

**Southern Ohio/Kentucky District
Board Meeting
May 8, 2021
VIA ZOOM**

Jim Baker, Todd Reish, Dave Shelter, Mary Boone, Laura Brown, Fred Bernhard, Gary Crim, Becky Maurer, Sie Brock, Jill Schweitzer, Nick Beam, Ron Mack, Sarah Friedrich, Glenn, Mike Yingst, Karen Dillion, Vicki Ullery, Kristin Harvey, Scott Fitzgerald,

VISITORS: David Steele, Paul Schrock,

9:00

Welcome
Devotions

Approving Agenda

Approving Minutes from March 13, 2021 meeting

- Approved as presented: Jim Baker made the motion and Ron Mack seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

- Stony Creek update

Quick Claim deed was signed which will allow the final transfer of the property to the church.

- Bear Creek and Mack Memorial update:

Ben Walters wants to use the Mack Memorial church for his food service company. He will be renting on a monthly basis.

Bear Creek has been rented for some time to a group who is in the process of negotiating with the district for purchasing the building.

- West Alexandria responded that they did not want to meet last week in an outside meeting per Covid recommendations. They are wanting to meet inside the building. Recommendation of the board is to schedule to meet with them as requested.

9:30 Order of the Day / Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board Strategic Plan / Compelling Vision

David Steele and Paul Schrock joined the board Zoom meeting to lead the discussion regarding the new Mission and Ministry Board strategic plan/compelling vision. The goal of the plan is for the Jesus in the Neighborhood focus to drive the work not only at the brotherhood level and district level but each local congregation.

The Southern Ohio board discussed putting together a revised strategic plan now so that we will need to select a district executive. Todd will bring the leadership team together to establish how to proceed and will report at our July meeting.

10:30 New Business

- New COVID letter will be developed by the leadership team, sent to the board for approval and then distribution.
- Constance Congregation have met and decided to dissolve their congregation.
- Racial Justice Team / Racial Justice Query: The team for the district is absolutely amazing. They are appointing a subgroup to develop the actual query with the goal of having it ready for district conference in October.
- Plan for saving or getting rid of District Documents procedure: The committee has yet to meet.
- District Conference October 8/9 will be a virtual meeting at this time. Tim and Audrey Hollenberg/Duffy, pastors of the Oakton Church of the Brethren in Vienna, VA will be leading the worship on Friday evening.
- Updating district computers: Dave was thinking that since there will be a transition to a new District Executive should be able to select a system. Dave would like to suggest getting a new hard drive that he will purchase for the computer he has if he can then keep it when he leaves. Mary needs a new computer, and she intends to stay. Karen has decided to purchase a new computer for herself with the request that any money that would have been used for her computer be set aside for the person that replaces her. Mary will have \$ 2000 set aside for her computer. If the amount is more than this, the leadership team can review it and make the decision about increasing the amount.
- Search Committee for District Executive: The committee will be comprised of the board members, congregational members, and Nancy Heishman as a consultant . Karen Dillion, Nick Beam, Laura Brown, and Todd Riesh have volunteered for the search committee as board representatives. Several congregational individuals were suggested. Todd will contact them about serving on the committee.
- New Position in the District: Proposal was made by Lucas Keller from the Racial Justice team that a new position for the district as a Justice Ministry Coordinator. This will be on the agenda next meeting. Todd will send the proposal to the board members for review prior to the meeting.

Noon

Lunch

1:00 pm

Staff Reports

- Mary Boone on the website; see attached met with the other DE administrative assistants.
- Karen Dillon Camping registration is underway with very few registrations at this point. June 7 through the end of July with the week of Annual Conference off. There is a college and ...group that is new this year. Largest camp to date is an in-person camp for quilting! May 21 is another evening for the women to get together. Fall plans are underway with a hope of doing cookie camp.
- Scott Fitzgerald report is attached.
- Dave Shetler: Word of appreciation to the other staff members for everything they do especially the behind-the-scenes things that happen! Dave has preached twice online for Happy Corner. Susan Liller's ordination is in the planning with East Dayton and West Charleston. He shared with the board his official retirement letter.

2:00

Commission Reports

- Shared Ministries
Karen Dillion filled in for Ann Stackhouse. BDM is focusing on the Dayton area. They have opened the overnight lodging sites so now people from other areas can participate. Young Adults have several events planned for this summer. They are hoping to have in-person activities. Pat Krabacher is working as a liaison with/for Nigeria. Racial and Climate justice groups have become vital parts of the Shared Ministries Commission.
- Connections The commission has not been meeting. We need to determine if this commission needs to continue. We may want to restructure and blend this group into one of the other commissions as we have expanded the work focus of other commissions.
- Resource Development
The commission is hoping to develop a network for individuals to seek to know others outside their own congregations and to share stories either in print or electronically.
The Resource Development Commission is asking for each Commission to complete a narrative (attached) to be shared to increase positive communication within the district.
Stewardship education is also a need that the Resource Development Commission is working to continue.
The commission is suggesting that the History of the Southern Ohio book be placed in a retirement status. It is suggested that putting the history out electronically is of more value than a printed book at this point. This will be on the agenda again.
- Ministry

Trying to finish the 5year review. There are a few individuals who are asking to be withdrawn from ordination/and or retirement status.

- Missional/Renewal

John Keller has requested that he be removed from the commission itself because of his commitment to the Racial Justice Team. The Lenten series was well received. The Where Do We Go from Here sessions will continue the last Tuesday of each month. They are encouraging congregations to participate in the going Zoom Bible studies around the Compelling Vision.

District Mission Ambassadors: because Andrew and Debi were unable to attend the meeting today there was no official report currently.

Next meeting July 10, 2021

Report submitted by PJ Arndts