

West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship  
Deacon Meeting Minutes December 21, 2016 7:15 PM

*All in Attendance:* Brooke Blough, Bryan Geib (recording minutes), Lenny Thompson

### **Minutes**

The minutes from November 22, 2016 were approved

### **Financials**

- Income is 90.7% of budget and expenses are 94.9%, leaving a \$10,000 deficit.
- Randy Nyce offered to share with the deacons some policies and methods for a church to receive the donation of part or all of a personal estate. Brooke is to coordinate a training with him.

### **Projection and Sound Equipment**

- A dedicated computer will complete the upgrade to a newer multimedia system and will replace the old, slow computer we currently use. Bryan will research and purchase a laptop for this use.
- The lapel mic transmitter is struggling and may need to be fixed or replaced. Bryan will look into remediation options.

### **Mutual Aid Request**

- Brooke sent Sharing Fund applications
- Deacons approve submitting a \$1000 grant for Redemption Housing from the Everence Sharing Fund, as the fund will expire within two weeks, and we have not used much of it this year. This was also submitted.

### **Budget Meeting and Financials**

- The building survey was discussed at council meeting, and a building exploratory committee is being formed, and is to be coordinated by Lenny. We are looking within roughly a 10-block radius at churches with similar capacity to ours in terms of worship space, classrooms, fellowship space, office, kitchen, and storage space.
- Bryan is to email Dorianna about the process of contacting the donors who contributed to the building fund. This will give us an idea of time and effort associated with using the building fund for purposes other than originally designated should that option arise.

### **Budget Meeting and Financials**

- The budget was passed as proposed (see budget meeting minutes) with the amendment of removing \$350 from the sabbatical fund contribution and the operating budget. The proposed budget includes **\$30,000** for Pastor Lorie's housing allowance.
- It should be noted that we are expecting to payout a \$15,000 matching grant to Redemption Housing this coming year as approved in a congregational meeting this spring. Time frame TBD.
- Our core missions were each allotted \$3,000 this year, but it was discovered that we paid \$3,500 to Christian Peacemaker Teams. We decided that since our other core (POWER) already receives \$800 from us in payable dues, we would only pay out \$2,500 as a core payment so as to be back on track with the amount budgeted for discretionary giving.
- Each of the following organizations are to receive \$125 from our discretionary fund:
  - Crossroads Community Center, Turning Points for Children, Anabaptist Disabilities Network, MCUSA Women in Leadership Project, House of Grace (Catholic Worker House), Mennonite Economic Development Associates, The City School, and Abraham Path.
- The Missions budget for 2017 is approved at \$17,500, which is 10% of our operating budget.
  - The two core missions will each receive \$3,000, and the discretionary fund will contain \$1,500
  - \$3,500 will be given to Franconia Conference
  - Mennonite Mission Network, Mennonite World Conference, and Mennonite Central Committee

will each receive \$1,750

-Mennonite Education Agency will receive \$1,250

### **Miscellaneous Updates**

-The WPMF website does not show up prominently on Google or Bing for “welcoming” or “LGBT” or “Mennonite church Philadelphia”. Can Dorianna edit this herself?

-Dorianna is to research some options for an affordable A-frame sidewalk sign to place outside the door during Sunday morning services.

Next meeting December 21, 2016 at 7:15 PM