

Board of Deacons Meeting

January 19, 2015

Roll Call: Kevin Kritzberger, George Hardy, Mark Hardy, Rob Christiansen, Kamba Kalubi, John Romero, Andy Meeks, Shawn Sommons, Joe Meier.

Meeting Opening

The Deacon Board welcomed Andy Meeks to the Board. Kevin opened with a reading from "Minister of Mercy: The New Testament Deacon", by Alexander Strauch. Rob and John shared thoughts concerning the pages read. Kevin then shared his desire for a new focus for the Board: Intentional visitation, ministering and helping the widows, elderly and those in need. He also shared the following quote:

"Leaders create the culture, and the culture grows the community"

-Claude Hamilton

Nominations

- Kevin Kritzberger nominated and approved for Chairman of the Board.
- John Romero nominated and approved for Vice Chairman of the Board.
- Mark Hardy nominated and approved for Secretary of the Board.
- Rob Christiansen nominated and approved for Vice Secretary of the Board.

Discussion

Committees:

Ordinances [Kamba Kalubi]

- Buying new baptismal robes.

Activities [Kevin Kritzberger]

- See attached report.

Benevolence [Joe Meier]

- Current balance of \$15,172.
- Also, see attached report.

Counting [Kevin Kritzberger]

- Still waiting for the finance team to give us a plan concerning how to proceed if a counterfeit bill(s) is found in the offering.

Care Givers [Rob Christiansen]

- Continued discussion of Kevin's 'new focus' for the Board.

Ushers [Rob Christiansen]

- Upcoming need for ushers in the simulcast/overflow room.
- Asked Shawn Sommons to share with the Elders the proposal of relaxing the usher 'suit dress code'.

Transportation [Mark Hardy]

- Electrical issues with the Mini-Bus causing back-up camera, as well as other accessories, to be intermittently inoperative.

Technology [Tom Murphy & Mark Hardy]

- Simulcast project
 - Audio feedback issue being diagnosed.
- Discussed whether Technology Committee should 'manage/maintain/purchase' the church copier. The decision was made to keep the copier under 'office' budget and oversight, with Technology being consulted during installation/integration of new copiers/printers.
- Also, see attached report.

Community Concerns [John Romero]

- See attached report.

Property [George Hardy]

- See attached report.

Security [Andy Meeks]

- Andy will consult with Blake Kuntz and Rob Lofthouse as he begins oversight of Security Committee.

BCS Liaison

- Kevin will meet with Andy to transfer relevant committee documents.

Next Meeting, March 16th at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Hardy,
Secretary

Transportation

Maintenance:

- Mini-bus battery was found 'dead' on January 9, and required 'jumping' to start. Later that same day, keys were accidentally left in the ignition, and turned to accessory mode, while at Pinebrook (SNO-GLO) for a few hours. This drained the battery, which required a 'jump' again. Since the second jump, the battery appears to be fine. Advanced Auto Parts tested and advised that it was 'drained', but their tester is not able to tell if the battery itself has a bad cell(s). I installed this battery December 6, 2014; I suspect either a bad battery, or the instrument panel dimmer knob being engaged, making the accessory bus 'live', and draining the battery over the course of a few weeks. Further testing planned.
- Netting ordered for the overhead storage bins in the mini-bus.

Mark Hardy

Transportation Committee Chairman

Technology

- Installed one of three new HDDs purchased for the server - to increase capacity, which will streamline new workstation configuration and user data backup.
- Recent adjustments to WAP settings seemed to have improved Wi-Fi signal strength and reliability in the Sanctuary - particularly the North West (front right) corner.
- More repositioning of one or two WAPs needed to remove 'dead' spots in the Wi-Fi coverage.
- Co-axial cable run to the youthroom has been completed, and the converter box is installed in the youthroom sound booth, and ready for testing.

Submitted by Mark Hardy

Activities

SPORTS: Zumba still is being held on Monday and Thursday evenings with attendance around 9-12 women in each as well as Wednesday mornings. Wholly Fit, which is less intense and focuses on “static training,” will be continuing on a regular basis Friday mornings. We have started a Kinder- basketball program thru AFC on Saturday mornings, which began January 3rd and will continue thru March 7th. There have been 17 kids in attendance so far. Dart baseball continues to meet and the emphasis on the devotional time and prayer has been set forth.

