

West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship
Deacon Meeting Minutes September 20, 2016 7:15 PM

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

Minutes

The minutes from August 24, 2016 were approved

Financials

- Income is 86.2% of budget and expenses are 97.5%, leaving a \$12,000 deficit.
- Randy Nyce also 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. Now that Lenny has been established as deacon, we will pursue this information.

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.

Redemption Housing

- Deacons met with Nick Lordi via Skype to come to an understanding of where he is in the process of obtaining non-profit status and how he believes the church could benefit Redemption Housing as a fiscal sponsor. He is to contact his attorney to find out an expected timeframe of acquiring the status.

Building and Facilities

- Congregation should be polled regarding opinions about the current WPMF facilities. Lenny is to revise Survey Monkey (congregation to have a month to fill out upon distribution). Bryan is to follow up with a contact at Woodland Presbyterian to gather info.
- It was evident at the most recent meeting of church council that the building functions and operations have presented us with various difficulties, and the deacons are encouraged to send out the building survey to the congregation as soon as possible. There is also a group to be formed of people willing to look around the neighborhood at different building options, and a question on the survey asking if the participant would be willing to contribute to this research process.

Mutual Aid Request

Brooke to complete Sharing Fund request form for recent mutual aid disbursement.

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?
- The mid-year financial check-in found that we are behind target for the year by roughly \$12,000 due largely to offering being down. One-third of this is expected, as the budget for the year included a \$6,600 shortfall. The questions asked at the meeting were answered via email to all attendees. Deacons are to discuss options.
- Dorianna is to research some options for an affordable A-frame sidewalk sign to place outside the door during Sunday morning services.

Next meeting September 20, 2016 at 7:15 PM