

**Zion Evangelical Church  
Council Minutes  
August 14, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:** Council members present were President Kurt Pellmann, Vice-President Barb Scharf, Secretary Charlotte Mehrrens, Sherry Wynn, Rich Hoffelmeyer, Mary Lou Peter, Annette Hund, Betty Ann Keller Timmer, Darren Doerr, Pastor Darrell Weber, and Office Administrator Amanda Frierdich. Kurt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Darrell gave an opening prayer.

Because of her recent injury, Charlotte asked, Betty to take the minutes for the meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Amanda presented the Treasurer's report. After some discussion, a motion was made by Barb Scharf, and seconded by Sherry Wynn to accept the Treasurer's Report; motion carried. Rich explained that a Cemetery Fund certificate of deposit for \$13,000 was coming due on September 5 at Edward Jones; he made a motion to add \$14,000 from the Cemetery Fund money market account to this CD and make a new certificate of deposit for \$27,000. Mary Lou seconded the motion, which carried. Rich also noted that we have approximately \$29,000 in the Marilyn Fischer money market account. He made a motion to start a certificate of deposit for \$28,000 from this fund at First National Investments-LPL, and it was seconded by Charlotte Mehrrens. Motion carried.

**BCE Report:** Pastor Darrell gave the Board of Christian Education report. Rally Day will be September 10. A meeting will be held following worship on August 20 for the BCE, Sunday School teachers and youth leaders. The BCE wants to start planning monthly family events; the first one is scheduled for September 10 to coincide with Jam in the Park, which will include activities for children.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** The July 10, 2023 minutes were reviewed by Council. A motion was made by Richard Hoffelmeyer, and seconded by Barb Scharf to accept the minutes; motion carried.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Darrell had sent his Pastor's Report of his activities for the previous month. He has been visiting with all of our older members, either at their homes or with those in care facilities during July and August. As noted in the BCE report, he is preparing for Rally Day – we have 21 children in Sunday School, one third grader who will receive a Bible, 13 children and youth with faithful attendance (each will receive a pin and award), and six youth in confirmation (one 7<sup>th</sup> grader and 5 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> graders). Bill Saverling is working on the requirements for ordination. And, finally, Pastor gave a “heads up” that he is thinking about retiring, no sooner than September, 2024, but possibly staying until VBS is over in June of 2025.

**RENEWING ZION CHURCH:** This is part of the BCE's plans, with a focus on connecting young families.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Audit & Budget. (Betty Keller Timmer).** The mid-year audit took place on July 11. Betty will contact some potential volunteers for the budget committee and begin work on the budget after the end of August.

**Long Range Ministry.** Charlotte reported that she is looking for an October date for a dinner after Church. The Church bar-b-que is scheduled for Saturday September 16.

**Missions & Outreach. (Mary Lou Peter).** Mary Lou reported that we had a request for the Deacons' Fund to help someone with their Ameren bill – a payment was sent directly to Ameren. The Missions Committee will meet on September 5.

**Staff/Parish Relations. (Darren Doerr).** Darren will continue the search for a new custodian. Barb

volunteered to sit in on the interviews. Council decided that the position would average 10 hours per week, at a rate of \$16/hour.

**Property & Long Range. (Rich Hoffelmeyer).** Rich stated that the Z-Team did not want to pay for a bottle-filler (\$800) on the new water fountains. They are willing to pay for the fountains (\$900). Charlotte said that the Sisters in Faith would pay for the bottle-filler option. A motion was made by Charlotte Mehrstens, and seconded by Barb Scharf, that we add the water filler to the fountain, the Z-Team paying \$900, and the Sisters in Faith to pay the balance. Motion carried. Rich also reported that the Z-Team would like to add an opener to the second door on the park shed. A motion was made by Richard Hoffelmeyer, and seconded by Annette Hund, to add an opener to the second shed door, and to pay for this with money from the Irma Hecke funds. Motion carried. Council discussed asphaltting the park's parking lot. Kurt will contact Ted Moore for a bid, and will also ask Ted Moore about sealing the Church parking lot.

**Volunteer Ministries. (Sherry Wynn).** Sherry has spoken to two more potential Council members to serve on Council starting in January.

**Worship & Music. (Annette Hund).** No Report at this time.

**Cemetery Board. (Kurt Pellmann).** No report at this time.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Music Director Update:** The committee has not met yet.

**Outreach Committee:** Council discussed having a packet available for visitors. Charlotte will check with the Millstadt Chamber of Commerce to see if they currently do anything for new citizens of the Village. Zion may do something with the Chamber or on our own.

**Scharf Building Services Interest in Land Purchase.** Rich reported that Kenworth Johnston has done a second appraisal on the one-acre of land that Scharf Building Services would like to purchase; Rich will let Council know the appraisal once he receives it (could take two weeks to receive the appraisal). Cost will be \$600, which AJ Scharf had said they would split with Zion. We will have to decide, based on the two appraisals, what number to give to Scharfs, and then wait to see if they are still interested in the purchase. If they are, then we will have a congregational meeting for a final decision.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Directory:** Council discussed status of inactive members.

**Millstadt Library Request:** The Millstadt Library had asked if they could use the stage in the Fellowship Hall for some one-act plays, based on the radio version of the Archie Andrews Halloween Party. After discussion, Council decided to not allow this request.

**Jam in the Park:** Dale Gruenewald is organizing Jam in the Park, set for Sunday September 10 from 6-8 p.m.

**September 3 Church Service:** Worship will be in the sanctuary, Mary Lu Bretsch will be the organist, Gary Franke will lead the service, and Linda Hopfinger will be the liturgist. Pastor reminded Council members that someone will need to come early to set the air conditioning at a lower temperature for the service.

**Funnel Cake/Corn Dog Mix:** Because the Millstadt Home-Coming had been cancelled last year, and this year's Home-Coming ride company will be selling funnel cakes, Zion has the mix from last year, stored in members' freezers. Charlotte and Les Mehrstens have been working to find an organization looking for the mixes, and they have succeeded – Zoar United Church of Christ at New Hanover will take the mixes.

**2023-24 Preschool/Old Zion Pictures:** We have 17-18 children for the new school year. Sheila Peters, the pre-

school teacher, discovered a box of old slides as she was getting the pre-school room ready for the year. Some of the slides are from the 1950's when the Educational Building was being built, the 1960's when the park was started, and also from 1985 during the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Charlotte and Linda Hopfinger will review the slides. We possibly could need a Historical Committee to catalog our historic artifacts, photos and papers. The slides could be converted to digital files and used for a viewing night for the congregation.

**Memorial Procedures:** Rich asked about our procedures for memorials. Someone will check with Amanda on how acknowledgements are handled.

**Millstadt Historical Society Calendar:** Betty had given the request to Amanda, but also asked for Council's participation on the 2024 MHS calendar. A motion was made by Barb Scharf, and seconded by Charlotte Mehrtens, to purchase two \$20 ads on the calendar, as in past years. Motion carried.

**Meeting Adjourned:** There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Barb Scharf, and seconded by Richard Hoffmeyer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried. Everyone joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

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Kurt Pellmann – President

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Barb Scharf – Vice-president

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Betty Ann Keller Timmer – Secretary Pro-tem