

BLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

BLC Council met on Sunday, December 19, 2021, in Fellowship Hall at Barneveld Lutheran Church.

The following Council Members were present: Council President Jeff Ziegler, Dave Baumgarten, Ronda Bowe, Judd Koerwitz, Missy Lease, Megan Mieden.

The following Council Members were absent: Michelle Ihm.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Jeff Ziegler at 10:00 am.

No Meeting Minutes from the November 14, 2021, BLC Council Meeting were submitted for review; no action was taken.

Annual Reports – Ziegler reminded the Ministry Team Liaisons the annual reports are due to the office by December 27, 2021. These will be included in BLC's Annual Report.

Nominations for Council – Ziegler discussed the Nominations for Council for the upcoming term. Koerwitz and Ziegler have completed two (2) 2-year terms; according to Council bylaws, they are not eligible to serve another consecutive term. Ihm and Lease have completed one (1) 2-year term. Otis Nelson and Shelly Sandry were mentioned as possible nominations to replace Koerwitz and Ziegler; current council members will reach out to these individuals to gauge their interest in serving.

Doug Carden entered the BLC Council Meeting to discuss with the Council the possibility of BLC signing a First Right of Refusal document for the property north of the church. This is currently owned by the Thoni Family. If BLC would need to expand, north of the property would be the only option adjacent to the current property. The First Right of Refusal would allow the church to have the first opportunity to purchase the land if the Thoni Family ever decided to sell the property. Koerwitz was tasked with reaching out to Attorney Ott for further information.

Pastor Erich joined the BLC Council Meeting. A devotion was read.

Renew Pastor Erich's Contract – This item was discussed at the meeting on November 14, 2021; no action was taken.

Annual Meeting Date – A motion was made by Lease/Koerwitz to set the Annual Meeting for Sunday, January 23, 2022, with a back-up date of January 30, 2022. Motion carried.

Food Pantry – Pastor Erich provided an update on the status of the Food Pantry. Several items were donated by Little Buffalos (a daycare facility in Barneveld).

The Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon and 1:00 to 3:30 pm. In the past Marcia Thompson, BLC's Office Manager, has taken care of staffing the pantry. With Marcia's retirement, it has been determined the food pantry should not be a duty of BLC's office. Because this is a community

food pantry, it was suggested to get in contact with the other churches in Barneveld to see if they would be willing to commit to staffing the food pantry one week per month.

Ministry Team Liaisons – The following updates were provided:

- *Faith In Action* (FIA) (vacant) – None.
- *GIFT/Stewardship* (Ihm) – None.
- *Health* (Bowe) – Judy Johnson has been coordinating the health checks; recipes in the monthly BLC Newsletter will continue.
- *Property & Grounds* (Koerwitz) – There are some issues with the downspouts, which will be addressed with A1 Seamless Gutters; a Church Use Waiver form was suggested in the event there is any damage to the facility when another individual/group is using it (Lease to create).
- *Website/Technology/Communication* (Lease) – The electronic marquee is being looked at by Rick Mueller and John Rivest to see if it can be fixed at the sign-level; Rivest is looking at it to see if we can update the software so the marquee can be changed from a computer.
- *Worship* (Ziegler) – No update to provide.
- *Finance* (Baumgarten) – Jo Ellen Uptegraw joined the meeting and provided the Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2021, and the Profit and Loss for November 2021. Uptegraw indicated December should be good month.

Uptegraw suggested Danielle Moyer be provided with a “thank you” for her willingness to continue to help with BLC’s finances. A motion was made by Bowe/Lease to provide Danielle Moyer with a \$100 gift card. Motion carried.

The audit has been reviewed; there were several items that have been highlighted which will be gone over with BLC’s new council members in January 2022.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Erich reviewed his thoughts/observations/insights from his Pastor’s Report for December 2021 Council Meeting.

- **Secure Storage for Monetary Items** – A motion was made by Lease/Bowe to purchase a fireproof safe for up to \$200. Motion carried. Bowe was tasked with researching this and letting Uptegraw know which safe to purchase.
- **Scheduled Time Off** – Pastor Erich will be gone December 27, 2021 – January 2, 2022. Pastor Rich Johnson will be covering service on January 2nd. Pastor John Twiton will be providing emergency coverage.
- **Contract Error** – An error was discovered in the calculation of Pastor Erich’s social security allowance as it relates to a housing allowance. Pastor Erich is requesting the calculation be corrected going forward but is not asking for a past correction. Baumgarten will work with Lois Herfel, BLC’s Office Manager to correct the contract; Baumgarten and Pastor Erich will review.
- **Insurance Agreement** – A motion was made by Bowe/Koerwitz to continue Pastor Erich’s insurance agreement as is. Motion carried.

Other Business

- A luncheon is being planned in recognition of Marcia Thompson's continued years of service to BLC as she enters into retirement. A tentative date is set for January 9, 2022, following church service. Lease was tasked with verifying Marcia is available. Marica will also be recognized in that day's church service.
- Marcia's "thank you" trip has been booked for June 24 – 25, 2022.
- Baumgarten provided the Council with an update on the Call Committee's status. A mock interview with Pastor Rob from Black Earth. The Call Committee is hoping to start interviewing in January. All interviews will be unannounced and confidential to avoid having any additional people coming through the building.

A motion was made by Lease/Bowe to adjourn at 11:16 pm. Motion carried.