

BLC Council Special Meeting Minutes

Barneveld Lutheran Church

February 27, 2022

BLC Council and Call Committee met on Sunday, February 27, 2022, in Fellowship Hall at Barneveld Lutheran Church.

The following Council Members were present: Dave Baumgarten, Ronda Bowe, Michelle Ihm, Melissa Lease, Megan Mieden, Otis Nelson, and Shelly Sandry.

The following Call Committee Members were present: Dave Baumgarten, Alycia Hathaway, Evan Hathaway (via phone), Joann Manteufel, Shelly Sandry, and Linda Seeley. The following Alternate Committee Members were present: Gregg Guenter and Parker Ihm (via phone).

The meeting was called to order by Council President Lease at 3:02 pm.

Baumgarten provided opening remarks regarding the status of the Call Committee. The Committee was provided with three (3) candidates for review from the Synod. Of the candidates, one was immediately dismissed and two were interviewed virtually by the Committee. One candidate was then brought in for an in-person interview.

The Synod process allows for a Call Committee to recommend a candidate for call or release all candidates and allow the Synod to provide additional candidates for review, if available. Based on this process, the Committee has reached this point.

The Call Committee Members, including the alternates, provided comments regarding their feelings of the candidate the Committee interviewed in-person.

Following the Committee comments, the following concerns were expressed:

- There are 26 openings in our Synod alone
- The Committee only received the names of two (2) viable candidates
- Many pastors are leaving the profession

The Call Committee made a recommendation to the Council to extend a call to Rhia Strohm. Motion carried 5-1.

The Council will work with Lois to move forward with the process of setting up dates for a Congregational Meeting and possibly a Meet & Greet.

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm.