

Meeting called to order at 7.10pm by President Dale Gruenewald. Those in attendance were Richard Hoffelmeyer, Earl Doerr, Charlotte Mehrrens, Kim Mueller, Bob Timmer, Dale Gruenewald, Kathi Trent, Stacy Woehlke, Pastor Weber and Pam Gowens. Pastor opened with a prayer.

**BCE report:** No report from the Board but Pastor shared that for the first day of VBS there were 43 kids, with a few additional to show later in the week, as well as 35 adult and youth volunteers. The first day went well, with much gratitude to Bethesda Evangelical Church for the decoration donations and the team who helped set up.

**Treasurer's report:** The MFisher Investment CD at First National Bank of Waterloo has been renewed for another 17 months, with the additional \$100,000 approved in June, at .35 interest rate.

Pam has sent Missions checks, for donations received, to Gideon International, the New Athens Home and Millstadt Food Pantry.

Pam reported we are still working through some lingering issues with the IRS. We received notices for \$29 past due for September of 2020 from Federal and our tax exempt status expired as of March 2020. As a whole, working through the Federal issues are going to take a bit longer but they are slower to work with but Illinois is nearly resolved and we may actually end up getting a credit for overpayment.

Earl inquired if Pam was keeping track of rentals and Pam produced her records showing that so far for the year, there have been 8 park rentals and 3 hall rentals, with 6 future park rentals and 1 future hall rental. Earl expressed an appreciation for this tracking as it provides good information regarding use of our properties.

Richard raised a question of the billing and expensing of the Frievogel Cemetery upkeep and if larger expenses should come out of the General Fund Cemetery Expenses budget or from the Cemetery Fund. It was agreed larger expenses that aren't part of general maintenance should come out of the Cemetery Fund.

Pam shared she will be on vacation for the afternoon of August 23 through August 26 and that it would be greatly appreciated if visitor articles could be in by the week before so she can get them out the morning of August 27 when she is back in the office.

Richard motioned to accept the Treasurer's report; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

**Minutes:** Minutes for the June Council meeting had previously been emailed for review. Bob motioned to accept the minutes; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

**Pastor's report:** Pastor stated that Summer worship attendance at the park has been decent even with less than ideal conditions. As a general note, he gets the recording of the service loaded by 2pm Sunday afternoon for streaming. Kathi shared that she has bought a sturdy basket to replace the bucket for taking offerings.

Pastor expressed appreciation for Gary Franke's July 4 service and has asked him to once again fill in on August 15 while Pastor is away.

Nursing homes are beginning to allow visits again and Pastor continues his Bible studies and Church services at Garden Place in Millstadt.

Kathi motioned to accept the Pastor's report; Richard seconded. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Audit & Budget:** Richard pointed out one of the audit findings was that we have been short funds in the Money Market while carrying excess in the General Fund that should be transferred back to the Money Market. As of the meeting, it was close to \$6000. Kathi motioned to transfer the money; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Richard brought up that we had previously talked about having a mid-year audit in order to stay on top of financials throughout the year. Dale will begin putting together the committee to conduct the audit with Richard as our Council liaison.

**Long Range Ministry:** Stacy mentioned the upcoming Millstadt Homecoming and whether or not the Church would be participating. Part of the concern is that the last couple years has seen a decrease in the number of volunteers to work the stand and that some of the people who have been doing it for years are no longer physically able to do as much anymore. Council discussed the need to make a new sign up sheet that better reflects how many workers are needed per shift. It was decided that the sign up sheets would be brought to the park on Sunday mornings and a church mailing would have to go out in order to recruit as many workers as possible.

**Mission & Outreach:** Mary Lou was not present; nothing to address in her absence.

**Staff/Parish Relations:** Kim passed around a schedule for Sunday duties that Kathi had put together. Council quickly went over the different things that are required on Sunday mornings for service and care of the Church property.

**Property:** Earl shared that a load of sand had been added to the volleyball pit at the park and that the ZTeam is doing a lot of work at Frievogel Cemetery to care for the older tombstones. We are on the list for new rock for the cemetery drive as soon as the delivery can be fit into the schedule.

Dale made a request of the ZTeam as to the possibility of an outlet closer to the altar at the park; this should make the equipment setup much easier.

Council reviewed copies of the revised rental agreements and confirmed the previously contingent acceptance.

**Volunteer Ministries:** Kathi has started asking volunteers for Council; a few suggestions were provided for her to talk to.

**Worship & Music:** Stacy shared a suggestion she had received about reducing some of the repetition at the end of songs. It was agreed that when a song repeats too much, people tend to lose interest in the song.

**Cemetery Board:** Charlotte had talked to Bill Albert about the Freivogel Cemetery boundaries. Bill explained that the original boundaries had been set in the 1880s and later changed but that the current owners who share the boundaries have no issue with how things are now, so the odd boundaries are not an issue.

**Old Business:** There was no old business to address.

**New Business:** On behalf of Sisters in Faith who had received them as part of their calendar fundraising, Charlotte donated ticket vouchers for a 2021 or 2022 St. Louis Cardinals game. It was suggested and agreed to that they could be given out during worship service as a Blessed to Be a Blessing attendance drawing.

Kim motioned to adjourn; Earl seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

President - Dale Gruenewald

Secretary - Stacy Woehlke