

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Deacons Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Deacons:

Marian Wahl
Pat Schumacher
Phil Fry
Rae Ann Hall
Eric Jopperi*

Barb Thackeray
Walter Hayes
Jamie Willis
Becky Harlow

Sandy Gruneich
James Lee
Margo Works
Susan Shellito*

*Denotes deacons not present
Pastor Jon was also in attendance

1. Call to order: Walter Hayes
2. Devotions: Walter Hayes
3. Minutes of December 2017 meeting: Walter Hayes
Not a lot of minutes to review from the last meeting. Thank you to Margo for hosting a lunch after church at her home.
4. Treasurer's Report: RaeAnn Hall
Raphael expects to be within budget for St. Patrick's Day (budget is \$700). He thinks the expense may be a little lower than last year because of the menu items chosen.
5. Fellowship Events: Walter Hayes
 - St. Patrick's Day event is Saturday, March 17, 2018. This is the deacon's biggest event, budget-wise. We usually have over 100 people.
 - Discipleship handles setup and decorating.
 - Walter needs deacons to sign up for the following slots: roll silverware (2), cooking help (4), servers (6), and cleanup (4). A sign-up sheet was passed around.
 - Walter has told Raphael he is willing to shop with him. Becky said she would be willing to shop with Raphael. Raphael is going to contact Walter to discuss.
6. Volunteers needed for 2018 positions: Walter Hayes
Secretary – Jamie has agreed to continue on in this role
Treasurer – RaeAnn has agreed to continue on in this role

Vice-Moderator – no volunteers yet for this position. A reminder was given that it needs to be someone who will still be a deacon in 2019. The vice-moderator is in charge of the Memorial Day picnic in 2018, and will become the moderator in 2019.

7. Birthday Sundays: Marian Wahl
 - The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for 2018. Discussion was had to put a reminder in the script/bulletin, reminding people that they can sign up to sponsor a birthday cake.
 - Easter falls on the first Sunday in April this year. Discussion was had about moving the birthday cake to April 8, since we usually provide food for Easter, which Jamie handles. Agreed to move the April birthday cake to April 8.

8. Talent Survey: Walter Hayes

Walter had some talent surveys that people had turned in, that had an interest in helping with things like befrienders, church meals, and greeting card ministry. He gave those to Jamie and Margo.

9. Deacon Ministry
 - Befrienders: Anna Marie would like someone to take this over. Jon is going to talk to her to find out exactly what she would like to happen.
 - Bereavement: Marian is still handling this.
 - New Member Mentors: Sandy has done this in the past. She feels like she would like to pass this on to a new person, because a new person would in theory have different contacts, so we could get a fresh pool of people to have as mentors. Sandy is on the membership committee and is remaining on that committee. She will continue on for now in this role. Eventually the plan is to transfer this responsibility to the membership committee to oversee. Jon also mentioned that he has four new people interested in joining.

10. Worship support
 - Ushering: Still self-sustaining
 - Communion: Phil is still willing to handle this responsibility.

11. Other Business – Meal sign-ups
 - Margo has taken meals to the Shriners. She texts Barb every few days to see how she's doing. She anticipates a greater need when Jim returns home.
 - Margo has checked on the Gilbert family, who just had a baby. (Margo and Alec are their mentors.) Margo has taken them a meal. Kacey Yates Gable took this over and set up an online sign-up for people to provide them meals.
 - Discussion was had about providing meals. Many members have had babies in the past, and no formal meal train was set up, no meals were provided unless someone did this on their own, informally. It's difficult to know how much to do this, and we want to treat everyone fairly. We also know that some people might not want that service provided for them.
 - Margo is willing to compile a list of people willing to cook for others.

- Jon said he would email Margo if he becomes aware of someone who says they could use a meal.
- Jon said he can also make an announcement to the congregation, telling them to let us know if you have a need for a meal during a difficult time. This can hopefully help bring this need to the church's attention if someone needs this help.

12. Other business – Rides to church

- Jon said there are a couple people who have called the church office lately, inquiring about rides to church. These are not members or regular attenders.
- Jamie explained that the deacons had a lengthy discussion about this matter two years ago, when Jim Shriner was moderator. A decision was made then that this is not a service that the deacons were willing to provide, because a lot of people are not comfortable picking up a stranger to drive to church. It is also an additional liability for the driver, especially if it is bad weather, or you are transporting someone with mobility issues. Deacons at that time mentioned that they had also been asked to then transport the person somewhere else after church, such as the grocery store, before taking them home.
- It was decided to leave this as is, not provide transportation, continue with the decision made two years ago since it had been discussed and debated at length at that time.
- Jon said they would remind callers about cab service or Uber.

13. Closing Prayer: Jon Hauerwas

Next Meeting is Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.