

Church Council Minutes
Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Present: Bob Love, Brian Bither, Cheryl Martin, Gary Martin, Jim Martin, Joann Buerge, Kristen Metzler-Wilson, Phil Shenk, Rod Maust.

Rod opened with a reading from I Corinthians 12:4-11.

Safety Policy Implementation—It was suggested that the Pastor/Elder Team obtain criminal background checks, screen the Indiana Sex and Violent Offender Registry, and maintain the training records for Shalom employees. The Child and Youth Nurture Ministry would screen the Indiana Sex and Violent Offender Registry and maintain the annual training records for Shalom volunteers who work with or provide care to children and/or youth. The Child and Youth Nurture Ministry would also arrange for annual educational training. Council affirmed this plan. It was suggested that the Memo of Understanding for the Safety Policy could be distributed at the annual training, but collected a week later to avoid undue pressure to sign it.

Transition Report—Gary reviewed his “Transitional Pastor Report to Council” document which noted the transitional process thus far with suggested next steps. He asked for feedback on his observations and proposed next steps. He suggested that a Transitional Task Group of 3-4 people be formed to provide future feedback to the transitional process. Gary did distribute a ministry description for the task group to council members. It is also available to any congregational members who have an interest in the group. Council affirmed Herb Troyer and Kim Johnson as members of the task group. Gary will ask the congregation for another 1-2 members for the group.

Disability Advocacy Team—Brian gave an update on the disability advocacy ministry. Joyce Troyer and Mary Albrecht have expressed interest in such a ministry. Brian has given them material from ADNet as they explore options for Shalom.

Mara Christian Church update—An agreement has been drawn up with the Mara congregation outlining the arrangement. Some concerns have been raised about the arrangement and those are being monitored/addressed as necessary. The Mara congregation has expressed interest in a joint work day project, and joint meal time. These interests were encouraged and will be addressed by the appropriate ministry. The group has made a donation to support Shalom’s ministry.

Emmanuel Living Christian Church—The group was introduced at Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference this summer. Brian remains in contact with their leadership.

Ministry Reports:

Pastor Elder Team—Cheryl Martin

Working with transitional issues.

Child and Youth Nurture—Joann Buerge

Still need a few teachers.

Fellowship—Jim Martin

Carry-in planned for Aug 7. New group will be meeting soon to work on coming year’s calendar.

Outreach/Welcoming—Phil Shenk

Neighborhood Fall Festival planned for September 18. Continue to publicize IndyCan events. They may wait to make a decision about joining IndyCan until the transition process has clarified Shalom's vision and future direction.

Worship—Kristen Metzler-Wilson

It was agreed that honorarium would not be offered to outside agencies who ask to speak on Sunday mornings. Several folks have indicated a willingness to serve on the ministry this coming year.

Treasurer—Bob Love

Reviewed the Account Balances Report as of 7/12/2016. Shalom remains in a good financial position. Distributed YTD individual ministry spending reports to each ministry chair.

Buildings and Grounds—no report

Adult Education—no report

Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference resources—Kristen Metzler-Wilson (delegate)

Everence has received a Lilly grant to provide support to church employees in times of financial hardships with matching funds. Everence is seeking matching funds and the PET will explore this for our next budget year.

Everence is sponsoring a pastor's retreat weekend in October and encouraging congregations to send their pastors.

Next meeting—Wednesday, September 14, 7pm