



**Council Minutes**  
 Date: 4/09/2024  
 Start:  
 7:00 pm  
 Adjourned:  
 8:35 pm

**Next Meetings:**  
 Exec Committee: 5/01/24 5:30PM  
 Council: Monday, 5/13/24 7:00PM  
**Attendees:** Pastor Dave, Rachel Carlson,  
 Lynda Grymala, Jennifer Lafollette, Bruce  
 Lothrop, John Fredericksen, Betty Puffinburger,  
 Rene Hollebrandse, Cherie Lauck



**Agenda Items**

Actual Time	<u>Topics (Estimated Time)</u>	<u>Item Details</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Actions Taken</u> <u>Deadline</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>
7 pm	Call to Order Opening Prayer		Rachel Pastor Dave			
	Consent Agenda (5 min)	Approval of Agenda March meeting minutes Staff Updates Pastor's Report*	Rachel	Pastor Dave will ask George, Jr to contribute to staff report. *John requested Pastor's report be pulled out of consent agenda to allow for discussion. Agenda items approved by acclamation.		
	Pastor's Report	List of members visited	Pastor Dave	John expressed concerns about privacy and including names in the pastor's report. Suggestion was to include total #'s only. Pastor's report approved by acclamation.		
	<b>Recurring Items</b>					
	Financial Report/Team	Financial reports BLC Campaign-update Line of Credit	Lynda & Jennifer reports from Kim	Income covered expenses in March (note: 5 Sundays with Easter) but we are still at a deficit for the year. Making progress on reducing the balance on credit line, now \$10,685.00. Will know by May meeting what bank will require for renewing LOC or converting to a fixed rate mortgage loan. Jennifer suggested it would be helpful if financial data printed in the bulletin was current rather than being a month behind. All agreed but the impediment is that financials must be approved by council before publication. Financial reports approved by acclamation.		
	Facility Update	Underground HVAC Septic lines and tank	George Sr / Kim	Estimates from 2-3 companies will be sourced	due May meeting	P.D. will follow up with George, Sr.

				Betty expressed concerns with grounds maintenance and appearance. Shrubs/bushes should be trimmed, mulch spread, weeds pulled, etc. Cherie mentioned steeple is in bad shape. Cleaning and repairs needed.		
Communications Team	Written report provided	Cherie & Bruce		Bruce gave overview of written report and new communication form. Pointed out Nina has been a huge help with framing realistic expectations. Asked for help from council teams to share communication options for promoting activities. Rene cautioned against pushing too much as opposed to "pulling" info to see what people want help with. Cherie gave TW@B presentation, asking for input on how to identify priorities and make weekly emails most effective.	Update in May	Cherie / Bruce
Engagement Team	Written report provided	Betty/John		Based on UP/In/Out ministries and volunteer opportunities. #1 Priority is to have a current list of leadership contacts. Ideally Breeze database would have accurate information so all Bethel members could utilize. Betty also recommended making a community resource guide available to the congregation. This would list agencies, what they can assist with, and contact info. Ex: C-Cap, Wheels for Wellness, Laurel Center, Shen Council on Aging, etc.	Update in May	Betty / John
Fellowship Team		Rene		There are currently 3 small groups. Small groups are the key to building a stronger faith community at Bethel. Personal invitations are a must and new attendees should be invited to join a small group after 3 Sundays.	Full report in May	Brian/Rene
<b>New Business</b>						
Miscellaneous		Council and Pastor Dave		Financial Perceptions - Discussed the importance of providing a clear, unified message to staff, council, and congregation conveying that we are working together for the common good of Bethel. Even in difficult decisions we will function in a harmonious manner.		
Miscellaneous continued		Rachel		Letter from Sara Smith summarizing 3/25/24 meeting of Shen Valley Fellowship Foundation which Winchester House is part of. PDF of		

			Betty/Rachel	letter added to April shared folder. Pastor Dave will contact to offer a bible study.		
			Betty/Rachel	Endowment Policy is available for review and will be discussed at the May council meeting.		
			Betty/Rachel	Request for approval of pollinator garden received 4/9. Was not added to agenda but will be discussed by Exec Committee to reach a decision by Earth Day Sunday, 4/21.		
			Pastor Dave	The first evening staff meeting was held on 4/3. Evening meetings will be held on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed of each month so all staff can attend.		
	Mother's Day cake auction			Undesignated fundraiser approved by acclamation. P.D. said there is also an event at Capon Springs resort in the afternoon of 5/12. Details will be provided to congregation.	May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Grymala family
	Facility Use Rentals	Staff report provided	Nina	Currently there is one private event booked for the fellowship hall and 2 (1 hour) meetings in the library. Plans for advertising scheduled.		
	<b>Old Business</b>					
	Solar Project	update from MVS in shared folder		Connection to grid has been approved and work at Bethel should begin within a month.		
	Shenandoah Montessori	status update	Kim	Betty and Lynda had recommendations and corrections regarding wording. Rachel made notes on shared document. Betty will follow-up with Kim.	Week of April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Betty
	Internship	status update	Pastor Dave	Lynnette's internship has been approved by seminary and she will begin at Bethel in July.		
	Unplanned pastor absences	document draft	P.D. / EC	No action. Will remove from the agenda until after summer vacations.		
	<b>Upcoming Events</b>					

	Coffee with Council	April 14th 10:45-11:15			Summary at May meeting	Cherie
	ProPresenter Training	April 20th 10:00-12:00		Confirm with George, Jr this is still a go	ASAP	Pastor Dave
	VA Synod Assembly	April 27th Virtual	Pastor Dave John & Rene Fredericksen	3 attendees registered		
	Dunlap & Mabe Concert	Apr 28, 2024 4:00PM	details - George, Jr Pastor Dave	Email for ticket sales sent 4/9/23		
	Capon Springs event	May 12, 2024		email invite will be sent to congregation		
	Pride Worship Service	Sun Jun 2, 2024 Afternoon				