

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 7 PM via On-Line Zoom

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (GSLC) Council was called to order via Zoom at 7 PM on January 11, 2022, by Kristi Buchholz, Council President.

Present: Pastor Jeremy Serrano, Candace Bradley, Kristi Buchholz, Scott Etzel, Mike Henry, Sue Hertless, John Mott, Laura Mott, Renee Reis

Absent: Jay Neyenhouse (deceased)

DEVOTIONS AND OPENING PRAYER – Pastor Jeremy

RECOGNITIONS

- Scott Etzel recognized Dana Deniston and the Friends Feeding Friends (FFF) volunteers for their ongoing service to the community with FFF programs distributing food, clothing, and furnishings to those in needs.
- Renee Reis recognized Pastor Jeremy for fixing the ping pong table in the church basement.
- Sue Hertless recognized all of the volunteers who have been making worship work.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Candace reported we received a holiday card from Bay Area Crisis Nursery thanking us for our support.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION made by Sue Hertless to accept the December 14, 2021 Council Minutes; seconded by Renee Reis; motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Pastor's Report

Pastor Jeremy submitted his annual report to Council for their perusal ahead of the upcoming annual meeting.

Committee Reports

Please see the individual committee reports; if any questions, see Council Secretary. Some additional discussion occurred on the following topics:

Finance – Laura Mott

- Laura reported she sent out the November financials this evening; she said December's financials should be ready tomorrow. She said we will need to have a short Council meeting, hopefully next week, to approve the budget. It was decided we will hold a special Council meeting after the service January 23 to discuss the proposed 2022 budget.

Evangelism – Sue Hertless

- Sue reported Bill Dietz met her in the Sanctuary, and he picked up his kettle drums. He is happy to have them back!
- Sue reported she will check with the Winter Nights group to see how things may work this year.

Property and Long-Range Planning – Mike Henry

- Mike reported the DISH Network contract is in limbo, as they are requesting the structural plans for the steeple, but we cannot produce them. If they want to submit a bid, they have to move on without the plans. They are planning to add to the steeple. Mike will reach out to the representative again.
- Mike reported he forwarded specifications to Council members for their thoughts and input on the potential new sign in front of the church on Clayton Road. He said he will try to get a second quote for a sign with another company.

Social Ministry – Scott Etzel

- Scott reported he received emails from Dana regarding use of Classroom 3 for storage of boxed food from the Food Bank for FFF distribution. Dana said she cannot accept more food because she has no place to store it.

FFF Space and Distribution From Office

- Scott stated Dana read the November Council Minutes and had some comments about the insurance portion from those Minutes. She told Scott the insurance agent signed off on the items she needs years ago. Kristi asked if there is a priority to move out furniture; if so, it would be the large room above the church office first.

First, we need access to the room above the church office and, second, we need access to the smoke detectors in that room. Scott commented that we need access aisles to each room upstairs for firefighter access in a structure fire, and that insurance companies typically deny claims for damages attributed to lack of proper access for firefighters in a structure fire (such as too much storage and no access corridors). Pastor Jeremy said the

fire extinguishers are being replaced about every two years for testing and/or replacement. Pastor Jeremy will take a look at the room tomorrow, and ask Dana if we can see where the smoke detectors are located. Pastor suggested we give Dana Classroom 3 again and Leida Moss's former office; and move all FFF food and supplies out of the church office, as FFF has "outgrown" the office. Pastor suggested remodeling the Fireside Room to make it a multi-purpose classroom.

We should schedule a meeting with FFF and Council to discuss long-range goals of the FFF program, and their needs over the next few years. We should have immediate access to the large room above the office and access to the smoke detectors there. Discussion on how we can best utilize the space we have.

Pastor Jeremy will talk with Dana and present these issues, then schedule a meeting with Council and Dana to discuss:

- Moving food distribution program out of the church office.
- More space so that FFF does not have to spend down their budget purchasing food.
- Safety in the room above the church office, and access to the smoke detectors.

Youth – Renee Reis

- Renee reported the youth have flocked a second house!

Mutual Ministry and Pastor Evaluation

Renee has created a draft pastoral evaluation for Pastor Jeremy. After she receives feedback from the Mutual Ministry team, she will share this evaluation with Council for discussion. Pastor Jeremy said he would not submit himself to any kind of evaluation in his first four years, as we were not a healthy church. Pastor said he is not a member of the Mutual Ministry team, he is a recipient of this team. Pastor Jeremy stated this is not a corporation, it is a church; there is no precedent set for evaluations.

Kristi asked how the Mutual Ministry team was formed. Pastor Jeremy said he asked the individual members, Renee Reis (chairperson), Tony Rogelstad, and Candace Bradley.

Annual Meeting Plans

Good Shepherd's annual meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2022, immediately following the church service at 11:10 AM. Pastor Jeremy would like to do a hybrid version of the meeting on Zoom. He would like someone on Council to be on their computer inside the church to handle questions from the congregation during the meeting. Any questions would be typed and displayed on the overhead screens. Renee will sit with the computer inside the church and raise her hand when someone has a question.

For the immediate future, we will suspend coffee hour and donuts after the church service.

Elections / Constitution

Kristi will reach out to members to see if they are interested in joining Council.

Candace would like to stay on Council past her term, so has 60 days to notify Council, and 30 days to notify the congregation to change the Constitution. A special meeting for this should be held before the annual meeting. These must be two separate meetings. Pastor Jeremy said we should change the Constitution to read “no fewer than 9” people serving on Council. Kristi will write up these changes and submit before the annual meeting.

Jay Neyenhouse Memorial

Pastor Jeremy said Jay could not afford a headstone, that he was \$1,200 short of the memorial he wanted for himself. Pastor suggested we have a special donation from the congregation for Jay’s headstone. He said if there is a remaining balance due, we can use the memorial fund. Pastor is working with Jay’s social worker. He said the memorial service at Good Shepherd will be our donation. Pastor will send an email to Council for the exact cost of cleaning out Jay’s apartment. He said we could use the pastor’s discretionary fund. Pastor Jeremy will get pictures of Jay’s apartment so we know how to handle the cleaning process.

- *Candace reminded Council that, for the October, November, and December 2021 Council meetings (and the annual meeting in January), this serves as a reminder to Council the congregation needs to vote for Synod delegates from our church who will vote and represent us at the Synod Assembly to be held June 1-4, 2022, in Reno, Nevada.*

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by Kristi Buchholz to adjourn; seconded by Sue Hertless; motion passed, and meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Date of next regular Council meeting – February 8, 2022, 7 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Candace Bradley, Council Secretary
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Additional comments:

Pastor Jeremy will come back to Council with a few date choices for a Zoom meeting with Dana (FFF).

Meeting with Council regarding the 2022 budget will be held Sunday, January 23, after the church service.