

**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2023**

PRESENT: Jeff Molitor (President) Kate Kurfess Guests, via Zoom:
 Jaye Lill (V.P., via Zoom) Sue Rasmussen (Treasurer) Katherine Dedrick
 Rev Heidi Fish Paul Larmore

Meeting called to order by Jeff at 5:10 pm

Devotions – Jaye Lill led in devotions.

Minutes from February meeting – February minutes were read and approved as corrected (time change)

Treasurer's Report:

- Looked at Heritage Bank Statement. Bills are being paid, though sometimes late.
- Have started using Quickbooks, though we are still in the process of setting
- The Finance Committee is continuing to work on the 2023 budget.

Pastor's Report:

AVP Workshops Mickey Schwald will send out an announcement for any who wish to sign up for a three day session during Holy Week.

- Compline Services: Improving. But Zoom sound needs improvement..
- Terms of Call: The document is not yet filled out. Finance Committee to review.
- ELCA Dialog on Race: Training ongoing on Wednesday evenings before service.
- Reconciling Works Update: A proposed Affirmation of Welcome will be voted on at the next Congregational meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Monday Night Dinners: Pastor reported the insurance coverage is adequate per our carrier. Dinners are resuming the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. The event needs help with cleanup, including a scheduled cleanup for Tuesday mornings
- Constitutional Amendment Followup: See handout from last meeting that we didn't get to. Need to discuss C9.12.d and C12.08. Problem seems to be wordage in the proposed amendments about the pastor being in charge of "hiring and firing". It was proposed we remove wordage about "hiring and firing" but leave new wordage about the pastor being head of staff. Need to send out Minutes and proposed Constitutional Amendments by March 22..
- Block Party Planning: **M/S/P** that Block Party be Saturday held on July 22, the week before Tour de Terrace.
- Alcohol Policy Consideration: Some suggestions were presented; Council will create some ideas to present to the congregation.
- Renters: One of the renters has requested permission to have a cat. The Council voted "no" and the renter has chosen to leave. A new renter will be joining the others in May.
- Event Approval Form: Still need to appoint a couple of people to edit the content of the form.

- **Visitation Board:** Jeff is working on this. He wants to keep a notice board of folks who are visited either in person or by phone, cards or notes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **G.A.A.P.** (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles): Need two offering counters each week, and a couple of teams so the same people do not do the work every week. We also need to closely follow the general rules for the work of the Treasurer. Sue has a book of Region 1 regulations.
- **Approval of Process of Issuing Promissory Notes from Church Members:** **M/S/P** Due to emergency short fall, the Council approved issuing a promissory note to a church member in the amount of \$10,000.00, interest free, no collateral required, payable by 1/1/25. The congregation will be informed of this obligation next Sunday. Jeff Molitor and Paul Lamore signed the Note on behalf of the congregation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Worship and Music:** Next meeting will be held March 23rd at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom to plan music for the Easter season.
- **Plant Sales:**
 - Next meeting Tuesday, March 14th, 6:30-7:00 p.m. via Zoom
 - Mickey will start talking that up on line.
- **Finance Committee:**
 - Status of QuickBooks – installed and being tailored
 - Budget prep status
- **Facilities:**
 - Security cameras – started one new camera
 - New office exterior door – installed – includes deadbolt
 - Planning meeting TBA
 - Window repair in rental building – Katherine offered to pay for the new window.
 - Spring Cleanup Date Saturday, April 1st, 10:00-3:00
- **BCS:** Judy's waiting to hear back from One Green Planet. Not many requests for help with expenses, but many requests for gas cards.
- **Community Connections:** The rummage sale will not happen for lack of volunteer help.

PLACEHOLDERS Let's not forget:

- **Growth of Church:**
 - **Parlay with the Pastor:** To encourage new membership by personal invites. Pastor suggested members host group meetings in their homes to discuss how.
- **Mountlake Terrace Street Widening:**
- **Reinstate Hospitality Committee**
- **Possible I.T. upgrades**

Next Meeting: April 17th at 5p.m.

Devotions: April – Paul
May - Jaye

Meeting adjourned @ 8 p.m.