

CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM
Minutes of February 2, 2017, 12:30 PM to 2:15 PM

Transforming Lives and Communities

12th Avenue CRC, 7581 12th Ave., Jenison, MI 49428

1-1: Gerry led us in devotions by sharing Old Testament passages used at the funeral of a young Muslim girl with severe heart problems who was in the US by way of Heal the Children and died during surgery. The passages remind us that we are to extend our care to include all strangers and foreigners.

1-2: Vision Team (VT):

Roll Call, PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Rev. Mark Bennink, Rev. Dave Jolman, Rev. Gerry Koning, Rev. Marc Nelesen

STAFF: Mr. Jim Roskam (Classis Coordinator), Ms. Kathy Jelsema (Assistant Treasurer/Web keeper), Mel Vander Bie (Treasurer)

ABSENT WITH NOTICE: Ms. Glenda Tebben (Stated Clerk), Rev. Larry Doornbos (called away at last minute)

1-3: Agenda additions:

A. Ron Meyer email regarding 500th Year Commemoration of the Protestant Reformation

The VT gives their blessing and will encourage churches to attend. Ron may go ahead and invite the churches. Jim will let Ron know this.

B. World Vision Event forwarded from Bob Huisman

The VT would like to keep our primary focus on the Habitat for Humanity house.

1-4: The Vision Team minutes of January 19, 2017 (written by Glenda) were accepted as written.

1-5: Financial Report from Mel:

2016 year-end results to be reported at the Classis meeting. Total budgeted expenses ended at 73% of budget, which is about what was hoped for and expected. Ministry Shares receipts are a bit up. Mel will present individual church Ministry Share updates at Classis meeting.

1-6: Stated Clerk's Report:

Not available

1-7: February 9 Classis meeting updates:

A. Dee VanHeuvelen will not be at the Classis meeting. Mel will contact Duane and confirm if he is planning to come or not.

B. Voting for Council of Delegates, Synodical Delegates

No nominations yet received. We will need to take nominations from the floor of Classis for Synodical delegates. We will also need ballots prepared prior to the Classis meeting.

C. Friendship Chapel update/Josh Benton Article 17

Marc Nelesen will write an update and Gerry Koning will read it at the Classis meeting. See also item 1-9 below.

1-8: Vision Team report to Classis by Gerry Koning:

All set per our review at January 19 VT meeting.

1-9: Article 17 and severance pay for Josh Benton (Friendship Chapel) – Marc and Larry recommendations:

Friendship Chapel is undecided on Classis VT proposal on severance. Marc questions other items in the proposal too. Too many pieces are unclear, unspecified, and uncomfortable. Recommend no action be taken at February 9 Classis meeting until things are clearer. Marc will speak with Bob Huisman, Larry Doornbos, and Norm Thomasma to get more specific info on times, dates, dollars, counseling, etc. He will also contact Josh Benton to make sure he is clear on how things may progress. VT agreed to allow Marc to be the single point person in all this. Mel reported that Classis has up to \$10K in the budget to play with if needed.

1-10: Biblical Diversity Seminar March 24-25:

Gerry reported that things are in place for registration and the event is being promoted.

1-11: Clergy Mental Health:

Marc had nothing new to report.

1-12: Assistant Clerk position:

Will discuss at our next meeting when Glenda returns.

1-13: Safe Church with Bonnie Nicholas:

It was agreed to hold this for a later Classis, possibly this fall, maybe also to include more info about Safe Church teams in our own Classis and in our churches. We will book Laura Keeley for our May Classis meeting and invite her to meet with the Classis Meeting Planning Team in preparation for that Classis meeting.

1-14: Habitat for Humanity:

Jim met with Don Wilkerson. Jim is putting a flyer together.

1-15: News of our churches in Classis:

Churches are completing Renewal Lab. Discussion about churches operating under the chaplaincy model vs. under the missions model. Difficulties are being experienced in trying to incorporate a model that values both pastoral care and missions together.

1-16: Moving September Classis meeting to October:

Tabled

1-17: Student Fund team and responsibilities for candidacy requirements:

Tabled. A new email and document has been received from Geoff VanderMolen

1-18: Round the table:

No further discussion.

1-19: Jim Roskam closed our meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Jelsema

Assistant Treasurer
Classis Georgetown

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING MEETING DATES:

Thursday, March 16, 2017, 12:30 PM, Georgetown CRC, Marc N., opening, Mark B., closing

Thursday, April 20, 2017, 12:30 PM, Trinity CRC, Larry, opening, Dave, closing