

Commission Chairs Team

April 6, 2021

6:00 PM

Present: Jeanne Smucker, Brad Yoder, Grace Rhine, Martha Yoder Maust, Mike Wigginton, Herb Troyer, Joyce Troyer, Brian Bither, Cheryl Martin

1. Opening prayer – Jeanne Smucker
2. Safely Gathering Committee – Martha Yoder Maust
 - a. The community positivity rate is going up slightly and there is a potential for a new wave of infection.
 - b. Poll taken two weeks ago indicated 39+ people were fully vaccinated.
 - c. The recommendation is to use the community case rate rather than the number vaccinated when making decisions.
 - d. Iglesia Amigos is asking to meet – have been given guidelines.
 - e. May need to put up new up-to-date signs that include mask requirements.
 - f. A discussion was held about possible measures to be added to the church with no decisions.
 - g. Discussion of what First Mennonite is doing.
 - h. CAMFEL meeting indicated about half of the churches are meeting in person.
 - i. Will continue to watch the situation.
3. Worship Commission – Grace Rhine
 - a. No formal meetings since last CCT.
 - b. Have been meeting informally each week to plan services.
 - c. Planned several special services around Easter.
 - d. Beginning to include persons interested in becoming more involved with the worship services.
 - e. Discussed the legal use of media and are attempting to stay within the legal guidelines.
 - f. Purchased a new license to use with the new hymnal.
4. Outreach Commission – Brad Yoder
 - a. Hosted the Eastside Creation Network on March 13.
 - b. Are waiting to hear about new trees through the Keep Indianapolis Beautiful group.
 - c. Center for Interfaith Cooperation.
 - d. Arlington Wood Neighborhood group – Zenebe Abebe continues to attend.
 - e. Brad is part of 3 groups related to gun violence and is helping write a letter to the Mayor of Indianapolis. Current bill appears dead for now.
 - f. Solar United Neighbors.
 - g. State redistricting interest.
 - h. Zenebe attended the Indiana-Michigan Conference.
 - i. Have not heard back about the Cool Congregations application.
5. Discipling Commission – Martha Yoder Maust

- a. Dismantling Racism Class
 - i. May be some congregation work after the class related to policies, etc.
 - ii. Individuals have access to materials through February 2022.
 - iii. Indiana-Michigan Conference will reimburse the congregation for the materials.
 - b. Children's Education coordinator has resigned and work has begun to find someone else.
6. Pastors – Brian Bither
 - a. Indiana-Michigan Conference
 - i. Annual sessions will have some virtual and some in person at Amigo Centre.
 - ii. Dan Miller and Anna Board are leaving.
 - b. CAMFell – Chin-Burmese congregations discussed the situation in Myanmar.
 - i. Civil Disobedience Movement.
 - ii. Appears to be nonviolent.
 - iii. May want to help with monetary donations through the congregations.
7. Administration Commission – Mike Wigginton
 - a. The camera has detected visitors coming 3 nights in the last several weeks.
 - i. Unsure of the nature of the cars and occupants.
 - ii. Discussion about how to address this.
 - iii. Possibly putting up a sign to indicate a camera is watching.
 - iv. Looked at alternative to contacting the police.
 - b. Will follow up with Iglasia Amigos using the building.
8. Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team – Joyce Troyer
 - a. Many commission member's 2 year terms are ending and will be working to fill those.
 - b. Discussion was held about staggering terms of members. Will not change at this time.
9. Community Life Commission – Herb Troyer
 - a. Will need to look at the attendance again.
 - b. Will be meeting next week.
 - c. Small groups are still meeting.
10. Vision and Accountability Team – Jeanne Smucker
 - a. Addressed the Covenant of Understanding for Craig Oury – was sent to Craig today.
 - b. Division of responsibilities between Brian and Craig will be determined when Craig is here and he and Brian can work it out.
 - c. A third pastor was discussed and this will wait until Brian and Craig have had time to see what, if any, needs there are.
11. Next meeting – June 1, 2021 at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Martin