

**District Board Meeting  
Pleasant Hill CoB  
January 11, 2014**

**Present:** Steve North, Art Fourman, David Shetler, Mary Boone, Julie Hostetter, Susan Fitze, Karen Dillon, Susan Liller, Doug Donohoo, Carl Eubank, Tom Bowser, Char Foster, Ty Pyles, Mindy Tipton, Linda Brandon, Tony White, Judy Boles, Sandy Jenkins, Larry Tyner, Geneva Price, Trent Smith, Gary Crim, Wendy Erbaugh, Mark Bowman, Nan Erbaugh, David Erbaugh, Nick Beam

**I. Welcome to Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren:** Nick Beam

**II. Introductions, Community Sharing, and Prayers**

**III. Worshipful Work**

**IV. Minutes of the previous Board meetings:** Wendy Noffsinger Erbaugh

A. Five sets of minutes were presented for approval.

- i. May 5, 2014
- ii. June 22, 2014
- iii. August 6, 2014
- iv. September, 6 2014
- v. October 4, 2014

B. **ACTION:** Consensus was found. All the minutes presented were approved.

**V. Order of the Day: Capital and Operational Budget for Camping and Retreat Commission:**

Gerald Harley

A. Gary shared that Gerald Harley was unable to meet with contractors due to weather.

B. Budget: Art Fourman presented the proposed budget. Paper copies were provided. A time of discussion followed. The budget was revisited under new business.

**VI. Order of the Day: Conversations:** New Carlisle, Troy, Donnels Creek, Cristo Nuestra Paz, Good Shepherd, Greenville

A. Tony White from New Carlisle joined us for a time of conversation regarding communication with and by the district.

**VII. Commission Reports**

A. Camping and Retreat: Art Fourman

- i. Report available online.
- ii. A board member has been working to get anonymous donations to update the kitchen in Heritage Lodge.

B. Resource Development: Carl Eubank

- i. Report available online.
- ii. Appeal letter went out December 1. \$4300 were received in response.

C. Ministerial Leadership: Sandra Jenkins

- i. Sandra Jenkins serves as facilitator until the group meets and calls a new one.
- ii. Has met a lot for licensing people.

D. Missional Renewal: Trent Smith

- i. Report available online.
- ii. Struggling to find enough coaches to serve interested congregations. Please submit names who might be a good fit with this ministry.
- iii. Trent Smith and Susan Fitze serve as co-facilitators.

E. Shared Ministries: Judy Boles

- i. Judy Boles will facilitate this commission.

F. New Church Development:

- i. Commission needs to meet to pick a facilitator.

G. Gifts Discernment: Julie Hostetter

- i. Members of this team include Justin North, Rhonda Scammahorn, and Sandy Dobberstein.
- ii. Will meet when they are able to schedule a meeting.

H. **MOTION:** Tom Bowser moved to accept these reports.

- i. **ACTION:** The board approved the reports.

**VIII. Reports from District Officers, Staff, and Affiliates**

A. Director of Camping and Retreat Ministries: Karen Dillon

i. Facilities:

- a) Many pipes froze during the polar vortex. Pipes in Chalet 5 and Chalet 3 burst. Appropriate repairs are being made. Tom has needed to put a screw in some windows to keep them closed. Vonda and Karen have been adding insulation to reduce cold air leaks in Heritage. Work is being done to winterize Chalets 4 and 5. One of the modulares has a wall that has pulled away from the building and water leaks into the modular.
- b) The refrigerator in Chalet 4 had a damaged circuit and suddenly stopped working. Ice left in that refrigerator melted and leaked out, soaking the floor. The hot water heater in Heritage is leaking and needs replaced.
- c) Everything in Sugar Grove seems okay.
- d) Vonda goes through the facilities every morning and evening.

- ii. A woman would like to rent a chalet and live there, working on her business and clearing trails. Karen hopes to rent chalet 1 to her. Nan Erbaugh suggested talking to our insurance agent about what they would like to have from the woman regarding her business liability insurance.

iii. Camping and Retreat Commission

- a) Will be working with Brethren Retirement Community to provide a special activity for people serving as primary caregivers.
- b) Plans to provide a weekend or Saturday for older people looking into a new calling.
- c) Preparing a 5x7 "Save the Date card" with all Camping and Retreat Commission dates.
- d) Sent out a survey about Camping and Retreat Commission desires and expectations.

iv. Insurance

- a) Letter from the insurance agent was available online.

v. **MOTION:** Mindy Tipton motioned to accept Karen's report.

