

Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church

Board of Deacons Meeting

July 15, 2013

Prayer and Devotions -

Bruce Opened at 6:35 PM with Hebrews 13:2, and an excerpt from 'the Daily Guide Post'. Bob Smith led in prayer.

Roll Call -

Otis Powell, Bruce Eckel, Kevin Kritzberger, Joe Meier, John Romero, George Hardy, Bob Smith, and Rob Christiansen. Elder Andy Brimer joined the meeting at 7:20pm.

Excused: Kamba Kalubi, Elder Shawn Sommons, and Mark Hardy.

Discussion Items -

- 1) **Activities** - No meeting. Semi-annual meeting moved from July to August 18th.
- 2) **Benevolence** - Balance of \$15,116.25 as of June 30th. \$1000 sent to each Benevolence Committees of Cape Community Church and New Life Bible Fellowship Church; both churches are BFC Mission churches. Benevolence has helped cover short falls for the buying of food for the Bridge Ministry. Deacons are on board with helping this ministry with funding if necessary.
- 3) **Caregivers** - Not much to report. Met with Pastor Jason a few times concerning the ministry. Meals are being provided for at least four families.
- 4) **Community Concerns** - Deacons had a discussion in length about Manna Ministries. Issues discussion include the following: No dedicated space, low number of needy from outside the church coming in for the food, ministry has expanded beyond the original intent, bags were opened items were partially eaten and then returned to table. A vote was taken by the board to discontinue operations in the middle of August, after Bob has a chance to talk with all involved.
- 5) **Church-School Liaison** - Elder Andy Brimer in attendance. Went over issues and concerns about the 2013-2014 Facilities Agreement. Andy shared the Elder's concerns, and they were discussed in length. The deacon board also expressed some concerns; Andy addressed those as well. Andy, Otis, and Kevin will make sure agreement is typed correctly to be given to the Elders for final approval.
- 6) **Counting** - List is up-to-date in usher closet.
- 7) **Ordinances** - N/A.
- 8) **Property** - Excavation work at parsonage and the church went well, and is now finished. HVAC unit for room 8 discussed and George received quotes; unit is over 25 years old.
- 9) **Safety/Usher/Emergency Response and Evacuation** - Discussed the idea of the gym being used for additional congregational space during services. All first aid boxes filled. Need to order ointments and eye wash to replace out dated ones.
- 10) **Transportation** - The mini-bus inspection and oil change completed in June - no parts/maintenance required. The van inspection and oil change were completed in July - the air filter was replaced.

Next Meeting

September 16 , 2013 at 6:30 PM

Closing prayer - Joe Meier

These minutes were recorded by John Romero.

They have been compiled and submitted by Mark Hardy, Secretary to the Board of Deacons.

Benevolence Committee Report –July 2013

The Benevolence Committee has not met since the last Deacon's Meeting

- Balance of Benevolence Account end of June 2013 is \$15,116.25.
- We sent \$1,000 each to the Benevolence Committees of the churches Keith Strunk and Andy Barnes are serving as pastors.
- Benevolence has helped cover the costs of buying food for the Bridge Ministry when it is EBFC's turn to host.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Meier

Property Committee Report July 15, 2013

The excavation work at the parsonage and the church has been finished. It went really well and the grass is growing in nicely. The recent rains helped with the grass and the runoff water seems to all be going where it should be.

The HVAC unit for room 8 had to have gas added to it recently. It is one of the two very old units that we will have to replace soon. We got quotes for it and for the serving room/kitchen unit which is the same age, both over 25 years old.

The parking lot cracks and curb edges were sealed by S&G Asphalt.

Our regular meeting for June was canceled and we will meet again in August.

Prepared by George Hardy

COMMUNITY CONCERNS – JULY 2013

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Wrapping parties will be reinstated on August 7, 14 & 21 to wrap shoe boxes for this year's drive (sign-up sheet in lobby).

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening has been notified that we will not host them this year due to low interest.

Blood Drive

I had a request to schedule a blood drive during Sunday services in Fellowship Hall on a holiday weekend. The request was denied. Hoping to schedule a drive for September during the week?

Manna Ministries

This ministry continues to be the subject of issues associated with donated bakery & other items. It may be time to discontinue the collection & distribution from our Church. The following are some of the concerns:

- 1- No dedicated space for the food which creates a need to move it around depending on Church activities.
- 2- A low number of needy persons from outside the Church are coming in for the food.
- 3- The Church staff has to monitor & throw out large quantities of unused or moldy food.
- 4- The ministry has expanded beyond the original intent of bakery items to include other items; some requiring refrigeration which is not available.
- 5- In the latest issue bags were opened; items were partially eaten & then returned to the table.

Local food banks do not accept this type of perishable food for various reasons. I contacted Second Harvest Food Bank and they suggested taking the food to area soup kitchens which can consume it on a daily basis. There are three in the area which are open daily M-F. There is New Bethany Ministries and Trinity Episcopal Soup Kitchen in Bethlehem & Safe Harbor in Easton. Our volunteers, if they wish to continue could take the donations to one or more of these locations.

I know many people within the Church benefit by getting free bakery products, but this was not the original intent as I understand it. I need input regarding this issue as I am too close to it.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Smith

July 2013 Usher Report

USHER: All usher team doing well. Need to talk about adding to crews due to approval of the gym being use for additional space for congregation. Average attendees are around 550 to 560 per week. An email will go out this week to all Head ushers asking them to start recruiting for their teams.

FIRST AID: All first aid boxes gone through and filled, missing 4 inch bandage pads and need to replace outdated items. Will order as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION: Fire drill will be taking place soon.

Respectively Submitted,

John Romero