

## Meeting at Donnels Creek Church of the Brethren

March 3, 2012

### Agenda

**Attendees:** Susan Liller, Mary Boone, Amy Hager, Dave Shetler, Rosie Combs, Judy Boles, Burt Wolf, Doug Donohoo, Carl Eubank, Dave Erbaugh, Mindy Tipton, Trent Smith, Deb Oskin, Belinda Yingst, Larry Tyner, Sandra Jenkins, John Kinsel, Matt Bowman, Gene Karn, Vicki Ullery, Janet Julian, John Warner, Andrew Wright, Susan Fitze, Steve Conklin, Nan Erbaugh, Gary Crim

**Welcome to Donnels Creek Church of the Brethren:** Tad Holbert provided the introduction to the church.

#### **Introductions, Community Sharing, & Prayers**

**Consensus Information** – Deb Oskin updated the Board members about the purpose of consensus driven decision making.

**Minutes of January 7, 2012 Meeting:** The minutes were not posted to the site although each member received a copy via email. The Board postponed the approval of the minutes to the next Board meeting.

**Worshipful Work:** Rosie Combs

**Standing Committee:** Vicki Ullery and Mark Bowman asked three questions of the Board that had been raised by the Annual Conference Moderator in the Jan/Feb Messenger. They are using the responses to these questions as the report at Annual Conference of the Standing Committee.

1. In what ways is the SOD continuing the work of Jesus?
2. How is the SOD being changed by continuing the work of Jesus?
3. As we talk about continuing the work of Jesus, how can the Annual Conference help the SOD do this even better?

Vicki and Mark will summarize the response and send it to the Board members via email.

#### **Reports from District Officers, Staff & Affiliates**

**Director of Outdoor Ministries:** Gene Karn reviewed the report and as requested in the January Board meeting, provided the camp curriculums. Camp registration is up as is volunteer counselors. The February Mens' Retreat went well. There was some discussion about how to include education that the youth are receiving in their church schools into the outdoor experience.

**Treasurer's Report:** Susan Liller provided 3 reports

1. Year-end 2011 report finalized from January 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.
2. Month ending 2/29/2012 report
3. 2012 Budget by Month

The required use of unrestricted funds to pay expenses is causing the depletion of the funds in about 3 months. The projected giving from churches is \$55,000, but the budgeted giving is \$85,000.

**Brethren Retirement Community:** John Warner gave the report that is on line. The facility recently passed an audit that resulted in no found deficiencies.

Lunch

**Director of District Communications:** Mary Boone reported that the database listings have increased to almost 600 names. There is a lot of activity on the website and the plans are to add separate pages for each commission. Mary will post her report on the District website.

**District Executive:** Along with his report that is on the District website, Dave Shetler talked about creating a quarterly Share and Prayer meeting for the pastors to support each other and address special interests/concerns. He received support from the Board for this meeting. Dave also proposed the creation of a Shalom team consisting of Dave Shetler, Sandy Jenkins, Larry Tyner, Deb Oskin, Andrew Wright. Another item that has been raised is the creation of an Ex Officio role that can be served by a youth member of the District. The Board affirmed support of the role and requested that Shared Ministries provide a recommendation to the Board at the next meeting of the role of a youth Ex Officio board member.

**Worshipful Work:** Rosie Combs

### **Commission Reports**

**Outdoor Ministries:** John Kinsel provided a recap of the report that is posted on line. Volunteer camp counselors will be required to go through training every 2 years and as much as possible on site at Woodland Altars. OM is researching using web tools for the training as well. The timber contract expired at the end of January 2012, and a request has been made to extend it to 12/31/12. Continued work is required to complete the logging and the reclamation. John requested a correction to his report to indicate that there is still \$80,000 balance due (the report read \$60,000). Outdoor Ministries prepared a letter to the loggers to extend the contract with provisions for required reclamation, payment in full and completion of harvesting in the one remaining area. The Board authorized, by consensus, Larry Tyner, Gene Karn, John Kinsel, and Gary Crim to negotiate an extension of the timber sale contract with Mark Goeke and J.M. Barbee within the general recommendation as presented in the OM report.

**Gifts Discernment:** Andrew Wright has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Missional Renewal:** Trent Smith gave the report in Susan's absence this afternoon.

**New Church Development:** Deb Oskin gave the report. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/15/12. Written report is on the District website.

**Resource Development:** Burt Wolf gave the report. The report is on the District website. The Board discussed different mechanisms to use for donation submission. The committee recommends a 3-way funding partnership between the district, the congregation and the pastor for the pastor's education. The Ministry Training Fund would be used for this purpose. The Board affirmed the recommendation.

**Ministerial Leadership:** Sandra Jenkins gave the report. Sandy is the chair of the commission and Tom Bowser is the vice-chair. There are 28 people registered for Shoes of the Fisherman. Registration can be done on the District Website and the training is on 3/17/12 at Salem COB. Burt Wolf presented guidelines for pastoral training and to increase the number of viable options for CEUs. The committee is also discussing pastoral mentoring as a training option. Next meeting is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> at Salem at 6:30.

**Shared Ministries:** Mindy Tipton gave the report that is posted on line.

### **Information Technology/Communication (Advisory Status)**

#### **Old Business**

**Letters** were mailed to West Alexandria Church of the Brethren and to the Brethren Heritage Center. There has been no response.

**Update on Castine Church of the Brethren** – Larry Tyner met with Greg Keyer about ongoing communication between the District and the church. It does not seem that there is any more follow up required at this time.

**Programs and Arrangement** Update for District Conference and events in 2012 – Special service scheduled for tomorrow (March 4<sup>th</sup>) at 4 pm. The registration fee for delegates is \$30 and \$15 for non-delegates and includes lunch.

**Moving expenses for Rivera's** – In March 2008 the District paid \$3,111.00 for moving expenses from Puerto Rico to New Carlisle. Christo Nuevo Paz paid them \$1,000 for their retirement relocation. The Board agreed to communicate to the Rivera's that there is not funding for their relocation back to Puerto Rico. Larry Tyner will forward the letter.

**Hispanic Ministry Funds** –A team met to discuss the best approach to supporting the Hispanic Ministries. Burt Wolf provided the minutes of the meeting to the Board. Letter appealing for financial resources was mailed to the churches. A request was made to loan Hispanic Ministry \$1,000 as a carry over to allow for the current pastors to transition to an advisory capacity. The Board affirmed the loan.

#### **New Business**

**Meeting with Beaver Creek congregation** – Larry Tyner and Dave Shetler met with Beaver Creek about communication and the timber harvesting. They plan to have a follow up visit. One suggestion that came from the meeting is improved documentation of the policies around decision making.

**Annual Reviews of District Staff:** The Board discussed the formation of a Personnel Committee and will further discuss the annual review process at the May meeting.

**Question:** How can we be more proactive in the lives of the local congregations? Mary Boone will provide a summary of the District Board meeting minutes to the churches after each meeting.

Other – The next meeting is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at East Dayton Church of the Brethren.

Announcements

Process Evaluation

Closing Prayer