

Meeting called to order at 7.04pm by President Dale Gruenewald. Those in attendance were Mary Lou Peter, Kim Mueller, Charlotte Mehrtens, Rich Hoffelmeyer, Earl Doerr, Bob Timmer, Dale Gruenewald, Kathi Trent, Stacy Woehlke, Pastor Weber and Pam Gowens. Pastor opened with a prayer.

BCE report: Pastor presented the report as provided by Kimberly Gibson.

Post-confirmation class is finding the series by Ray Vander Laan to be interesting and will continue with it until the end of the year. For lower grades, the board is still investigating some supplemental materials that may be useful in conjunction with the current curriculum and is considering the purchase of Book of the Bible cards for each of the Sunday School students.

Discussions still underway for planning an outdoor activity for the youth during the summer. Vacation Bible School is currently being planned for July. Rich motioned to accept the BCE report; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Rich has been working closely with Pam to get her onboarded and familiar with the financial side of her job duties. They are working on getting corrected reports for January - October of 2020 run for Pastor to post to the council site.

Rich wanted to bring attention to the higher than normal insurance premiums in the Treasurer's report; this is due to some past due payments needing to be made to bring the account back to current. He also presented several issues being worked through with Pastor's pay/withholdings not being correct, including Social Security, housing and medical. Although Pastor's Social Security withholdings now need corrected, Dale reported that all other individuals previously experiencing issues had had their issues resolved.

Rich asked about a special Sunday School fund, which Charlotte was able to explain was from memorials having been earmarked for Sunday School. Rich also questioned why piano tunings are attributed to the Music and Choirs fund when properly tuned pianos benefit the congregation as a whole, especially as it pertains to worship services.

Rich and Pam are working on creating a Mission Report that will be presented with the Treasurer's report in the future. They are currently working through what this report will look like, and with all the reports, welcome suggestions for improvements. Kim initially had a question about Life Network offerings brought in versus payments made that council was able to resolve; this new Mission Report is intended to bring greater clarity around the missions donations to help alleviate concerns going forward.

In trying to get a firm grasp on all the different access requirements for Pam to do her job, Rich and Pam have realized a review and audit of our online accounts is needed. Dale will reach out

to Vicki Pellmann about getting however much information she can provide; Pam will set up a spreadsheet as information is learned.

Dale and Pam are coordinating a time to get to the banks and Edward Jones to get accounts switched over; Pam as Financial Treasurer and Dale as Council President will be signatories of the accounts. Dale suggested that it should become part of regular duties for an incoming Council President to go to the banks and Edward Jones to get their name switched in for the outgoing president. When Dale and Pam go in to get the accounts switched over to their names, they are going to inquire about the possibility of requiring both signatures on the accounts (excluding the general fund) when making transactions.

Kathi gave thanks to Rich for all his extra time in reviewing the financials and helping Pam get onboarded in her Financial Treasurer duties.

Kim motioned to accept the January 2020 - October 2020 corrected treasurer reports; Mary Lou seconded. Motion carried.

Stacy moved to approve the November 2020 - February 2021 treasurer reports; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes for February regular council meeting had previously been emailed for review. Earl requested a slight change for clarification: "AED" needed to be specifically included in the Old Business section discussing the possible purchase of units (AED units) from a Belleville company. Rich motioned to accept February regular council meeting minutes with the AED clarification; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes for the February 28 special council meeting were reviewed. Charlotte motioned to accept the February 28 special meeting minutes; Kathi seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's report: Pastor and Bill Savering have been alternating weeks during lent to provide the message during Lenten services, and Maundy Thursday will once again have a message in lieu of the dramatic presentation. There are no plans for a CrossWalk this year.

Lukas Pellmann, Ava Stumpf and Emma Stumpf are preparing for their March 21 presentations for March 28 Confirmation and First Communion on Easter Sunday, April 4th. As previously mentioned, Aubrey Weaver will be joining them for Confirmation Sunday and First Communion on Easter.

Pastor detailed his vacation schedule for the upcoming camping and boating season. He has already reached out to Bill Savering and a couple other local pastors to cover any Sunday morning absences. Kathi motioned to accept Pastor's report; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Audit & Budget: Council tabled the audit review notes for further discussion next month.

Long Range Ministry: Stacy had nothing to report.

Mission & Outreach: Mary Lou expressed support for the previously discussed Mission Report which will provide a clearer vision for the administration of Mission giving.

Staff/Parish Relations: Kim mentioned that it was Pam's first council meeting; Kathi expressed council's excitement for having Pam join the team and Pam reflected on her own excitement.

Property: Earl relayed some information from Les Mehrtens: Jim Bereitschaft will continue mowing the park, Andrew Taake will continue mowing the cemetery and Dick Sutter will mow the Irma Hecke property. Bill Bourn, Les Mehrtens and Dennis Hopfinger will share mowing responsibilities of the Church. Council wishes to express a note of gratitude to Mark Germann for plowing the parking lot this past winter.

If the historical society decides to hold the village wide yard sale, there is interest in participating since we now have roughly two years worth of donations to sell.

Volunteer Ministries: Kathi had nothing to report.

Worship & Music: Pastor discussed some of the particulars of the music survey: 15 survey submissions, with 118 songs, 10% of which haven't been heard in a while. There is general interest in having some of the congregation's talented singers or musicians to present special music. Earl said Jam at the Park is a possibility this summer.

Cemetery Board: Charlotte is currently gathering details of how many plots are left and if there is anything council needs to address for the benefit of the cemetery. It was suggested that more rock needs added to the drive and Rich brought up an issue with the title that needs squared away. Charlotte also mentioned the possibility of a cemetery walk this fall.

Old Business: Council examined the new rental agreements and it was decided that the deposit/donation wording for the Church rental needed updated and that it would be better to have separate agreements for Church members versus non-members. Earl will ask Les Mehrtens to coordinate the wording change with Otto Faulbaum, specifying the \$50 deposit for anyone, \$25 donation for members, and \$100 donation for non-members with an extra \$15 for use of the kitchen. Approval of the Church building agreement tabled until changes can be made. Bob motioned to approve the Church park rental agreement; Rich seconded. Motion carried.

Dale brought up the new proposal for the AED units. The pricing was for 2 used units, and although would have been a cost savings, concerns were raised about them being used with no warranty. A new unit, although more expensive, would come with an 8 year warranty. Rich motioned to purchase 1 new AED unit, with appropriate pads, masks, etc, for \$1492.95, paying

for most of it with the In Living Trust interest from year 2020 and unused funds from the Nurses Appreciation Meal, with the remaining balance being paid from the general fund; Kathi seconded. Motion carried.

Dale suggested revisiting the safe deposit box and the need for it to be cleaned out once things have settled down.

New Business: Darlene Gansmann, Church Secretary, is retiring in just under a month and after 10 years of devoted service, a gift of appreciation is in order. Council agreed on the price; Kathi will take care of the purchase. Bob motioned to approve the purchase of Darlene's gift using funds from the Miscellaneous account; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Council discussed a return to Church at the Park. It was a big success in 2020 and it was agreed that it is nice to be able to get some more use of the property. As a nod to tradition, it was agreed that we would remain in the Sanctuary through the end of May and have the first Sunday of June, June 6th, start the summer Church season with our service at 11am followed by the picnic. Subsequent Sunday services would be at the park for 9am service, weather permitting, and we would keep services at the park for the remainder of the year until the weather turns too cold.

Council agreed the Church would hold our BBQ in September.

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

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

President - Dale Gruenewald

Secretary - Stacy Woehlke