

CLASSIS GEORGETOWN TRANSITION TEAM
Redacted Minutes of July 17, 2013, 8:30 AM
Transforming Lives and Communities
Georgetown Christian Reformed Church

7-1: Dee read from Psalm 66:16, "Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me." She explained how she has been part of the new membership process at her church, and that anyone taking those classes will be asked to write down his/her testimony. She then shared her story, and closed devotions by praying that we can all share our stories about what Christ has done for us, so that we may be able to encourage others and be thankful for our blessings.

7-2: Roll Call

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Rev. Mark Bennink, Rev. Dave Den Haan, Rev. Marc Nelesen, Rev. Josh Van Drunen

STAFF: Ms. Tricia Bosma (10:24 Coordinator), Ms. Kathy Jelsema (Assistant Treasurer/Webkeeper), Mr. Mel Vander Bie (Treasurer); Rev. Duane VanderBrug (Chair/Facilitator); and Mrs. Dee VanHeuvelen (Administrative Assistant/Newsletter Editor/Interim Stated Clerk)

ABSENT WITH NOTICE: Rev. Gerry Koning

7-3: The Transition Team redacted minutes of the meeting of May 22, 2013, have been revised (5-11: added a fifth bullet point) and were accepted as written, and posted on classis' web site.

7-4: Classis Meeting, September 19, 2013 tentative agenda, Josh reporting:

- value highlighted is Daring Hospitality
- location is the Guiding Light Mission in downtown Grand Rapids
- two minor themes, "We are all a bad decision away from a slide of chaos," and "We cannot ignore any longer those who have made them."
- we will be the guests of Guiding Light and the residents and not the hosts
- possibility of 1 or 2 small group exercises
- TT report will include classis structure presentation
- possibility of having deacons in attendance
- Fairway/Guiding Light story shared
- more firm details next meeting in August

7-5: Morphing into a Vision Team, next step, Duane reporting:

- A. Classis meeting in September will help lead into the 2014 transition to Vision Team.
- B. What we are doing needs to be celebrated with a kickoff to the new normal.
- C. We need to be thankful for progress made and honest about remaining challenges.
- D. Recommendation re seating of deacons at classis meetings was discussed but not decided on.

7-6: Recruiting Value Stewards, Dave reporting:

- A. No replies were received from a letter sent out a few weeks ago asking pastors and delegates to the last three classis meetings to indicate their interest in serving in Classis positions.
- B. Marc drafted a letter to be sent only to pastors, asking for a list of 2-20 people from each of their congregations who are gifted and willing to serve in open classis positions.

7-7: 10:24 Teams, Tricia reporting:

- main purpose of 10:24 teams will be to help build community
- possibility of pairing churches to share the 10:24 work
- have fewer 10:24 teams and a few coaching teams
- Tricia, with the help of Rev. Brian Bosscher, will write a summary sheet of their proposal

7-8: Regional Pastor, Marc and Duane reporting:

- A. Marc and Rev. Bob Huisman have both indicated that they are interested in sharing this position, so a possibility is to have each share what part is most important to them and divide the work.
- B. If this fits our needs, the question is will it also assist the denomination in the Pastor-Church Relations Office in serving the congregations well .
- C. RP position should be able to uncover all thoughts/ideas/web sites/books/training available to keep pastors healthy.
- D. Church leaders need to understand that the RP role is an act of love and care for our pastors and classis is there to help them.
- E. The next step is affirmation from the TT and a plan for compensation and recommendation to classis.
- F. After implementation of this position, evaluations will occur on a regular basis.
- G. Duane will keep in contact with the denomination's office of Pastor-Church Relations re classis Development of the RP role in Classis Georgetown.

7-9: Grant policy, Duane reporting:

- A. New edited guidelines from Duane were accepted.
- B. Grant recommendations from Mark will be presented in Dave's report at the Classis meeting in September. Josh will work with Mark in making the recommendations since 12th Avenue is making a request for a grant.

7-10: Other:

- Due to lack of time, the financial report distributed online will be heard at our meeting next month
- Ad hoc task force groups to prethink major concerns and issues, as recommended by Marc, are one way to proceed to shorten meetings
- Mark will contact the Rev. Josh Benton about a pastor's welcome to our classis and Josh VD will make personal contact with him
- The following response was given to Gerry's request to communicate with Mr. Bernie Winkle at Ridgewood CRC concerning women delegates at classis meetings. "The decision of classis five years ago regarding female delegates into Classis Georgetown still stands, but we would like to be able to seat female delegates sometime in the future. We encourage Ridgewood to request Classis to seat women delegates."

7-11: Dee closed our meeting with prayer.

7-12: Next meeting dates:

CLASSIS CONTRACTA meeting for JOSH SHAARDA, will be held on Wednesday, July 24, 2013 at Georgetown CRC at 1 PM, lunch provided

WEDNESDAY, August 14, 2013, 8:30 AM, Classis G-town Office, Gerry devotions, Mel closing prayer

WEDNESDAY, September 25, 2013, 12:30 PM, Hillcrest CRC, Marc devotions, Mark closing prayer

Respectfully submitted,

DeeVanHeuvelen, Administrative Assistant/Interim Stated Clerk

Classis Georgetown Transition Team