

Meeting called to order at 7.02pm by President Dale Gruenewald. Those in attendance were Mary Lou Peter, Kim Mueller, Charlotte Mehrrens, Rich Hoffelmeyer, Earl Doerr, Bob Timmer, Dale Gruenewald, Kathi Trent, Stacy Woehlke, Pastor Weber and Vicki Pellmann. Pastor opened with a prayer.

BCE report: No official report but first meeting of the year scheduled for Tuesday, January 12.

Treasurer's report: Vicki presented reports from both November and December. We have received official notice of PPP forgiveness. As reflected on the December report, it is no longer on our books as a liability. In Living Trust interest is \$1074.97; council will need to have a suggested use ready for proposal at the January 31 Annual Congregational Meeting. Rich pointed out some discrepancies from October closing to November opening. Stacy motioned to table the treasurer's report until the discrepancies could be addressed; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

In other financial matters, Vicki is still working with Social Security to determine why it's not being properly withheld for all employees. She is supposed to call them again and stay with it until she gets answers.

Vicki is also still working to finalize the budget; council will have a special meeting to go through the presented budget on Thursday, January 14 at 7pm, in order to be able to approve it and mail it out for the congregation to inspect prior to the Annual Congregational Meeting on the 31st.

Vicki brought up a potential rate change for our Spectrum internet. Right now, our speed is 100MB for download and 6 for upload. However, tests have shown we're really only doing 3 to 4MB upload. This, and an outdated modem, are believed to be contributing to our live streaming issues. Spectrum has recommended upgrading to the 200MB download, 10MB upload plan and replacing our modem. This upgrade comes with an increased cost of \$24.22/mo, to bring us up to \$219.97/mo. There will also be a one time \$99 modem change fee. Bob motioned to upgrade our internet; Earl seconded. Motion carried.

Question posed by Kim about where things stand with Vanco; Vicki says we're waiting on them to get it hooked up to Church Windows; has been working on user login issues ironing out a question of our being compliant.

Minutes: Outgoing Council Member and Secretary Joyce Tastad had emailed the minutes for review. Kim motioned to accept December's minutes; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Rich brought up a correction for the 2020 officer selection meeting. The minutes were dated January 6, 2019 instead of January 5, 2020. Correction will be made.

Pastor's report: Went over Christmas Eve in-service attendance and live streaming counts for both services. Also talked about in-service attendance, live streaming count for service and program-only viewing count for the Sunday School program. Discussed funerals he has performed. Also, now that he has been vaccinated, the hope is that the hospital will start utilizing his chaplain services in the unfortunate event they are needed.

Pastor mentioned that even though ZTeam is starting to meet again and Bible Study is taking place, there isn't much else going on in the life of the church. He is, however, making regular phone calls to different members of the church who cannot currently make it to service in order to help them stay connected. Rich motioned to accept Pastor's report; Kathi seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Audit & Budget: Rich will be taking over this committee vacancy

Long Range Ministry: Stacy reported that after discussions with necessary parties, the decision has been made to forego the Zion Trivia night for this year. Look forward to March 2022 for the next trivia night for Zion.

Mission & Outreach: Mary Lou will be taking over this committee from Kim. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 19

Staff/Parish Relations: Kim Mueller is taking over this committee vacancy

Property: Earl reported that Mike Germann and Mark Germann mounted the stained glass window in the balcony, complete with remote control lighting. The tower clock is presenting a problem with the motor; Rich Hoffelmeyer is scheduled to climb the tower to take a look on Tuesday, January 12. Earl presented the property plat for Irma Hecke's property to be stored in the Church safe deposit box.

Volunteer Ministries: Kathi helped facilitate moving of council members into new committees for the year.

Worship & Music: Dale had nothing to report, but Pastor wanted to mention that it was nice to have Clark Ferry back and that Mary Lou Bretsch continues to try to find opportunities for the occasional special music.

Cemetery Board: Charlotte will be taking over this committee vacancy

Old Business: Rich will act as liaison for the Audit. He and Dale are working on putting together the Audit committee.

Discussed the agenda for the annual meeting, including wording for proposed changes to Constitution and ByLaws. Also discussed timing of when different items would need to be done in order to meet deadlines.

AED unit not working; Don Pellman took a look at it and said it is not fixable. We will need to replace the unit.

Kim brought up the rental agreements that we delayed from last month. Stacy made the motion to table the discussion one more month to give new members time to go over the paperwork; Rich seconded. Motion carried.

New Business: We have received notice of retirement from our Church Secretary, Darlene Gansmann. Council is suggesting a merging of the Secretary position with the Treasurer position to create a new part-time Office Administrator/Financial Treasurer position. Kim Mueller and Les Mehrtens have been going over the current job duties for both positions. Darlene has been asked to go through and revise her duties and Vicki will be asked to do the same. Discussion took place around reducing the hours to be more in-line with actual need since later afternoon hours see little traffic. Wage suggestions were made as were modes of advertisement. Since this is technically eliminating 2 positions and creating 1 new one, this will be included in the annual meeting on January 31 for the Congregation to approve. We are also requesting Darlene postpone mailing the February visitor so the job information can be included if approved.

Since the AED needs replaced we discussed a few different avenues of purchasing a new one. Charlotte mentioned she had a person or two to inquire with about making the purchase. Stacy motioned to use the In Living Trust interest towards the purchase of the AED replacement; Rich seconded. Motion carried.

Rich made motion to adjourn; Kathi seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

President - Dale Gruenewald

Secretary - Stacy Woehlke