- a) **ACTION:** Consensus was reached. The Board affirmed the report.

B. Treasurer's Report: Susan Liller

- i. Report available online.
- ii. It is too early for a 2014 end of year report.
- iii. **ACTION:** The Board affirmed the report.

C. Brethren Retirement Community: John Warner

- i. Report available online.
- ii. **ACTION:** The Board affirmed the report.

D. Director of District Communications: Mary Boone

- i. Report available online.
- ii. **ACTION:** The Board affirmed the report.

E. District Executive: Dave Shetler

- i. Report available online.
- ii. **ACTION:** The Board affirmed the report.

## IX. Old Business

- A. How can the Southern Ohio District Board better connect and support our congregations and pastors?
  - i. A time of discussion followed.
- B. Personnel Committee Report: Judy Boles, Janet Jullian, Larry Tyner
  - i. The Personnel Committee will be working with Mary Jo Flory-Steury (Associate General Secretary) to put together a review for Dave. They will also be putting together a performance review for Mary.
- C. Ethics Training Date: April 26, 2014 at Brethren Retirement Community.
  - i. Dave Shetler asked who should cover the cost of the books used at the training.
    - a) **MOTION:** After a time of discussion, Sandy Jenkins motioned to offer scholarships for pastors facing financial hardship.
      - **ACTION:** This will be cared for by Ministry Commission.
- D. Search for District Board member to replace Katie Polzin
  - i. Still looking for a replacement. Gifts Discernment Commission suggested Amy (Fox).
- E. Update on Shalom Team
  - i. John Kinsel is not able to serve as the chairperson of this team. Kathy Royer has agreed to serve in that role.

## X. New Business

- A. **QUESTION:** From Steve North: "Does the District Board set measurable performance objectives for the District Executive?"
  - i. There is not a formal job description, but the polity manual and the initial job posting offer starting points.
  - ii. It was noted that it is difficult to set objectives for an Executive when the organization has not set objectives to fashion them after.
  - iii. Concern was raised about trying to quantify ministry with measurable objectives.
- B. Continued discussion:
  - i. Guiding Questions
    - a) How can the Camping and Retreat Commission better communicate with local churches?
    - b) What type of budget are we going to approve for the Camping and Retreat Commission?
    - c) How can we be good stewards of district resources and provide meaningful ministry?
    - d) Should we have camp at Woodland Altars this summer or not?
    - e) Do we lose face as a District Board if we do not offer camp at Woodland Altars?
    - f) How do we communicate the facts we have?
    - g) Can we approve the Camping and Retreat Commission budget as it is, given how much it puts the District in the red?
    - h) Can we do a partial (One month? One quarter?) budget until we have more facts?
    - i) What would a Camping and Retreat Commission budget look like if we have camp at locations other than Woodland Altars?
  - ii. **MOTIONS:** The following motions come from the board. The District Board resolves
    - a) To send a letter to congregations to inform the churches that the District Board needs additional pledges of \$95,000.00 by February 11, 2014, or the board will make other arrangements for the camping ministry in 2014 at other locations. The letter will call for an emergency meeting of the District to discuss this resolution.
      - **ACTION:** Consensus was reached. The board affirmed the motion. Gary, Dave, Art, Karen, Mary, and Larry will draft the letter.
    - b) To inform the churches that the District Board needs additional pledges of \$90,000 by February 11, 2014 or the District Board will make other arrangements for the camping ministry in 2014 at other locations.

- **ACTION:** Consensus was reached. The Board affirmed the motion.
  - c) To authorize the treasurer to temporarily pay staff at the same rates as 2013 and other necessary expenses as approved by District Board Chair, the Chair of the Camping and Retreat Commission, and the District Executive.
    - **ACTION:** Consensus was reached. The board affirmed the motion.
  - d) To authorize The Director of Camping to explore other options for the district's camping and retreat ministries.
    - **ACTION:** Consensus was reached. The board affirmed the motion.
- iii. Emergency meeting scheduled for Sunday Jan 26. 2:30 pm at Happy Corner.

#### **XI. Announcements**

#### **XII. Worshipful Work**

- A. Where have we sensed God's Spirit leading us in this meeting?
- B. For what do we have to give thanks out of our time together?
- C. What do we need God's help with moving forward?
- D. Where do we need God to continue to give us clarity?

#### **XIII. Closing Prayer**

**Respectfully submitted by,**

**Wendy Noffsinger Erbaugh  
District Clerk**