



Minutes of Board Meeting
March 12, 2018, 6:00 PM, Allensville Mennonite Church

Present: Ethel Zook, Herb Zook, Jane Neff, Michael Armstrong, Bob Zook

1. Scripture Focus and Prayer Point-- Michael Armstrong
Be strong and very courageous - Joshua 1:5-8 As we continue to seek God's direction for this ministry, Mike encouraged us to be strong and courageous.
2. Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2018
Minutes were approved by a hand vote.
3. Confidentiality Policy and Agreement -- Policy was signed by each one.
4. Financial Report and Discussion-- Herb Zook (see document in Board Access)
Any expenditure more than \$100 needs Board approval. If there is an immediate need for an expenditure of more than \$100 an email vote of board could happen.
The board approved The System of Check and Balances with Herb Zook as second signer for checks written from the checking account.
Recommended that Michelle Spicher receives \$35 for 16 hours for a total of \$560 for her leadership in the first eight sessions Grace Support Group. - Approved by hand vote.
A letter of thanks from the person closely related to the donor should be sent along with a receipt from Herb.
5. Self Care Plan Implementations --Ethel, Bob, Michelle Zook
It was recommended that there is a "bouncing off" group that is a safe place for Michelle to share with on a regular basis. Ethel has met with a spiritual mentor and felt good about the meeting.
6. List of Potential Consultants
No additional consultants were suggested.
7. Personnel Policies and Handbook
Confidentiality Policy and Agreement for Volunteers was approved by hand vote.
Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy was approved by hand vote.
It was suggested that Bob checks with the insurance company about transportation of clients.
Ethel will make revisions and send out updated Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy for email vote.

8. Fundraising Plans

a. Introductory Meetings with Local Pastors

On February 7, Bob and Ethel met with Max Zook and Ivan Yoder at Locust Grove Mennonite Church to promote the Grace Support Groups. We also shared with them the other aspects of the ministry and gave them the website address. They expressed support and enthusiasm for the ministry.

Bob and Ethel plan to schedule additional introductory meetings with local pastors. Ethel, Michelle and Bob will be sharing with Kish Valley Grace Brethren on August 5.

- b. Send follow-up bulletin inserts to local pastors, introducing Seven Acres Ministry to the community and inviting financial and prayer support
- c. Invite acquaintances who use Everence credit card to select Seven Acres Ministry to receive their "tithe."
- d. Place a pop-up on the website, inviting viewers to subscribe to updates.
- e. Add blogging to the website to advocate various aspects of the ministry.
- f. Explore grants and scholarships. (Victor Weaver(United Service) and S. Dale High Family Foundations)
- g. Ministeriums--Mennonite, BV, Lewistown (Randy Hughes, First UM, Lewistown)
- h. Mifflin County Human Resource Council, Pat Roller (pastor, East Kish Presbyterian Church, Reedsville)
- i. Everence Matching Fund may be able to provide funds for support group meeting costs or other informative sessions raising the awareness of mental health.
- j. Thrivent Credit Union Matching Fund - It was suggested that a contact with Carrie J Thierwechter of Thrivent should happen.

9. Recruiting additional board member/s

It was by consensus recommended to find another one or two board members as additional professionals and/or person with a mental health diagnosis would be beneficial.

JoAnn Byler's name was given as a potential candidate.

Jane mentioned a friend who might consider.

10. Ministry Update

- a. Grace Support Group--(Michelle, Bob, Ethel) A brief report was shared about the formation of a support group forming this spring meeting at Maple Grove Mennonite Church facilities. Thanks was expressed to Maple Grove for their willingness to use the facility.
- b. The Conquer Series Group--(Bob) Bob shared about the formation of a Dad/Son group that will be using the new Conquer Series video series.

11. Caring for the Heart Internship Planning

- a. Dates, locations June 4-8 in Colorado, June 25-29 in Michigan
- b. Expenses \$100 per case/married couple interns

- c. Caring for the Heart internships will allow Seven Acres Ministry be a certified location.

12. Other business

Discussion about how to expand the outreach of the ministry into a new areas of need. Some ideas that surfaced included how we might get on the court list. Currently RDS is the only one on the list for Huntingdon County. Behaviour Health Services is on Mifflin County's list.

13. Next meeting was set for May 14, 2018 at Allensville Mennonite Church building.

14. Adjourn

Action steps:

Submit copy of minutes to Everence, noting double signature approval for check-writing.
File signed Confidentiality Agreements with minutes.

Items for next meeting:

1. Designate job titles and formulate job descriptions
As chair, Ethel recommends the board designate Bob as Executive Director of the ministry to provide oversight to the “daily” work and long-range visioning and planning. As the ministry develops, there are additional job designations that would be helpful in clarifying who takes various responsibilities.
2. Finalize Volunteer Policy Manual
- 3.