

Minutes from Deacon Meeting –UnApproved
July 11, 2023

Deacon	Attend	Deacon	Attend
Anderson, Larry	P	Moberg, Steve	P
Colle, Josiah	P	Phelan, Steve	P
Cooper, Barry	P	Scheneman, Dan	A
Failing, Debbie	A	Smith, Dave	P
Fry, Diane	P		
Pastor Cable, Ritchey	P	Vande Polder, Don	A

V is Virtual/Zoom

- Quorum (7) is established.
- Opening Prayer at 6:20 pm by Larry Anderson.
- Motion to approve the June minutes by Dave Smith and seconded by Josiah Colle; unanimously approved.

New Business:

- **Ministries of Mercy discussion: Chapter 13 - Mercy Ministry and Church Growth.**
 - General thought is about meeting people where they're at
 - Front Door/Side Door was an interesting way to look at the subject
 - We need to be prepared to treat ALL of a person's needs, not just put a bandage on their problems
 - One of our side-door ministries is the basketball court outreach — we recently had a tournament which brought in about 30 people, mostly from within our neighborhood.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Ritchey is endeavoring to finish strong. He has been working with Michael to handoff duties which will become his responsibility during the interim. He has also been getting Kathy and others up-to-speed on some of the technical items Ritchey has been doing.
- He feels the summer sermon series, taking a high-level overview of each book of the New Testament, has been going well. He has gotten positive feedback from a number of people.

Coodinating: Steve M. reporting.

- The first half of the team's July meeting was devoted to a personnel discussion.
- Ritchey briefed the team on the general structure of a pastoral search, although he indicated he has stepped out of the Session meetings when they have gotten into the specifics of GEPC's search.
- Most of the rest of the meeting was about the search and how we could be supportive. A congregational meeting to vote on candidates for the search team will be next Sunday.

Team Reports

- a. **Finance:** Larry Anderson reporting.
 - The most recent financial report was as of May 31. Numbers look good so far.
 - Phil sent out the minutes of the team's June 28 meeting yesterday.

- b. **Helps:** Dave reporting.
 - The team has not met since our last meeting.

- c. **Mercy:** Josiah reporting.
 - The team met with Mark Lancaster to talk about how to streamline the undershepherding groups. Mercy is trying to determine whether they have enough people to be able to assign one man and one woman to assist each elder.

- d. **Property:** Barry reporting.
 - He reported that the team had "a real hootenanny" at their last meeting, with several guests joining them. Ellie McGinty and Sarah Sporrer talked with the team about ideas they have for beautification around the church.
 - The team talked about removing some trees around the pavilion before they fall on the shelter.
 - John Wopata worked with some Boy Scouts to fix up the porch and other areas around the Amos House, in preparation for the new resident.
 - The Flaglor Road flood control project is progressing.
 - They have submitted a long-term plan to the Session for maintenance/ replacement of big ticket items like the HVAC and property maintenance. Ritchey advised that such a plan really shouldn't require Session approval — Property could just work with Finance to set up accounts to be funded in anticipation of large expenses in the future.

New Business:

1. Next meeting - Discuss Chapter 14 from our book, "Ministries of Mercy: Meeting Needs". This will complete the book prior to Pastor Ritchey's departure.

W.O.W Report /Prayer Requests:

- Ritchey asked for prayers as he continues to work through his transition.
- Steve M. requested prayers for his meetings with doctors and eventual cancer treatments.
- Prayers for Dave's continued healing after his recent yard-work injuries.
- Prayers that Barry will be successful in finding a new job that will allow him to do God's will while serving his employer.
- WOW from Steve P. for the new movie "Sound of Freedom", which he said was well done and artfully dealt with the subject of human trafficking.
- WOW from Josiah for the miracle of Michael and Lacey's pregnancy.

Closing Prayer: Barry

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm — motion by Josiah, seconded by Dave; approved unanimously.

Next meeting: August 8, 2023 @6:15 pm

Moderator — Barry Cooper

Vice Moderator — Steve Moberg

Acting Clerk — Steve Moberg