

Tidewater Emmaus Board of Director's Meeting, March 19, 2015

Monarch Bank, S. Battlefield Rd., Chesapeake, VA

Those in attendance were: Joyce Thompson, Rhonda Huff, Charlotte Carroll, Penny Best, Preston Best, Andy Barron, Debbie Forehand, Cheryl Best, Greg Reinhart, Donnie Gray, Leo Matuzak, Rev. Dr. Sandi Benton Plasters, Tommy Moore.

Donnie Gray, Community Lay Director (CLD) called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked Pastor Sandi Benton Plasters to open the meeting in prayer. Pastor Sandi discussed our Prayer Partners and offered a devotion based on John 6:1-13 where John discusses Jesus feeding the 5000 and related this to us on the Board to invite others to participate in the work of the Board, such as the sale of "T" shirts. We should invite people into our lives. Don't wait for the perfect opportunity! Pastor Sandi then celebrated Holy Communion with the Board.

Continued Business:

Charlotte Carroll discussed the Holiday Inn, Greenwich. They wanted \$26,000 to conduct a Walk. A further discussion was had about other hotels we could contact to hold Walks. Further discussion on the topic of alternate venues was tabled for a future meeting since we have some time and have already paid the "Save The Date" fees at Wakefield, for the Fall Walks.

Teamer's Fees: 5 teamer's on the Men's Walk still haven't paid their fees. This should be resolved by this coming Saturday, March 21. All Team fees will be paid in full by Monday, March 23.

Deadline for Letters was actually, as Cheryl explained it, was the deadline for Pilgrim applications which is March 25 for the TW107 and would be April 8th for TW108. TW108 is already full! God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!

Donnie asked if there were any outstanding issues regarding the "Give Now" button. Any outstanding issues are resolved.

Any issues surrounding the group's Yahoo email addresses, Andy indicated any issues are resolved.

New Business:

Donnie announced that Pastor Clark, our Community Head Spiritual Director (CHSD) will be stepping down from this capacity after the completion of the Spring Walks. After this announcement the Board discussed the best way to resolve this issue. A motion was made, seconded and approved to ask Pastor Sandi to prayerfully consider becoming our next CHSD. Pastor Sandi graciously offered to prayerfully consider the Board's request and will get us her answer.

The Board then prayed regarding the selection of the next Weekend Lay Director's (WLD's) for the Fall Walks. A list of potential candidates for the Women's Walk was distributed and discussed. Each Board member selected their choices and gave their ballots to the CLD. We then discussed the list of potential candidates for the upcoming Men's Walk. Votes were cast and given to the CLD.

Joyce has disbursed the stipend for both the Men's and Women's Walk. It was suggested that in the future a copy of the Tax Exempt Letter from the IRS be given to the ALD-L for any purchases to avoid the community paying any taxes when we are tax exempt. Motion was made, seconded and passed to give the IRS Tax Exempt letter to the team ALD-L (Assistant Lay Director – Logistics) at the first week of teaming.

Women's Clowns: is actually about finding additional people to offer Mime/Silent Communion. We need to send a letter to the community to request volunteers to perform the Silent Communion. We have Mime Communion servers for this set of Walks but we will need to have several pairs of dedicated servants to be able to offer Mime Communion at future Walks in the event of conflicts. Charlotte will announce at the next Community Gathering.

Joyce submitted a financial report to the community. Before the current checks clear we have a balance after all bills are paid of \$24.73. Joyce will provide an electronic copy to Preston so it can be posted to the web.

Cheryl discussed the dissemination of information regarding Pilgrims and for every Board Member to keep the appropriate Board Member involved should anyone need to contact a Pilgrim and/or Teamer. We have processes in place and we need to follow them! This has come about due to special circumstances surrounding one person. Multiple people have been involved and contacting several people when only 1 person should be the point of contact. We all need to be conscious of this and insure ANY questions should be directed to the team's Board Representative! NOBODY other than the appropriate board person should contact Wakefield, Pilgrims, Sponsors or Teamers. It was recommended the Board Representative will discuss with cadre and team during training they are the avenue for all questions with the Board, Wakefield and contacting Pilgrims and Sponsors.

A discussion of which teamers should be in the Talk Room during the Walk. Donnie read a letter from a Pastor that is no longer with the Community, they have moved to serve in Northern Virginia, regarding following the Emmaus Handbook and how, 10 years before the letter was written (2005) and today, 10 years later we still struggle to follow the Emmaus Handbook 100%. A lively discussion ensued regarding this topic. It was agreed the Handbook does allow for local color and while we, as a community are striving to fully follow the guidelines set forth by The Upper Room there may be some areas that we fall short but still well within the guidelines set forth by the Upper Room.

Penny offered a Gathering location that she will discuss with Charlotte.

The question of the Fall Walk dates was not discussed.

Andy brought up a few items for discussion: the need for Covenants to be signed by WLD's & SD's for both the Men's and Women's Walks. The DODU and Gathering and its overall length, well over 3 hours, closer to 5 ½ hours. The Community provides child care and it becomes extremely difficult to have proper child care for that period of time. His discussion point was that DODU should be reduced to an hour to bring it closer to the Gathering and make child care easier. Joyce commented we pay for 2 people to care for the children, payment is \$10/p/hr for a max of 2 hours regardless of the number of children being attending. No child care is provided for DODU (Day Of Deeper Understanding). Handbook (Pg. 101) guidelines provides for the DODU to be 1.25 hours.

Andy also offered a suggestion to lower Community Service Team (CST) fees. Based on our current structure food is a large part of CST fees. If those serving on the CST were to bring their own food for meals we could reduce their fees to similarly charge them as we currently do for the Pop In Spiritual Directors (SD's), no decision was made. We will discuss at a future meeting.

The Covenant with the Upper Room was signed by all Directors still in attendance.

It was moved, seconded and approved for Charlotte Carroll to be the TWE Board Assistant Treasurer.

Cheryl closed the meeting in prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

In His Service,

Gregory Reinhart TW 94

Director of Records