

Meeting of Commission Chairs
January 7, 2020
6:00 PM

Present: Jeanne Smucker, Brian Bither, Martha Yoder Maust, Laura Harms, Brad Yoder, Herb Troyer, Joyce Troyer, Cheryl Martin

Absent: Grace Rhine

1. Open prayer by Jeanne Smucker.
2. Discussion regarding how Brian will relate to the Commissions/Teams
 - a. Discipling would like him at their meetings.
 - b. Outreach says having Frank there is very helpful.
 - c. Brian thinks it is important for a pastor to be at Worship.
 - d. Community Life thinks it is helpful to have him there to coordinate.
 - e. Does the responsibility need to change in light of only 1 pastor?
 - f. There are time constraints making it difficult/impossible to be at all meetings.
 - g. Meeting with 3 groups regularly is about all that is feasible.
 - h. Evening meetings are difficult.
 - i. Preaching and sermon preparation are time consuming.
 - j. VAT will look at changing amount of time for preaching.
 - k. Ideas:
 - i. Make sure Brian gets all commission/team agendas.
 - ii. Can determine if there are items requiring his attention.
 - iii. Can interact as needed.
 - iv. Make use of face-time, skype, etc.
 - v. Brian can let chairs know if there are items he need to discuss.
 - vi. Plan specific time for those discussions.
3. Discipling Commission
 - a. Will have 3 classes this quarter:
 - i. Joyce will have Gifts Discernment – Library.
 - ii. Brian will discuss after death – Sanctuary.
 - iii. Olajowan will discuss the Humanity of Jesus – Fellowship hall stage.
 - b. The focus will be on the Bible after Easter.
 - c. Discussion of meeting about Child Safety Training.
 - d. CoraLyn is trained to train about Trauma and Suicide.
4. Administration Commission
 - a. Working on remodeling the Church Sign – they are doing background work.
 - b. Laura is working fewer hours as administrative assistant.
 - i. May need to reevaluate support.
 - ii. Maybe ask Emily if she might want a few hours.
 - c. There is ongoing discussion about the flower beds and who will care for them.
 - d. Working on redoing the website after getting budget approval.
 - e. Children’s behavior/church safety policy.
 - i. No longer an administration task.
 - ii. Will be moved to Community Life.
 - iii. Need to finalize wording.
 - iv. Community Life will determine next steps.
5. Outreach Commission

- a. Proposal for funding for Ecuador – mentioned.
 - b. How can we be more involved with the neighborhood?
 - i. Zenebe is working on this.
 - ii. Possibly a community garden.
 - c. Working with ecumenical agencies.
 - d. Visitation at immigration (ICE) facilities
 - i. Freedom for Immigrants
 - ii. Brian is working with this.
6. Community Life
- a. Working on a calendar for the rest of the year.
 - b. Herb will be chair when Linda steps back.
 - c. A visitation team is in place.
7. Spiritual Gifts Team
- a. Working to get more people to discern spiritual gifts.
 - b. Working to make the Database more user-friendly.
 - c. Looking at ways that we can make a list of how people are volunteering on an individual basis to be given to Outreach.
8. VAT
- a. Pastoral search is regrouping
 - i. Will place ad in more places.
 - ii. Writing a new ad.
 - iii. Will plan to talk to interested persons and then do MLI.
 - b. Have contacted Sabrina to write a proposal about a visitation group to minister to all members.
9. Worship
- a. Grace not able to attend due to family illness.
 - b. Brian commented that they will have a 3-4 member team for now.
 - c. February 23 is Conference Celebration Sunday
 - d. A service is being planned to be led by the youth.
10. Miscellaneous
- a. We need to put Commission/Team meeting dates on the Church Calendar.
 - b. Brian got word from the Mara Congregation that they want to connect with us again for a joint meeting.
 - c. Reminder to Commissions/Teams
 - i. Majority of work is management.
 - ii. Call many to establish ministries to accomplish work to be done.
 - iii. Oversee ministries.
 - iv. See the “big picture.”

Respectfully submitted:
Cheryl Martin