



Plymouth

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

BOARD OF OUTREACH

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Attendance:

| Yes | No | | Yes | No | |
|-----|----|------------------------------------|-----|----|---------------------------------------|
| x | | Peter Eichten (2020), <i>Chair</i> | x | | Sue Moses (2020) |
| x | | Sally Cassellius (2019) | x | | Paula Northwood, <i>Staff Liaison</i> |
| x | | Birdie Cunningham (2019) | x | | Jared Swanson (2019) |
| x | | Mary Jordan (2021) | x | | Peter Vitale (2020) |
| x | | Kim Lutes (2021) | | x | Gingie Ward (2018) |

GUESTS: There were no guests in attendance. The meeting was held at The Eichten's, dinner was provided.

Actions Taken:

Peter E. welcomed new board members, everyone introduced themselves.

Agenda Items

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD. Peter has been in communication with Jerry and Fran Davis who have been coordinating and running the program for the past year. They have approached the board to help them find another couple or individuals to work with them in organizing. They don't have problems finding volunteers, but it's a lot of work to coordinate the program. They would like to keep doing it but could use help. Peter E. asked the board to think about names of those people we think would be a good fit for the role.

HIAWATHA ENCAMPMENT. Paula brought up a request for donations of travel size shampoos and toiletries. We talked about the encampment on Hiawatha. The board supported Paula's request, but wanted to make the point that this is not the answer to the larger problem.

BEACON INTERFAITH HOUSING. They have a meeting tomorrow night. If anyone can go, please do.

COMMUNITY FUND (BENEVOLENCE) and the 10% issue. The budget line responsible for dispersing funds to the community was cut. The traditional understanding has been that Plymouth would give 10% of its budget to the community. There have been some concerns from the congregations about this cut. Paula is putting together a committee to look at the history of the donation process and wants to include some Outreach Board members hoping to come up with a policy going forward.

GROWTH INITIATIVE-There was brief discussion regarding the Board of Outreach's role in growing the church.

HOSPITALITY-Peter E. asked the board to think about, "What does hospitality mean to you?" What can we do at Plymouth to enhance and enrich hospitality? He would like to talk about it at the next meeting and give those ideas to the Board of Community Life. Hospitality and Social Justice are intertwined. Paula talked about the conflict between helping the homeless who sleep on our lawn and looking after the safety of the children who use the playground and the food shelf. Paula would like the board to take this issue to the congregation since it is so directly connected to the concept of hospitality. Issues of addiction and alcoholism exacerbate the problem. There was also discussion about the need for non-sober housing in Minneapolis.

Next Meeting

October 12, 2018

6:30-8:00pm , Room 203

*Respectfully submitted,
Peter Vitale, secretary*