

**Bethany Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2021**

Present: Patty Fess, Ron Fischer (via Zoom), Joann Kilgus, Jane Nelson, Randy Nelson and Jim Schwengel Barb Olson (excused)

Secretary Report

Secretary, Patty Fess presented the Council Meeting Minutes dated June 16, 2021. Randy Nelson moved and Ron Fischer seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Old Business

Cemetery Landscaping and Clean Up

Meissner Landscaping contacted to clean up the overgrown brush and weeds at a 12'x45' section behind the Grimsby plots and also around the Hanson and Goodlet plots for a cost of \$1360.

Randy moved and Joann seconded to have Meissner remove the weeds and brush for \$1360. Motion passed.

Meissner is also preparing a proposal to plant the inner circle of the driveway with a blaze orange maple, boxwoods and day lilies.

New Business

Village Green Lodge Sign on the Parsonage Land

There was an arrangement between the Village Green Lodge and the Bethany Church for the lodge to have their sign on the parsonage property for the exchange of maintaining the sign and the landscaping on that property. Bethany would like to continue that arrangement with the new owners Mike and Jamie McCarthy. Patty will follow up with the McCarthys.

Endowment Fund In Regards to Memorials and Cemetery Purchases

At the June 16th meeting the council decided to no longer put money for memorials or the money from the purchase of cemetery plots into the Endowment Fund and to set up two new accounts, one for memorials and another for perpetual care of the cemetery. Treasurer, Ron Fischer did some research and found out a percentage of the Endowment Fund can be used for current Bethany building and structural issues and the fund is also used for perpetual care of the cemetery. Ron recommended the council reconsider the decision to set up two new accounts and to continue to use the Endowment Fund. President, Jane Nelson encouraged more study the Endowment Fund and it's relationship to Bethany as an active congregation. Ron moved to reverse the decision to set up an account for memorials and another account for the perpetual care of the cemetery and continue to place that money into the Endowment Fund going forward. Jane seconded and the motion passed.

Boldt Gift

The council has spent some time prioritizing the projects and plans for the Boldt Gift. Plans were made to begin with repair and update of our church and parsonage. This will include the repair of the church foundation, removal of the asbestos siding, repair and repainting of the wooden siding and repair of the stonewall surrounding the church. At the parsonage the porch will be repaired, screen doors will be added and the landscaping will be refreshed and replaced as needed. We will update the parsonage furniture and replace the linens. Additionally we will survey the property at the church and the parsonage to better understand our boundaries.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Fess, council secretary