

**CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM**  
**Minutes of October 18, 2016, 2:15 PM to 4:00 PM**

*Transforming Lives and Communities*

Georgetown CRC 6475 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hudsonville, MI 49426

10-1: Gerry Koning opened with devotions and prayer.

10-2: Vision Team:

Roll Call, PRESENT:

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

AWN: Mr. Mel Vander Bie and Ms. Dee Van Heuvelen

STAFF: Rev. Duane VanderBrug (Chair/Facilitator) and Ms. Kathy Jelsema (Assistant Treasurer/Web keeper)

10-3: Financial Report:

Mel Vander Bie sent an e-mail to the Vision Team that day and Kathy reported. \$3000 was gained in the month of October. Student funds have been paid. There was an overbudget on student aid due to Cody's support and the annual review.

10-4: February Classis Agenda:

Dave Den Haan plans to be involved in the planning. The special event will be the Habitat service project. Larry Doornbos has been in conversation with Habitat and they are glad to partner with classis. Habitat needs more hands than dollars. The Vision Team needs to figure out how the various classis churches can be involved in the project. Classis should affirm to go ahead with a one year trial period. There's a need for 8,000 homes in eastern Ottawa County. The classis could fundraise for land if necessary. Habitat would like the classis to find the land and the families. Habitat tries to find lots that are \$20,000 or less. The Vision Team discussed some lot possibilities in the area. The Vision Team would vet the family. It takes a year from the time that a family is vetted until the house is built. Larry will report back to the team on the progress. The Vision Team must communicate the steps. Decisions will have to be made about VT membership. The location for the classis meeting will be Forest Grove CRC.

10-5: VT Conversations Report:

Duane VanderBrug's report was sent and attached to these minutes. The Vision Team has received resumes for both the Classis Coordinator and Stated Clerk positions. Duane is willing to help with the transition. Classis will have to approve the candidates in February. Collaboration will really be accomplished by the Coordinator so Larry Doornbos is able to focus on the Renewal Lab. A decision needs to be made about the 10:24 teams in the next couple of months. We need someone to get the pulse of each congregation. The team can hire the Habitat Coordinator. The team will have to talk about member roles. The Coordinator position needs to be defined in terms of time limit (keeping the at will aspect of the position in mind). The VT also needs to decide on a review process for classis employees (the Coordinator can take the lead on this). It was tentatively decided to have the terms of the VT value stewards designated this way: Gerry Koning (1 year), Dave Jolman (2 years), Marc Nelesen (3 years), and Mark Bennink (4 years). Larry Doornbos requests a 6 month term to transition into the Habitat project. The term designations will have to be approved by Classis in February. Regional pastors would have to be invited by the pastor and congregation for conversations. The VT can put some guidelines together related to church visiting that would be helpful for the churches. The Vision Stewards discussed interviewing the candidates for the Classis positions.

10-6: Friendship Chapel Update:

Friendship Chapel has decided to have Sunday, October 23, be their last Sunday. They will decide over the next three weeks whether they will nest with Evergreen, Immanuel, or Messiah churches. The congregation wants to try and gather enough money to keep Josh Benton's salary

possibly with Classis help. They hope to restart their church with campus spruced up for that event. Gerry Koning has helped with leading meetings. There is no guarantee that Josh will be the one to restart the church. Bob Huisman has been walking with Josh with his transition in this process. Relationship rebuilding needs to be done. The new church will be completely different. The VT needs to hand off Gerry's work to the lead pastor of the church where the Friendship Chapel congregation will nest.

10-7: Closing

The meeting was closed with prayer.

**Next Meeting Dates:**

Thursday, November 17, 2016, 12:30 PM, Trinity, Larry opening, Gerry closing

Thursday, December 15, 2016, 12:30 PM, Mark opening, Kathy closing

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Mark Bennink

Recorder

Classis Georgetown VT