

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH BOARD MINUTES – JANUARY 17, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chair Vicki Hinz-Ensz. The lamp was lit by Pastor Brett signifying God's presence and guidance over the meeting. Present were board members Pastor Brett Klingenberg, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Lori Thimm, Vern Jantzen, Ross Reimer, Jerry Reimer, Dorothy Zimmerman, Lisa Goossen, Marci Regier, and Adm Assistant Vicki Frerking. Brad Thimm was absent. Devotions were led by Pastor Brett.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The **December 2018 meeting minutes** stand approved as presented.
2. **Everence Endowment Fund:** As discussed at the annual meeting, a committee will be formed to work with Lyle of Everence to explore in depth what's involved in establishing an Everence Endowment Fund. This committee will explore the options and visions for such a fund and report back to the church board. A decision on establishing this fund would be made at the 2020 Annual Meeting. Vern Jantzen volunteered to represent the Church Board on this committee. Board members are to give committee member suggestions to Vicki Hinz-Ensz.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **New board members** Marcia Regier and Brad Thimm were welcomed by Chair Vicki.
2. The **Annual Meeting** was reviewed.
3. **Election of Board Secretary:** Currently Lisa Goossen serves in this position. ▲Dorothy Zimmerman moved to have Lisa serve as Board Secretary for 2019; seconded by Ross Reimer. Motion passed.
4. **Church Board meeting devotion schedules** were distributed.
5. **The Nebraska Mennonite Women's Retreat** requests donations of \$100 from each congregation in the area to defray costs of the retreat. This has not been done in the past and the board does not wish to donate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mission, Peace and Service Committee:

1. The final Mission Moment will be Sunday on Warren's Table. Dorothy recently heard a presentation on CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates for children involved with the court system. Volunteers are being sought to be a type of mentor to the children.
2. She may put together a list of volunteer opportunities in Gage County and would also like to highlight the involvement of congregation members who presently volunteer.

Worship Council: Pastor, Marci, Erin, Paula and Jane met yesterday to begin planning upcoming worship services.

Education Council:

1. The Christmas program received lots of positive feedback.
2. SYF will attend Snow Camp in February. The SYF fundraiser lunch raised about \$1800.
3. JYF and Peace Club are using the Detectives of Divinity curriculum.
4. The Adult Sunday School class is studying the book "Fully Engaged".

Pastor's Report:

1. He would like to know what to do with the outdated technology equipment. A list of unneeded items will be presented at the next meeting.
2. He will be gone January 27 to February 4 to an MDS building project. There will be a Hymn Sing on Sunday, February 3.

Building Committee:

1. In Brad's absence, Vicki Ensz reported that he is taking care of the dead tree at the Southwest corner of the property near the highway.
2. The committee is discussing replacing trees along the cemetery fence. Dick Penner and Gayland Regier have discussed this in the past and will be consulted.

Central Treasurer's Report:

1. December finished with \$3200 more taken in than spent.
2. He has concerns because the general fund donations are not keeping up with expenditures most of the time.
3. He wants the Committee researching establishing an Endowment Fund to ask if the undesignated funds will still be available if an Endowment Fund is started.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer. The lamp was extinguished, symbolizing that God remains not only in this place, but goes with us into the world. The next meeting will be February 21 at 7 p.m. Lisa Goossen will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant