Sarah Smith. PD provided written update for Council regarding ongoing planning.
12. General discussion of Congregational Concerns and Thank You's.
 - a. Noted passing of Marion Schottelkorb and Marion's wishes for no service. Keep family in our prayers.

Closing

13. Closing prayer by PD.
14. Adjourned at 9:15pm.