

Minutes for Special Council Meeting—June 8, 2022

Attendees: Randy Baskerville, Ros Demaree , Tom Foreman, Sandy Hanke, Mark Heckman, Pastor Dave Hill, Steve Horton, , Sarah Manro, Jeff Reising, Linc Schneider, Pastor Al Schoonover, Harold Seamon

Absent: Ashley Mandery, Jason Pearson

6:35 meeting called to order. Pastor Al opened with prayer

May minutes were amended to correct the budget figures first reported. Steve made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrected figures, Tom seconded and the minutes were approved with the corrections.

Pastor Al announced he is resigning as of June 26th. He shared he feels the council and church body will move forward better without his presence. He said he doesn't want to leave ministries stranded so he and Karen will meet with Erin Eckert, Natosha Burks and Ashley Mandery on how to move forward with VBS.

Mark read Pastor Al's resignation letter to the council. Sandy made a motion to accept the resignation letter and Randy seconded. The motion passed and the resignation letter was accepted.

Mark opened the floor to the council for comments. Several council members spoke directly to Pastor Al with affirmations and stating they were saddened and hoped he had peace with his decision. Pastor Al affirmed that he was at peace with the decision and does not feel he is being forced out.

Pastor Dave added that Pastor Al has done good things in his 6 years at Bethel but Pastor Dave has concerns for his own future role at Bethel. He was called as an associate pastor and asked if the congregation will extend a call for a Senior pastor or extend the call to him? He does not feel that the church can function with only one pastor. Mark, Randy and Sandy will meet with Pastor Dave to discuss his priorities and concerns and possible next steps.

Pastor Al asked if there will be a severance package and Tom asked what his expectations were. Pastor Al suggested pay for his 3 weeks unused vacation and 1 week severance for each of the 6 years he has been here plus medical coverage through the 9 weeks. Tom suggested we approve the severance package as presented by Pastor Al. There was discussion and Steve made a motion to give Pastor Al a severance package but not finalize the severance structure until further discussion. Randy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Tom, Mark, Steve and Harold will meet June 9th to discuss the severance package and will send the results to council through email and request an email vote.

A transition process was discussed and will be a top priority for the Council.

Harold gave the treasure's report stating that since Sarah had been out for 2 weeks with Covid the May numbers were an estimate showing an estimated deficit of \$5,431 for the month. Due to the announcement from Pastor Al, the budget forecast will change as will the 2023 budget. Steve and Harold will work on a budget plan to present at the congregational meeting.

Pastor Al reported worship trend for the first 5 months of 2022 compared to 2021 were up. In 2022 weekly worship attendance was 186 compared to 174 per week in 2021.

The agenda for the June 22nd congregational meeting was presented by Mark.

Pastor Al reported staffing and volunteers for the rummage sale and VBS are sufficient but more could be used.

Randy reported the nominating committee has 5 nominees to date to fill 6 openings. The nominees will be presented at the church forum to be held after Saturday service June 18 and between services June 19.

Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Randy seconded, the motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:22.

Submitted by Sandy Hanke