

Minutes: Heartland of Texas Emmaus Community Executive Board

Burnet First United Methodist Church

January 6, 2020 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Ti Mynk, Tom Ruiz, JoAnn Dilworth, Susan Nevills, Jason Teague, Troy Ellett, Allen Mynk, David Hinojosa, Kelsey Mills, Alan Bazard, Rich Gilchrist, Suzanne Taylor

Visitors: Janice Hinojosa, Angie Martinez, Brandie Melton, Steve Taylor, Penny Mills, Megan Paz, Ricky Paz

Opening: Jason Teague opened with prayer at 7:05 p.m. Ti called the meeting to order.

Minutes: Jason made the motion to accept minutes, and Allen seconded. The motion passed with none opposed.

HOTEC Spiritual Director Comments: Jason read from 1 Timothy 4:12 and summarized by saying that if we follow God's lead, He will take us where we need to go and give us power to get there.

Treasurer's Report: Susan presented the December treasurer's report. Tom R. made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and Jason seconded. The motion passed with none opposed.

Old Business:

- Kelsey brought up last month's discussion regarding the Bylaws, stating that according to the Bylaws we should have 5 new members coming in each year.
 - Ti stated that we've been unable to find people to serve on the Board, specifically referring to David H.'s position as North coordinator. David has actively searched for someone to replace him for several months to no avail.
 - Kelsey said we should tell community that we "messed up" and need 5 new people.
 - Ti explained that according to UR, we are a working board where each board member holds specific responsibilities, rather than a governing board where some members may not have specific jobs.
 - Ti reminded us that in past, we have combined positions that the Bylaws specifically identify into single positions (i.e. Member Services & Communication combined with Walk Registration as one member instead of two; UR Rep combined with Training & Compliance as one member instead of two). These combinations reduced number of Board members to current 13. Kelsey stated that she had not understood that this would reduce the number of members when this was initially done.
 - Troy stated that having 15 board members allows more involvement and reduces the work load for each person.
 - Jason stated that we seem to be "stuck" and can either go to 15 Board members now or wait and see where possible revision of the Bylaws leaves us.
 - Kelsey added that the second issue is having Board members serve back-to-back terms.

Jason surveyed interest from visitors and requested that Board hear their input on this issue. Seven people spoke, with the following key points:

- The original intent of having three classes of 5 was to provide varying degrees of experience among Board members.
- Additionally, board members were to take at least a year “off” before serving another term to allow them a time of refreshing. This allows for new members to bring fresh ideas.
- An opportunity to volunteer to serve on the Board was presented at the December gathering prior to voting so anyone interested could have volunteered. No one did so.
- Members of earlier Boards should have addressed the Bylaws issues sooner but did not.

Following audience comments, David Hinojosa resigned as North coordinator effective immediately and left the meeting. Suzanne Taylor also resigned from the remainder of her term due to their plan to relocate. Ti addressed concerns that had been presented in general, stating that the earlier Board decision to combine positions was to improve the efficiency of the Board and was not in any way intended to exclude anyone. Jason added that feelings got hurt because of the way people were speaking to and scolding one another.

Alan Bazard commented that we should focus on getting to 15 Board members and asked where we are currently. Based on website information, the current Board make-up is as follows:

Terms expiring 2020	Ti Mynk Allen Mynk Troy Ellett	Tom Ruiz Kelsey Mills Suzanne Taylor (resigned 1-6-2020)
Terms expiring 2021	Tom Bornschein Jason Teague _____	JoAnn Dilworth _____
Terms expiring 2022	Grady Roe Alan Bazard Rich Gilchrist	Susan Nevills David Hinojosa (resigned 1-6-2020)

Jason made a motion to move to executive session so that Board members can pray and discern possible candidates for two (2) additional positions to bring back to next month’s board meeting for nominations, as well as for one (1) unexpired term (Suzanne Taylor). Jason accepted an amendment to the motion that the Board will retire to executive session to address absences and potential absences and chart a path to resolution, and Tom Ruiz seconded the motion. The motion passed with none opposed.

An audience member questioned if a change in the Bylaws requires a community vote and was told by Tom Ruiz that it does.

New Business:

- We currently have 9 pilgrims signed up for Men's Walk 2020, and supplies have been ordered. The first team meeting will be this Saturday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The board opened in executive session at 8:08 p.m. Jason prayed to open the meeting, and Ti opened the meeting. Tom Ruiz announced that a quorum is present.

- Board members discussed the need to present nominations for two 2-year terms to expire in 2021 and two 3-year terms to expire in 2022. Board members will pray and consider who might be willing to serve in these capacities. Kelsey mentioned that the feelings that were presented tonight were not new but had been going on since last year's election.
- Ti stated that we need to elect / assign Board positions for Lay Director, Assistant Lay Director, Secretary and Treasurer.
 - Tom Ruiz was nominated as Lay Director. Susan made a motion to accept Tom, and Troy seconded. The motion passed with one opposed.
 - JoAnn Dilworth was nominated as Assistant Lay Director. Ti made a motion to accept JoAnn, and Tom seconded. The motion passed with none opposed.
 - Rich Gilchrist was nominated as Secretary, but Rich requested additional time before accepting. He stated that tonight's meeting was not what he expected and wants time to think and pray about it before accepting the position.
 - Board members decided to postpone assignment of Secretary and Treasurer positions until the February Board meeting. Susan and JoAnn will continue in those positions in the interim.
- Incoming Lay Director Tom Ruiz commented that the focus of Emmaus is on developing Christian leaders. He stated that we must communicate better and forge a path to the future through compromise and hard work. Board members must always consider our motivation: to develop leaders and bring people to God, or to draw a line in the sand?
- Troy closed the meeting in prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Next meeting date will be February 3, 2020 at Burnet FUMC at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

JoAnn Dilworth, Secretary
January 10, 2020