

## District Board Meeting Minutes February 23, 2013

**Present:** Gary Crim, Julie Hostetter, Burt Wolf, Tom Bowser, Trent Smith, Dave Shetler, Mary Boone, Katie Polzin, Deb Oskin, Larry Tyner, Jim Moore, Janet Jullian, Sandy Jenkins, Carl Eubank, Susan Liller, Susan Fitze, Steve Conklin, Wendy Noffsinger Erbaugh, Char Foster

Welcome to Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren: Joy Kemmerer

Introductions, Community Sharing, & Prayers

Worshipful Work

Minutes from January 5th, 2013 Meeting: Wendy Noffsinger Erbaugh. The minutes were affirmed.

Minutes from September 8, 2012 Meeting: Amy Hager. The minutes were affirmed.

### Reports from District Officers, Staff & Affiliates

1. Treasurer's Report: Susan Liller
  - 1.1. Written report provided.
  - 1.2. **QUESTION:** Because the bond market is not doing well, should Resource Development look at investment policies regarding bonds the district holds and come back with investment recommendations? **PROPOSAL:** Resource Development make a recommendation at the May 2013 District Board meeting for how to move forward. **ACTION:** Plan approved by consensus.
2. Brethren Retirement Community: John Warner
  - 2.1. Written report provided.
    - a) **CORRECTION:** Item M on the BRC report should read "Brethren Academy" not "Bethany Seminary."
3. Director of District Communications: Mary Boone
  - 3.1. Written report provided.
4. District Executive: Dave Shetler
  - 4.1. Written report provided.

### Commission Reports

1. Gifts Discernment: Burt Wolf
  - 1.1. Gifts Discernment is working to start a database with information that can be used to connect district and local ministries. They are helping to find volunteers for the 2014 Annual Conference in Columbus. Justin North from Living Peace is now a member.
  - 1.2. The report was affirmed.
2. Ministerial Leadership: Sandra Jenkins
  - 2.1. Written report provided.
  - 2.2. Ministry Commission has been discussing pro-rating CEU's for ordained ministers involved in less than full-time ministries. No decisions have been reached. It is the minister's responsibility to contact the commission to see how many CEU's are required and how flexible he or she can be in meeting the different required categories.
  - 2.3. The report was affirmed.
3. Missional Renewal: Susan Fitze
  - 3.1. Written report provided.
  - 3.2. **PROPOSAL:** Ministry and Missional Renewal Commissions request that \$750 be set aside to help with costs for those wanting to attend the Small Church Conference held at Camp Mack on April 13. **ACTION:** District Board affirmed this amount.
  - 3.3. The report was affirmed.
4. New Church Development: Ron Wenzel
  - 4.1. Written report provided.
  - 4.2. Report affirmed.

5. Outdoor Ministries: Steve Conklin ORDER OF THE DAY @ 1:30 PM
  - 5.1. Camp postcards and registration forms were distributed. Members were encouraged to give them to someone who may not have seen them and to talk with Steve if they know someone who might need assistance affording camp. If they know someone who is interested in serving as a counselor or dean, they should contact Char Foster.
  - 5.2. Outdoor Ministries has worked on defining their reporting structure and discussed how this commission should/will interact with the district and the neutral committee. They have also talked about staffing events during the interim and candidates for the position of Interim Director of Outdoor Ministries.
  - 5.3. Upcoming events:
    - a) Men's retreat: March 1 and 2
    - b) Work days: March 16, April 27
    - c) Fund Raiser 5K and Pig Roast: April 6
  - 5.4. Camp promotional DVD's have been sent to congregations. Board members were asked to encourage their use in congregations.
  - 5.5. Mary is making updates to the Outdoor Ministries website.
  - 5.6. Letter from Robin Waddell: On behalf of Outdoor Ministries, Steve presented Robin's letter regarding his lease on the Woodland Altars property. **RECOMMENDATION:** Gary Crim recommended that we treat the information in the letter as a point of information. **ACTION:** No action was taken on the letter.
  - 5.7. Waterlines: Leaks have been discovered in the water lines at Woodland Altars. The current lines were laid in the same trench as the sewer lines, so in some places they are 12-15 feet deep and difficult to access. Replacing all of the water lines would be cheaper than trying to fix them and might make it easier to winterize camp.
    - a) Steve and Jim Oren presented an estimate from Shook Construction.
 

