

MC Sask Ministries Commission Minutes
February 20, 2018 7:00 pm
Mount Royal Mennonite Church, Saskatoon

Present: Claire Ewert Fisher, Val Wiebe, Elmer Regier, Eric Olfert (by phone) and Jeanette Hanson

Opening – Claire led us in Lent reflections recommending the book “God for Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Lent and Easter” Greg Pennoyer (ed.) Claire read John 2:13-22, the story of the cleansing of the temple, a story of civil disobedience, the anger of Jesus. Paul talks about the human body as the temple, Christ as the temple. Jesus knew that religion risks making God into a commodity. Claire reflected that the container isn’t important – the ministries commission as a body isn’t important – but what is important is to allow more freedom for the Spirit to work in and through us.

1. Approval of Minutes of our 18-01-18 meeting – The minutes were approved.

2. Business arising –

a. International Witness:

-Attendance at the event was about 25 people. Most/all of these people had direct connections with Veiths and China ministry.

-Jeanette gave an update on the announcement that Witness workers will now have 3 years to secure the 50% relational funding needed for their ministries. The idea of a worker support team has been suggested but details are still vague. We discussed how this might work within MC Sask but will wait for further details of what the structure of this support team might entail.

-Claire will introduce Todd Hanson when he speaks on behalf of Mennonite Partners in China at the ADS and connect the international ministry portion of our work together as MC Sask.

b. Budget - A total budget of \$5000 was approved for use by Ministries Commission

c. Walking the Path

- **Mennonite/Muskeg Arts Event** – Val continues to be involved in preliminary discussions in deciding people to be involved and possible venues. Wanuskewin, Shekinah, and Station Arts have all been suggested.

- **Exploring the Mail Trail Together** – Eric reported on the plan for this event

May 31-June 2

Day 1 Introduction to Whitecap First Nation and travel to Western Development Museum

Day 2 WDM to St. Andrews College – stamp historians, local dignitaries

Day 3 Saskatoon through Fish Creek to Batoche

-school children (likely Grade 5) will be involved by writing letters to the office of the treaty commission to share their history and encourage the importance of knowing Canadian history

-individual transportation and car pooling

- NAIITS June 7-9

-costs are \$300 per person and hoping to send 2 Muskeg Lake and 2 Mennonite participants

-Walking the Path will choose the participants

-Eric moved the Ministries Commission provide \$600 to send one Muskeg Lake and one Mennonite

-Val seconded

-unanimous support

- Mennonite/Muskeg Lake Music in the Church Event:

- planned for April 15-22, music and shared potluck
- Harry Lafond working with Ben Pauls to plan event
- Ministries Commission will help with publicity as needed

d. Spirituality Resourcing Team

- already had one invitation from a congregation
- group meets every 2 weeks for spiritual direction
- prepared to provide a mini-retreat – 3 evenings for an introduction to contemplative prayer and then later refresher programs

e. ADS

- Ministries Commission related workshops will be done by Walking the Path and Mennonite Partners in China

f. Ted and Co.

- Elaine Ens wrote to Patrick Preheim offering a connection to the Ted and Co. production that relates to the Doctrine of Discovery
- Ted and Co. are available July 26th, Thursday
- cost is about \$3000 plus travel
- this is not a fundraiser but an educational event
- could add a local component to have indigenous speakers available
- Claire is working to get other congregations and organizations involved in helping with costs and hosting

g. Invitation to Ministries Commission meeting

- questions were asked about ownership of Walking the Path and the role of the Ministries Commission in international ministries
- only approved minutes are sent to the MC Sask Council so information is not made available in a timely manner
- the Ministries Commission has no connection to the council and no voice on the council
- Claire will invite Ryan Siemens and the new council chair to our next meeting.

3. Next Meeting

We will meet **Tuesday April 10 @ 7:00 pm at Mount Royal Mennonite Church.**

4. Additional Business Conducted by Email:

Approved that we provide \$500.00 from our budget towards the cost of bringing the above mentioned Ted and Company production to Saskatoon;

Moved: Jeanette Hanson; seconded: Val Wiebe and:

Approved that we funnel all funds for this Ted and Company project through the MC Sask books.

Moved: Eric Olfert; Seconded: Elmer Regier

Recorded by Jeanette Hanson

Drafted March 3/2018