

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2023

Present: Jill Thompson, Sharon Misuraca, Jan Thompson, Lanny Schnipper, Bob Fingland, Greg Mueller, Gene Unverfehrt, Pr Amy Stewart

Excused: Paul Davis, Larissa Hautekeete, Pr Varinia Espinosa, Pr. Josh Brecht

Guest: Amy Fulbright

GOALS for Meeting:

1. Council Members recognize those rotating off and welcome those rotating on.
2. Council members monitor Strategic plan progress.
3. Council receives updates on task force groups.
4. Governance and Fiscal concerns are addressed.

7:03 Welcome, Prayer & Devotion: Devotional and Prayer presented by Jill Thompson. We are also honoring those who are leaving the Council, and welcoming our new members.

7:07 Approval of Council Meeting Agenda: Motion was made by Sharon Misuraca, to approve the agenda, and seconded by Greg Mueller. Motion passed unanimously.

7:09 Consent Agenda: A motion for acceptance was made by Lanny Schnipper, seconded by Gene Unverfehrt, and passed unanimously.

Highlights of staff and committee reports

Questions – NOTE: We asked committees to submit reports re: focus areas
Pr. Varinia reported that she has been recruiting for various ministries: Altar Guild, Assisting Ministers, Flower Ministry, Prayer Group. She has also been working on continuing education and synodical work.

Kathy Rebholz enjoyed working with some church members over the last few weeks on building safety meetings and the newly formed financial advisory committee. As she celebrates her 14th year with Building Blocks and 10 years as Director, she values the partnership with Good Shepherd for this very meaningful ministry.

7:12 Time for Reflection: Presented by Jill Thompson

Survey Results: Council members filled out a survey at last month's meeting regarding Council Agendas and Participation at Council Meetings. Results were discussed to continue to improve Council's efficiency.

Personal Council Survey: Discussion of what Council members hoped or expected to get from being part of Council: helping to get to know more people, making a difference, learning how the Church runs, working towards the 4 focus areas, and finding out what we can do to make a difference here.

7:35 Strategic Focus Areas:

Leadership Development Committee: led by Brett Spoerle, and presented by Jill Thompson. A motion to add Tracie McClain and Jim Anderson (pending his acceptance) was made by Jan Thompson, seconded by Lanny Schnipper, and passed unanimously.

Belonging: Pr. Amy discussed working on Project Reconnect

Feed the Need STL: The goal to become a 501C3. The logistical team had their first meeting, and they have a full Board of Directors now. Working on being able for us to donate directly to Feed the Need. They are needing more volunteers as work continues.

Local Service Committee: A group met with LifeWise, to gain more information about the organization, which works with those in preschool up to seniors. Kyle Butler has agreed to chair a committee that is investigating what we can do to support this partner. There will also be collections to support them forthcoming.

7:52 Task Team Updates:

1. Building/Intruder Safety Protocols presented by Bob Fingland and Gene Unverfehrt. We are talking to Sergeant Waters of Manchester Police regarding possible upcoming intruder training. We will need to find a new Council member to continue to work with this task team.

7:57 Fiduciary Responsibilities:

1. Monthly Financial Reports were presented by Lanny Schnipper.
2. Audit Committee report; presented by Lanny Schnipper. Glenn Kraft chairs the Audit Committee, which has divided the audit work among the team to focus this year's audit on payroll, banking, accounts payable and insurance. Bank confirmation has been sent, accounts payable has been reviewed and the insurance review and payroll is underway. They anticipate completion of the audit in July, and will prepare the Audit Findings for presentation by the September Council Meeting.

3. The Endowment Committee approved a request from Pr. Varinia for \$500 to train the newly formed Flower Committee and kick-start their ministry. Council passed it with a majority vote,

8:51 Policy Responsibilities:

1. Staffing Update presented by Pr. Amy. As was hoped, Emily Hintz will not be returning as part-time staff due to health issues. Staffing has been discussed and will be firmed up in the fall.

2. Finalize Building Blocks Proposal & Rent Process, presented by Lanny Schnipper There will be a process to work with Kathy in the next few weeks

3. Mutual Ministry Committee: Council needs to fill two spots on this committee, to provide support to this ministry. Lori Klopf and Brian Jones were approved by Council to fill those seats.

4. Review Congregational Meeting Results: A quorum was met at the June 4th Congregational Meeting, and we were able to vote in new Council members and fill members of select committees.

5. Serve Boldly: Serve Boldly is an organization that travels to different towns to do service there. They have approached GSLC about providing a Site setup, for 2 weeks of service. Their child safety guidelines is similar to those at Good Shepherd, and aligns with our Welcoming Statement. They need our authorization to allow them to stay here. Greg Mueller made a motion to approve the alliance with Serve Boldly for August, 2024, with Sharon Misuraca seconding. The motion passed unanimously. They will have 40 people staying here.

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8:39 Assignments and Closing: Closing and devotional was offered by Jill Thompson, including the appreciation of Council members who have finished their terms. Paul Davis, Bob Fingland, and Gene Unverfehrt: We thank you for your service. You will be missed! Motion to adjourn was made by Gene Unverfehrt, and seconded by Greg Mueller. The motion was passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Thompson
Congregation Secretary