

West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship  
Deacon Meeting Minutes May 24, 2017 7:15 PM

*In Attendance:* Bryan Geib, Rebecca Weber (recording minutes)

*Absent:* Lenny Thompson

### **Financials**

- Income is 86.8% of budget and expenses are 96.6%, leaving a \$8,700 deficit. With planned expenses, the deficit is closer to \$12k.
- We had a long discussion about the financial situation, how bad it is, and how to present it to the congregation
- Our restricted funds contain \$60k, unrestricted funds contain \$51k. We have been net negative for two years or arguably more, and do not have the reserves to let the trend continue. The average attendance over the last ten weeks has been 72 adults. We calculate that if every adult gives \$7 more per week, we will be able to break even. Rebecca to reach out to Tim MJ for thoughts, and we will formulate an announcement within the next two weeks.

### **Mutual Aid Request**

- We discussed the Sharing Fund application and the possibility to request the entire amount of the Everence Sharing Fund grant, and use some of it to reimburse our mutual aid fund for the Kingdom Builders project. The amount to use and the amount to leave will be dependent on the total cost of the project.
- We discussed possibly paying the Camping Inquiry Program \$500 from either the Mennonite College Assistance Fund, the Elders Fund, or some combination of both. Bryan will reach out to Tim to discuss using the Mennonite College Assistance Fund.

### **Additional Action Items/Ongoing Business**

- Redemption Housing \$7,500 grant due.
- Mid-Year Check-In
- 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.
- Rebecca to research options for installing a check scanner in the church office.
- 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 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.
- The lapel mic transmitter is struggling and may need to be fixed or replaced. Bryan will look into remediation options.
- 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. We will discuss and Lenny will coordinate with Randy Nyce once he is officially changed to Everence Advocate.

Next meeting June 1, 2017 at 7:15 PM  
(date and time finalized after May 24 meeting)

We have 60 restricted, 51 unrestricted  
\$7 additional per adult  
Rebecca to reach out to Tim MJ for thoughts  
Announcement in 1-2 weeks

Sharing fund application for 2250  
Reschedule meeting

#### Agenda for tonight...

Close out old minutes  
Redemption Housing grant – come up with a plan  
    May need to dig into upcoming finances a bit, check balances...  
    Hotels not booked yet  
Complete Sharing Fund App – verify completion and submit to Dorianna to mail out  
Camping Inquiry Program  
Announcement about tithing  
Touch base re: Helen mutual aid  
Extra Building Cleaning  
Rental Agreement for Sunday - done  
Get mid-year check-in on the radar  
Sherri's email about the grant for West Philly projects

#### Conclusions...

Take 10k from Vanguard – Bryan coordinate with Dorianna  
Cut check to CIP by July 14. MCAF doesn't work per Tim's email, and should come from the Elder fund.  
Bryan to coordinate with Tim and Pastor Lorie about building conversation with Calvary  
Mid-year checkin tentatively July 23  
    Need childcare, facilitator, space, snacks  
Sherri's request for St. Columba's – discretionary missions – Bryan to email Sherri about status  
June – Rebecca  
July – Bryan  
August – Lenny  
Check scanner – Rebecca to follow up  
Category in Minutes for Ongoing deacon items – Bryan to change first minutes