

Minutes

Community and Church Connections

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Members present: Denny Minnich, Sharon Shellenberger, Don Mowery, Karen Byers Chaplain Donna Hale, Greg Lewis, Pastor Chris Schwab

Members unable to attend: Shelby Holley, Tanis Munroy, Jeff Noble, Mike Coulson, Suzy Coulson

Meeting was called to order at 7:05

1. Opening Prayer—Greg Lewis
2. We welcomed new member Karen Byers
3. The May minutes were approved with a motion by Denny Minnich and second by Don Mowery
4. Informational items
 - a. Greg Lewis reported that he and Patty and Suzy Coulson delivered a prepared meal to Community Cares 2 weeks ago.
5. Old Business
 - a. Follow up
 1. The Community Aid collection seems to be going well and at least one bin full of clothes has been collected by Community Aid.
 2. The personal essentials collection has been widely advertised and continues to do well. It will be continued thru the end of this month and any remaining items will be donated to such agencies as Domestic Violence and Community Cares.
6. New Business
 - a. Ideas for supporting the Spy Program were discussed by Pastor Chris. He stressed the need for both volunteers and the provision of supplies. He will provide more info to our Church community about this program with the hope of both providing supplies and volunteers for this program going forward.
 - b. Greg presented info for a Carlisle for Kids/Fill the Bus event scheduled this summer. Individual items needed to fill backpacks or financial donations to purchase these supplies are needed by July 23. The items can be dropped off at Project Share or money can be donated online or by check and sent to Project Share. Our Council proposed that we send a \$500 dollar donation from the Special Projects fund for this event. On Thursday August 12, a drive thru distribution of these items will occur at the Carlisle Expo Center parking lot between 2 and 6 pm. A motion was made and carried to make this donation.
 - c. No Agenda barbecue—Pastor Chris presented a proposal that our Church host a barbecue for our Congregation on the Plaza some Sunday in July between 6 and 8 pm. Further details will follow.
 - d. Pastor Chris informed us that Luke Eckman thru Lowes has donated a large quantity of hand sanitizer to our Church recently. We are looking to donate much of this gift to those in need. Greg will contact the Sadler Health Center to see if they would be interested in receiving some of this donation.

- e. Karen Byers discussed our Church's proposal to have a 100-year celebration of its relocation to its present site and is looking for a member from each Council to serve on a committee to develop plans for this event. Denny Minnich volunteered to represent our CCC Council.
 - f. Greg discussed with the Council some ideas about deciding when the Church should change its mask policy. One proposal would be to allow fully vaccinated individuals to have the option of no mask or wearing a mask during Church services but that unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals should continue to wear masks for now. Social distancing would continue. It was pointed out that Governor Wolf has announced that by June 28, even if a 70% vaccination rate had not quite been achieved, he would change the mask mandate to allow **all** individuals to go maskless indoors except in airports, trains, nursing homes or prisons. Other mandates such as social distancing would not yet be relaxed. The Church reopening committee has been surveyed about this issue and Greg will further discuss this at the next Consistory meeting. If we as a Church followed Governor Wolf's mask mandate proposal completely it would also mean allowing unvaccinated and partially vaccinated to attend Church without masks. Since following Governor Wolf's mask mandate completely may be associated with some dissent further discussion is needed.
- 7. Next meeting—Tuesday July 13 at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall. A Zoom option may still be available.
 - 8. Adjourn

Submitted by Greg Lewis