ALL CHURCH: The “Bethlehem & Beyond” festivities was on December 13th and we fed approximately 100 people with meatball subs, chips & pretzels, fruit cocktail, cookies and hot chocolate. We greatly appreciate the many hands that came out in order to make this event happen.

Submitted by Kevin Kritzberger

Benevolence

Steve McDaniel, Keith Beyer, and Joe Meier met with a member to go over their budget. We have been helping with the rent since this person has been unable to work much since surgeries the beginning of Nov. We think we might have to pay 1 more month of rent. This person thinks they will be back and have enough income to start paying the rent by March, certainly by April.

Purchased oil for a member that we have been helping. This person is a single mother with children. We have also assisted this person with other bills as well.

Purchased food through the Weis online program for several members.

Submitted by Joe Meier

Property Committee Annual Report 2014

Property committee members: George Hardy (chairman), Kevin Kritzberger, Dave Van Schoick, Otis Powell, and Wayne Batten

Some of the projects completed this year were:

- The streaming project was started with some of the wiring and camera installations; a storage area was cleared out for use by the team.
- The garage doors on the parsonage were replaced.
- The HVAC units for rooms 15-19, room 5 and the serving room/kitchen were replaced. The second unit for room 8 was also installed over the summer.
- The HVAC computer control system software was updated.
- The sanctuary roof project has gone through many changes and delays over the year so it will probably be done in the spring of 2015. We are now planning on replacing the lower south and west end roofs all at the same time. We will also be improving the rain gutter in the playground.
- BCS had an intercom and paging system installed throughout the building.
- We received high marks and praise from a recent Bethlehem Township fire inspection for being proactive in our training and drills. We had several areas that were not up to current code and are working on getting those improvements made by the deadline given. This will incur some additional unbudgeted cost.

We are still in need of more volunteers for our kitchen committee. This committee helps keep the kitchen orderly, set up, serve and clean up for pot luck dinners and church social events not being run by another committee.

Planned projects for 2015:

We are planning on replacing some sections of sidewalk that are uneven for safety reasons, possibly replace the HVAC unit in the library, do a test on the fellowship hall roof panels to see if we can save them for longer term use, replace some nursery furniture, do some cosmetic upgrades to the front of the sanctuary.

Long-term capital projects may include:

Replace the lighting in the sanctuary, replace the lighting in the foyer, replace the flooring in the lobby and foyer area, remove room 2 to open up the lobby, replace or repair the fellowship hall roof, and expand the parking lot.

We greatly appreciate all those who signed up to take care of the various flowerbeds. It was a tremendous help and they looked great.

Thank you to the many volunteers that helped Kevin Kritzberger and the property committee throughout the year with the many hours of donated labor to help maintain and improve our building and grounds.

I would also like to thank the committee members who served with me this year on the property committee. It was a pleasure working with you and I look forward to serving with you on the committee for 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
George Hardy
Property Committee Chairman

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

THE BRIDGE MINISTRY

Another year has passed and Ebenezer is still being blessed by helping and ministering at the Bridge Ministry every Wednesday evening. Ebenezer hosts once per month, providing a meal and a message. We have about a dozen volunteers who come to help make and serve our meal. We are getting to know 'the regular attendees' better and opportunities continue for those who wish to share the gospel. We are very grateful for those who are involved in this ministry, but please pray that God would provide more hearts willing to donate food as this is the area of most need. Also, pray that the Lord would open hearts to the gospel.

We have announcements placed in our bulletin for future dates and needs. We are now using a computer program called VolunteerSpot.com, which helps volunteers see the needs for this ministry, please watch for the next date.

CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE

This year we as a church helped 17 families with gifts and dinner for the holiday in the Lynnfield Area in south Bethlehem. This event was an extension of Light in the Park, which was held in the same area this past summer, where children and adults were given the good news of our LORD and SAVIOR. As we continue to go beyond our church walls please continue to pray how we can better serve the community.

All for HIS Glory

John Romero