

BLC Council Meeting Minutes

Barneveld Lutheran Church

September 18, 2022

BLC Council met on Sunday, September 18, 2022, in Fellowship Hall at Barneveld Lutheran Church.

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

Other attendees: Pastor Rhia Strohm

1. The meeting was called to order by Baumgarten at 10:20 am.
2. No devotion was read.
3. A motion was made by Sandry/Lease to approve the minutes from August 21, 2022, as amended. Motion carried.
4. Membership Changes

A motion was made by Mieden/Ihm to approve the membership changes reported. Motion carried.

5. Action items

a. Ministry Team Reports/Updates

Now is a good time with a new pastor in place for Council to work out the different ministry teams and how they operate. Council should schedule a planning retreat. This would be expected to last around 4 hours; the Council will meet to plan what we envision for the church and how we are going to get there with goals – 1-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year plan.

This is scheduled for October 2nd from 11:30 am – 3:30 pm at Missy and Crockett's Shed. Council will be bringing food.

- i. Faith in Action (FIA) Team – *Shelly Sandry*
Via email.
- ii. G.I.F.T. team – *Michelle Ihm*
No report.
- iii. Health Team – *Ronda Bowe*

Via email.

iv. Property & Grounds Team – *Otis Nelson*

The cable has been direct connected to the outdoor sign to the building, so any updates to the sign can now be made inside the building.

Dawn Bauman has funds she is planning to donate to the church to have the parking lot re-surfaced/sealed. These funds are from the passing of her husband, Dennis. This is being looked at for scheduling in 2023.

v. Technology Team – *Melissa Lease*

Via email.

vi. Worship Team – *Megan Mieden*

No report.

vii. Finance Team – *Dave Baumgarten*

Update from Jo Ellen – currently (\$49,000) between giving and expenditures

b. Snow Removal and Bid Review

We should have more than 1 bid to review.

A motion was made by Mieden/Bowe to table to discussion until next month's meeting or a meeting via email.

c. Facility Use Agreement

A motion Baumgarten/Lease to approve the kitchen use for Mary Romolino on September 30, 2022 – October 1, 2022. Motion carried.

d. BLC Constitution Amendments

BLC's proposed changes were reviewed by Wendy Moen with the Synod. The changes she suggested were minor (i.e. – re-ordering some paragraphs because we had them in the wrong order). We are OK to move forward with presenting this to the congregation for vote. Mieden will work with Lois to get the Special Congregational Meeting date set so we can move forward with getting this finalized.

e. Stewardship Focus and Plan

BLC is at the point where we need to start asking the congregation to support us with funds.

Joann Manteufel said giving statements are ready to be sent out and a letter should be included with these to get people to increase their giving or make a one-time contribution. A letter is planned to go with these statements.

We could consider doing a “Fill-the-Plate” event so people can see what we are behind and can work towards filling that gap. There will be stewardship weeks in November that lead-up to the Thanksgiving holiday, but we need to consider that Stewardship should be a year-round “promotion” and not just something that is focused on around the holidays. Automatic giving will also be pushed. We could consider having a QR code created for one-time giving options such as Venmo.

This month the financial snapshot will be going into the newsletter, so people are aware of where the church’s budget stands. The congregation should be updated with this information at least once a quarter, if not more often.

Council should consider who we want on our Stewardship Team so we have a plan to move forward with this ministry.

f. Pastor’s Report/Update

Highlights: There were a lot of visits with people – some people from outside the church; some visits were challenging with “negative” feedback.

Priority “List of Learning”: There should be a list of tasks created to help Lois in the office; Pastor Rhia will talk to Marcia to see if a weekly “training time” could be set-up to help Lois with office tasks.

Vacation Dates: Pastor Rhia will be gone on 10/9 & 10/10; Kirsten Curtis is available if we don’t want to go through a supply. Baumgarten and Lease will finalize this.

g. BLC’s Future – Vision and Planning

This was discussed heavily under 5e – Stewardship Focus and Plan.

h. Any other business as may come before the Council

Sandry mentioned Joe Barrios suggested bringing EMS in to have a general first aid class with the community.

6. Next Meeting Date

- Sunday, October 2, 2022 – Church Council Retreat
- Sunday, October 16, 2022, immediately following 9:00 am Worship – Shelly will be absent.

Note: The regularly scheduled meeting for 10/16 was re-scheduled to 10/30/2022. This was then re-scheduled to take place at the Council Retreat Follow-Up Session on 10/25/2022.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Bowe/Mieden to adjourn at 11:35 am. Motion carried.