

MZMC Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Members attending in person: Deb Mielke, Tanja Nelson, Carrie Garcia, Katie Albright

Members attending via Zoom: Chris Modec-Halverson

Staff attending in person: Administrator and Ted O'Toole

Community members attending in person: Aaron Mowbray (12:05 – 12:40)

Meeting came to order at 11:35 am

1. Conflicts of Interest: none noted
2. Approval of Minutes: Ted had a few corrections. Chris M. moved to approve minutes with corrections, Carrie G. seconded, motion passed.
3. Guiding Teacher Report (Ted): Rohatsu went well – there was good participation in person and online, and it was helpful to have new priests and lay teachers assisting. The book discussion group about death and dying has begun, and there will be a class in the summer, with an eye to creating more opportunity for pastoral care in the community. The 2023 calendar is out, with a schedule of advanced classes, foundation classes, beginner's mind retreats, full retreats, and practice periods. Ted has found that the work of Guiding Teacher requires more than one person and has appointed Ben Connelly as Assistant Guiding Teacher. This decision is supported by Tim (former Guiding Teacher), Deb (board president), and Jim (board vice president), and has been approved by Ben. The board will need to approve the stipend for this position.
4. DEIA Committee Report (Ted): The demographic survey will go out in January. The Racial Justice Action program will be led by Ben Connelly, Ted O'Toole and Jey Ehrenhalt partnering with community groups, and will alternate months with Waking Up to Race meetings. The first meeting will be Thursday February 2nd and will be led by Twin Cities Justice for Jamar. The POC sitting group is going well. Tanja encouraged discussion of gender inclusion and supporting female priests, possibly adding an affinity group.
5. Security and Safety (Admin): Bernie has researched cameras. We will start with cameras on the front and back doors and parking areas. They will likely cost around \$1,500. There was further discussion of cameras and security.
6. Membership Committee (Tanja): Blank Friday went well - the condensed time worked well, and there were lots of new people. The committee will talk about recruitment, as new members are needed. Upcoming events include the New Year's Eve bell ringing, a new member tea on the second Sunday in February, and movie night on Saturday February 4th, which will be a hybrid event. Admin talked about the membership drive.

We are currently at \$80,000 and funds are coming in well for 2022 pledges. Carrie suggested rethinking the timing of asks.

7. Board Nominations (Deb): Tanja will stay on the board; Mark's term is up but he has not yet said if he will stay. This suggests there may be one or two spots to be filled. Nominations will be in February, voting in March.
8. Administration (Admin): The calendar has been a big project, with lots of activities on top of programming.
9. 2023 Goals and Budget Process (Admin): We have a balanced budget due to a large, unexpected gift. Without this gift, we may have ended up with a deficit of around \$30,000. This is largely due to the decision to do only one combined the membership/donation drive in 2022 at the end of the year. We should begin increasing our cash reserves after expended a large part of savings on the building project. We do have savings in addition to the operating reserves. Admin provided those numbers. Admin ran through a proposed budget for 2023. Chris M. moved to approve funding for the Assistant Guiding Teacher position, Katie A. seconded, and the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.