Minutes Mission Council and Budget Team

Monday October 28, 2019

6:30 PM Parlor

**\*\*\*\*** [**www.fpcemission.weebly.com**](http://www.fpcemission.weebly.com)

**Attendees:** Richard Taiwo, Dave Ivaska, Younan Shiba, Dick Warnecke (Elder), Sharyn Wilson-Woods (Elder), Cam Traut, Susan Wilkins (co-chairs), Caryl Weinberg (staff).

**Excused:** Peter Steffen

6:30-7:30 **Jeff Banks, Harvard IVCF Grad and Faculty Fellowship**

Jeff and his wife joined us for dinner. Jeff previously submitted an application to be considered as a new mission partner. He gave a presentation about his ministry at Harvard highlighting the following ideas :

* He views his ministry there as world mission because the nations are coming to Harvard.
* Future international world leaders are coming to faith.
* Students are becoming equipped to share their faith through participating in fellowship groups and other activities he highlighted.

The council thanked Jeff for coming and his presentation and we prayed for them before they left.

7:30-7:45 **Allen Kakooza (CNFOU: Community Network for Orphans in Uganda)**

Last year $1000 was given from the carry forward budget line to this organization. Allen wanted to follow up with how the funds were used.

1. $500 was used to pay fees and support children to go to school.
2. $500 was used to develop a business plan and start up a business where women could learn to make items which they could then sell. 40% of the sales goes back to the business to keep things going and the other 60% the individuals can keep to support their families.

The council thanked Allen for following up and were impressed with what she and the organization she started have been able to accomplish.

7:45-8:00 **Younan Shiba : Navigators**

Younan was very pleased to be able to share that he is now working with Navigators as part of their staff. He highlighted for the. council the activities and support for the Family Life Foundation. He explained how he has worked with Navigators in the past. He provided some written materials related to both of these groups and thanked us for our support both past and future.

8:00-8:30 **Update Items** (Caryl)

* Caryl’s trip to Turkey for the **IFES/MENA grad/alumni meeting**

There were approximately 125 attendees from many places including Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon and others. The theme of the conference was *Act-Interact-Impact* . Caryl provided (also posted ) two documents:

* + Highlights of the IFES/MENA Graduates Conference
  + Dreams of graduated from IFES/MENA region
* **Overview of Bright Stars Weekend**:
  + Gala:
    - 280 tickets sold (almost sold out) FPCE had five tables/50 seats
    - $145,000 raised during the event – which met their goal
    - We spent $2100 in scholarships (one table plus Alice Rubash)
  + Testimonies from Bethlehem Dinner Presentation with Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac, Rev. Dr. Jack Sara
    - 55 people (15 from outside FPCE…)
* **Overnight Shelter**: New video ready and will be shown in November. This is a great small group service opportunity (This is the 8th video completed)
* **Website Update**: The mission section is active for the first time since the new website came online in the winter/spring Several members pulled up the site on their phones . There was extensive discussion about the formatting and possibilities for how it could be made more visually interesting and informative. It was felt that right now it was too many words and just text. It was proposed that possibly Kelly might be given access to update.
* **Refugee Thanksgiving Dinner**: November 16, 4:00 PM. Sanctuary with video of Egyptian Grand Mufti talking about sermon on the mount. We have 25 Arabic copies of Sermon on the mount to give out, from the Egyptian Bible Society. Pastor Younan will “emcee”. Vineyard Church will join us with their refugee families.
* **Ukrainian Visitors from Tavriski Christian Institute**: Will present on Sunday Nov 17th in the mission class and will also attend the Mission Council meeting on November 18.
* **Community Shopping Event** for Bethlehem Scholarships at Ten Thousand Villages: December 12, 5:00-8:00
* **MBF** Andy Mayo will be coming to FPCE on November 14 to highlight activities. Let Caryl know if you can join for lunch.

7:50-8:50 **Budget Discussion**

* Overview : spreadsheets post on Mission document site

Ron handed out a summary document we reviewed

There are still discrepancies with the spreadsheets from the church related to funds received from individuals to pay for their portion of the trip to the Holy Land and also crediting funds received from individuals in payment for the Bright Stars Gala. Caryl is going to meet with Melody to review and Eleanor is going to look with Caryl also to attempt to clarify and correct.

There was extensive conversation and discussion related to the church 2020 budget and process. The topics included the following:

* 1. What is the charge for the Mission Council from Session.
  2. We will work on a statement to send to session asking for 20% of all giving again and for Caryl’s salary to go back into the staff budget.
  3. We as the council feel a responsibility to be faithful stewards to our mission partners and our commitments to them. We need to find way to communicate and show passion for this to others outside the council
  4. We will work on getting statistics of the funding and show the true % of the budget going to support missions.
  5. We brainstormed having an event highlighting mission and what the budget is supporting.
  6. We will try to get some metrics for session. We will ask the groups we support for numbers.
  7. Weekly adding stories to e-news??
* **New Partners?**
  + Jeff Banks- will first have Mission budget team review and make a recommendation
  + IFES Palestine (Initial Discussion): Dave provided a handout/proposal for possible support for a new staff member. – will have Mission budget team review and make a recommendation first

9:00 **Mission trip for 2020?**

Christ at the Checkpoint opportunity

9:05 We closed the meeting in prayer

November meeting date to November 17th

Current Priorities:

* Adult Education/curriculum:
* Communication/Congregation Engagement
* Mission Partner Care:
* Community Outreach (Evanston):
* Mission Trips:
* Refugees/First Friends

Goals:

1. 100 new members by 2022
2. 2/3 of members in small group by 2022
3. 100 members trained for leadership by 2022
4. 100 kids have regularly attended PYGS, 100 NUBS by 2022
5. A comprehensive Christian Ed. Program for biblical literacy and mature faith for children and youth is developed.
6. Year-round approach to stewardship and discipleship implemented by 2022. (From ‘scarcity to abundance’)