

## Shared Ministry Committee Meeting

February 27, 2018

Present: Betsy Biesenbach, Barbara Bockner, Esther Johnson, Rev. Alex Richardson, Don Wages, Lynn Yates

Absent: Anne Perrin

1. Chalice Lighting and check in
2. Approval of minutes – approved with no corrections
3. Board Report – Lynn asked for ½ day leadership training on the approval list. They did not say “no”. We will follow up. Church leaders need training. If we are fixing our external structure. We need to focus on our internal structure.
4. Old business
  - a. Process observing services. Art of Facilitation – Barbara felt it would be good for someone who is a professional facilitator. We need to work on a detailed proposal in writing. We need a better idea of what the board expects of us. Do they want mediation? The book seems to emphasize that. We need training in group processes – how to run a group. Listening circle process works because there are established rules. Whoever is in leadership should be comfortable. A yearly leadership retreat with different focus every year or a handbook were suggested. It would be good to get committee chairs together to work on goal-setting. We will aim for the fall, Lynn will write up a proposal.
  - b. Listening Circle results – will be in March newsletter. We will post it on the bulletin board. People really seemed to enjoy them.
5. SMC Members – Betsy and Lynn will rotate off 2018. Barbara will go off next year, Esther, Don and Anne in 2020. We need new recruits for the board and need to think of names.
6. Committee goals – good response. Will be posted on the bulletin board. Some groups expressed concerns. We will turn those over to the board.
7. Webpage – Anne is not here, so we won't take photo, we haven't prepared any other content.
8. Upcoming events

- a. March 18, town hall. We are having the Blacksburg choir that day a church-wide potluck will follow the service. Topics –policy governance, stewardship, possibly discuss signs on our vacant lot. Don suggests that we need some follow up from our last town hall. Two to five minutes in the service the week before. Do we need a suggestion box.? Don and Esther will organize the questions. Barbara will help pass out question cards, Betsy will take notes. Lynn will moderate. Will have about 25 min.
  - b. Annual assessment – April/May. Will announce it at the town hall. We will alternate the short and long versions each year.
  - c. Annual meeting June 3. Will present survey results during the service before the annual meeting.
9. Conversation with minister. Suggestions in box would need to be signed to foster dialogue. There's been such focus on what's wrong and who hates who. Anonymous suggestions will only encourage what's broken. A wailing wall for our values would work better. We need to change the focus from complaining to deciding what we're going to do about problems so they can become a shared concern. It's good to look back at the goals we have accomplished. Rev. Alex will start mentioning mission group collections again to boost donations..
10. Should we have a crisis plan? The board may be discussing it.
11. Meeting adjourned, chalice extinguished.