Mission Budget Team Minutes

April 16, 2019 7PM-7:45 PM

Ron Ehresman (co-chair), Bill Floyd, Richard Taiwo, Caryl Weinberg (staff), Susan Wilkins (co-chair)

Ron opened the meeting with prayer

Caryl reported there is approximately $29,900 in the mission carry forward fund. So far this year we have approved $500 to be spent from this.

We have 4 items to discuss.

1. Terry Halliday inquired if it would be possible to provide scholarship support for an IFES Peruvian professor to go to World Assembly. Terry would like to include her as part of a Spanish workshop he will be doing. This request was previously e-mailed to all members of the Mission Budget team. Susan moved that we approve $750 (which may be increased to $1000 if needed) to assist the Peruvian professor to attend World Assembly. Bill seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. Caryl presented a request from Dr. Kassis of Langham Partners. They have produced a Bible commentary in Arabic (with funding assistance of Great Commission). He has been able to negotiate a cost of $21/book with the publisher. 200 copies would enable all the leaders of bible study groups in the IFES-MENA region to have a copy and distribute some to interested potential leaders. Susan moved that we approve $2100 for the purchase of 100 copies. Bill seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. There was discussion of other potential funding options for another 100 copies and possibly approving more later in the year for additional copies.
3. Caryl presented a request from Sheraz Akhtar. The request was previously forward via e-mail to all members of the budget team. The request was for Visa fees and airfare so he and his family could move to Thailand. Sheraz would start a discipleship and development center for minority Christians through Asia Biblical Theological Seminary, a branch or Cornerstone University. The request was for $5550 to cover these expenses. Additional background details were provided and there was discussion. Bill made a motion to approve $5550 to Sheraz and his family for these moving expenses. It was seconded by Richard. The motion was unanimously approved.
4. Caryl reminded us that this fall Rev. Munther Isaac and Jack Sara will be speaking at North Park. Dr. Mitri Rahab will be here also for a Bright Stars of Bethlehem Gala Fundraiser the same weekend. There may be an opportunity to plan something and there could be some expenses, so we should keep this in mind.

Ron brought up 2 additional topics. First there was previous discussion about Jay Sivits account and a possible need for a donation. No further information at this time. Ron was at a conference recently of intervarsity graduate students (GFM). He met a young man who has a program with Harvard graduate students. He discussed the possibility that we might provide support to him as a Mission partner in the future. Ron will forward us some information.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 with prayer