

**Bethany Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 25, 2022**

**Present:** Patty Fess, Ron Fischer, JoAnn Kilgus, Su Marotz (via phone), Jane Nelson, Randy Nelson, Jim Schwengel and Barb Olson

President, Jane Nelson opened with prayer at 10:20 a.m.

**Secretary Report**

Secretary, Patty Fess presented the the Council Meeting Minutes dated October 20, 2022. Randy Nelson moved to approve the minutes, JoAnn seconded and the motion passed. Patty showed a new Bethany Christmas card designed by Nancy Jordan for 2022 and passed out a letter from Chuck Pearson from 2011 requesting contributions to the Bethany Heritage Endowment Fund.

**Treasurer Report**

Treasurer, Ron Fischer presented the financials through April 30, 2022. He highlighted the current assets which are down about \$10,000 from December 31, 2022. During this time period the Endowment Fund has lost about \$20,000. Most of this loss is due to a decline in the market. Our net income is down \$28,000 and again that is due to expenses and the loss in the market. We did receive a check from Church Mutual Insurance for \$4000 for repair of the damaged stone wall. To date we have spent \$72,000 of the Boldt gift with outstanding furniture bills coming soon.

The council thanks all the people that gave gifts to spruce up the parsonage.

Ron moved to charge the Boldt gift \$4,525 for cemetery landscaping within the inner circle of the drive. Jane seconded and the motion passed.

Patty moved to accept the Treasurer Report. Barb Olson seconded and the motion passed.

**Old Business**

**Restrooms/Porta-Potty**

Randy reported, we will be able to use the toilet but not the sink in the schoolhouse bathroom. Hand sanitizer will be available.

**Ongoing Tasks and Responsibilities**

JoAnn is redoing the Vendor List and will have a draft out to the council soon. Also, Joann is having an oak table built for the offering plates.

**Property Report**

The painter is returning to church building to finish up the exterior painting started in the fall. The inside of the parsonage has been completely painted. The electrician comes on Friday to hang the chandelier and sconces in the parsonage dining room. Four dead Ash trees were removed in the cemetery with the cost split by our neighbor to the south and Bethany. Anschutz Plumbing will deliver salt to the parsonage this season.

**Constitution-Proposed Changes**

The council was presented with the Bethany Constitution marked with some proposed changes, the Easement Agreement with the Bethany Historical Foundation and the initial letter requesting donations for the Heritage Endowment fund, dated July 14, 2011. After some discussion it was decided to focus on the changes that better reflect how Bethany operates now. We are working to define membership and we would like to take the actual costs for cemetery plots out of the constitution to keep those fees more current. Jane will finalize and send out the proposed changes we worked on for council approval.

**New Business****Parsonage**

Randy said none of the landscapers he contacted for the parsonage have gotten back to him. We will replace the screen door off the front entrance to the parsonage. Joann suggested getting some photos of the parsonage interior to send to Pat Boldt.

**140th Anniversary**

Barb and Doris Thompson have a banner in progress. Ron suggested an evening prayer service perhaps with coffee and dessert afterwards. A short reading commemorating the history of Bethany may be added. Ron will ask Debbie Fischer if she will head up this event with the help of Joann, Barb, Patty and possibly Judy Schwengel.

**Coffee Fellowship**

Barb will make coffee for this coming Sunday and Jane, Joann and Barb will bring some treats. We will have a list to sign up for monthly coffees.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Joann will host the next meeting on July 13th at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty Fess, council secretary