**RECOMMENDATION:** Outdoor Ministries recommends spending up to \$30,000 of the timber funds to complete the estimate from Shook Construction for water lines. **ACTION:** The recommendation from Outdoor Ministries was affirmed by consensus, with two members expressing concern about the financial timing and amount.
6. Resource Development: Carl Eubank
  - 6.1. Written report provided.
  - 6.2. **ACTION:** Dave Shetler will follow up with Charles Shumate regarding the discussions held between Shumate and Resource Development.
  - 6.3. Report affirmed.
7. Shared Ministries: Mindy Tipton
  - 7.1. Written report provided.
    - a) **CORRECTION:** 1000 buckets clean-up buckets were prepared, not 100.
  - 7.2. Disaster Ministries: Information will go out in the upcoming district newsletter regarding another date for assembling clean-up buckets. **RECOMMENDATION:** To recognize the Via's work with Disaster Ministries at District Conference.
  - 7.3. Youth: It has been difficult to find Junior High advisors.
  - 7.4. Empowering Disciples: Consideration is being given to holding another event.
  - 7.5. Brethren Helping Hands: Needs to track down the cards submitted at District Conference in which people expressed interest in serving.
  - 7.6. A sports-themed day similar to softball tourney is in the development stages.
  - 7.7. Report affirmed.

## Old Business

1. Program and Arrangements:
  - 1.1. Share and Prayer: 11 am-1 pm, Saturday March 23, in the Brookville area. Exact location to be determined.
  - 1.2. District-wide Pentecost event; 4-7 pm, May 19, at Happy Corner. The event will include an intergenerational time of inter-cultural activities led by Yurt Folk, a pot luck of dishes from other culture, kids' activities, and a time of closing singing and vespers.
  - 1.3. District Conference: October 11-12. Jenny and Tom Glover are the on-site coordinators for Trotwood. The team is hoping the youth will participate in the worship service, go to Happy

Corner for an overnight, have a project in the community the next day, and come back to District Conference to share what they have done. They are looking for opportunities for children to participate in worship as well. The continuing education event will focus on inter-cultural competency.

2. Shalom Team Study Committee: Deb Oskin

2.1. This committee has been meeting for the past two years in response to a paper passed by Annual Conference in 2002. They envision a district "deacon ministry" team that pro-actively looks to help with problems rather than reacting to their fallout. Team members would receive yearly training and would meet quarterly, matching the skills of people in the district with problems in district congregations. It would blend the old deacon and elder ministries. They have 14 people willing to help them work with this project. The goal is 20.

2.2. **RECOMMENDATION:** The Shalom Study Committee recommends forming a proactive team moving forward with the holistic concept of shalom, dedicated to the health, wholeness, and well being of every congregation, pastor, and leadership team in the District. **ACTION:** Board members affirmed this project.

3. **REMINDER:** Please continue to sign up and help make visits to congregations.

3.1. As the board works with Charles Shumate in the future, new and better tools for these visits may be developed.

4. Interim Director of Outdoor Ministries

4.1. Larry and Dave have had conversations with 2 candidates. Char will be helping with a second round of interviews. Dave hopes to announce the interim director shortly.

4.2. They are waiting until the interim is decided before contacting Camp Mack about partnering with them.

5. Other

5.1. Larry updated the board about the response to the 2011 letter from Castine saying they were withholding funds from the district. He shared a letter he had prepared. Members suggested revisions. Larry was going to make the suggested change and mail it in the week following the meeting.

**New Business**

None

**Announcements**

None

**Worshipful Work**

Where have we sensed God's Spirit leading us in this meeting?

For what do we have to give thanks out of our time together?

What do we need God's help with moving forward?

Where do we need God to continue to give us clarity?

**Closing Prayer**