

Dakota's Emmaus Board Minutes

January 19, 2021

Members present: Ron Olson, Kevin Clare, Eric Rippentrop, Suzie Ryks, Andy Ryks, Hazel Behrens, Steve Eliason, Michelle Linvedt, Carmen Nikont

Ron opens the meeting in prayer at 1905.

Reviewed the minutes from the last meeting, Eric motions to approve the minutes, and Michelle seconds the vote, all vote to approve the minutes

Reviewed treasurer's report for January 2021, Checking account balance \$5,821.46, Scholarship Balance \$1381.00, and General Fund Balance \$4,440.71. the only change is an interest deposit that was made. Eric motions to approve the minutes and Kevin seconds the vote, all vote to approve the report.

There has been extensive discussion about the fall walks and how to rebuild and make it functional having a walk next out west when there aren't the relationships that there have been, that there aren't the team meetings and team-building or fellowship. Andy states there is a significant need to build relationships again, like a retreat atmosphere, and start to develop the relationships again. Andy checked the database and knows who was on which walks. He suggests trying to do a retreat weekend, maybe a day and a half, to try and rekindle relationships.

Steve reports he had a great deal of difficulty getting a team together with people that have been involved in the last fall walk. He reports several people out west are no longer available or physically able to participate any longer.

Andy would like to have the people see the board present and able to socialize and be with the one's west river. Kevin suggests team building and interactive activities so people can get to know each other. Andy suggests instead of a walk this fall that we do the retreat and team building event.

A suggestion is made to do the same retreat east river to help build that community as well, in part to ascertain what the people in the area want for their communities. He suggests not doing structured programs, possibly having hosts in the area and letting them drive the retreat, possibly at Poinsett this spring. It would be a good opportunity for role clarification and for finding people's strengths and weaknesses. Instead of structured doing more fun and interactive activities.

A suggestion was made to do a retreat in both Rapid City and Poinsett this fall, and then proceed with the spring walks in 2022 as previously planned. Kevin will reach out to Storm

mountain retreat this fall, pausing west river walks until 2022. Eric makes a motion and Ron seconds that the board moves forward pausing west river walks until 2022 and arranging for a retreat for community building.

Steve is going to talk to his Emmaus group about possibly sponsoring a retreat for east river this fall, we will discuss this more at the next board meeting.

Andy discusses board meetings for 2021, whether to continue zoom calls or to move for more regional meetings. Discussion held about having zoom meetings continuing instead of meeting in person. Hazel suggests continuing to do zoom meetings through March or April and then discuss meeting in person again. The consensus is that the Tuesday evening meetings are working well for now on the second Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

In April the board needs to have the covenant letters sent off to the upper room. Going into next year Steve and Ron will be rolling off the board, Andy and Suzy will continue to be ex-officio's. Shawnee is having work concerns and may need to drop off the board. Andy has talked to Tom Baruth from Alpena about joining the board and is considering this. We need to recruit more for the board. Terry Majors is also suggested as a possible board member. John and Kristen Britt, Scott McReedy, Patrice Schwartsen, Steve Zeibarth, Kris Larson, Laurie Miklos, Gerry and Rhonda Jasmer.

Andy discusses the positions that need to be filled, spiritual director, treasurer, secretary, registrar, other positions that will need to be filled. We will need to have names ready in March so the covenant can be sent out in April.

Andy makes a motion to bring Tom Baruth on the board in April, Eric seconds the motion and the motion carries.

Kevin voices the need to make sure there are more pastors recruited to the board. Kevin suggests that as we look to board members coming on board that we don't look to past board members but to get fresh new people on the board to help energize the meetings.

Andy wants to have help finding names and filling positions for completion of the covenant letter. Kevin needs to go through a securities exchange review before being the chairperson of the board and will send in the paperwork for this.

Ron closes the meeting in prayer at 2010.

The next meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday in February with a virtual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Carmen Nikont