

## Minutes: Heartland of Texas Emmaus Community Executive Board Meeting

November 6, 2023, 7:00 PM, Burnet FUMC

**Attendees:** Alan Bazard, JoAnn Dilworth (Zoom), Rich Gilchrist, Roberta Goodman, Robert Hall, Bob Munsey

**Guests:** Troy Ellet (Zoom), Richard Wendrock

1. Bob called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and Roberta opened us in prayer.
2. The October minutes were accepted.
3. The October treasurer's report was accepted.
4. Women's Walk 2023 recap:
  - a. 36 pilgrims participated, making it a full walk.
  - b. Some speakers were uncomfortable with the prayers in the chapel being said in tongues. Pastor Ellen addressed it.
  - c. Emmaus bylaws say praying in tongues is OK if the person being prayed over is OK with it. Otherwise, praying shouldn't be done in tongues.
    - i. This needs to be addressed to those in the prayer chapel.
    - ii. While it wasn't perceived as necessarily a negative, the Emmaus experience needs to be 100% positive.
    - iii. This needs to be addressed with lay directors, as they select the prayer team.
    - iv. Guidelines will be provided for future Walks that no pilgrim shall be brought into small chapel, the area where the speakers are prayed in. (NOTE: This was a discussion between Roberta and Rich after the meeting. Roberta wanted this in the record.)
5. 2024 Walks:
  - a. The Men's Walk is April 18-21.
  - b. The Women's Walk is October 17-20 **or** October 24-27. The date will be finalized in January.
6. Upcoming Walk dates will be published on the website shortly after the conclusion of the previous walk.
7. The wording of the agape sign up on the website needs to be refined. While it seems clear to some, there have been some rather odd questions.
8. The Memo of Understanding (MOU) to the Greater Austin Emmaus Community (GAEC) was reviewed and finalized in the meeting. Bob will send it to our GAEC contact, Steven Scott.
  - a. We **will not** be merging, but will share information, such as gathering dates.
  - b. GAEC is encouraged to participate in HOTEK Walks.
9. Nominating committee:
  - a. Robert reached out to Donna Shaw to be a clergy member of the board, but she declined.
  - b. Robert has contacted Brian Rogers and is waiting to hear from him.
  - c. Alan asked Pastor Amy Boriack from Bee Creek UMC about being on the board, but she's not a UMC elder. It's unclear if she would be the spiritual director on the board.
  - d. Grady and JoAnn are the only board members rolling off after 2023. Therefore, these are the only positions that need to be filled.
  - e. Assignments for board members will be made in January 2024, after the new members are on board.
10. JoAnn would love to see the Men's Walk team completed before Christmas,
  - a. Bob will reach out to the lay director, David Hinojosa.

11. The survey to the community will go out to the community on November 13, including the new baby chicks.
  - a. Richard will have Mail Chimp up and running by November 13.
  - b. The database has 600 contacts in it. Richard anticipates about 200 not being valid. He will clean up the data based on what he receives.
12. Richard suggested finalizing the January to March gathering dates by December to facilitate the near-term communications.
  - a. The new board can finalize the remaining dates before March.
13. Bob closed the meeting at 7:56 and closed us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Gilchrist, Secretary

November 12, 2023