

2024 May Stewards Minutes

SEEKERS CHURCH

Final Stewards Minutes

May 12, 2024

Stewards attending:

Ken Burton, Deborah Sokolove, John Morris, Jacqie Wallen, Marjory Bankson, Margreta Silverstone, Sandra Miller, Judy Lantz, Joan Dodge, Glen Yakushiji, Peter Bankson, Brenda Seat, Keith Seat, Cynthia Dahlin, Elizabeth Gelfeld
Others Attending: Liz Gould-Leger, Kolya Braun-Greiner

Stewards Absent: Trish Nemore, Dave Lloyd

LEADERSHIP:

Moderator – Ken Burton

Meditation Leader – Sandra Miller

Recorder – Margreta Silverstone

Meditation – Sandra

Housekeeping – Ken (June meeting is June 9 at 4 pm in person at Seekers)

Moderator – Peter

Meditation Leader – Joan

Recorder – Judy

Report from Children's Team – Judy Lantz and Dave Lloyd

See the included Appendix for the full report.

Ken thanked them for their effort. Different than the past. Diminishment has its challenges.

Marjory – hates to see the end of the Children's Word. Grateful to David for holding that.

Report from CreatureKind Ministry team – John Morris

Team has not done much since 2023. Had a blog going but lost its energy.

Noticed things to be grateful for – awareness within Seekers that the treatment of

animals is important to our life of faith. Had intended to work with children's

curriculum, but that won't happen now but maybe in the future.

Intend to put out a new call. Current membership is: John,

Peter, Dave and Anita. Look for preaching opportunities.

Looking for ways that the lectionary can challenge us.

Projects – idea of having an event at Seekers, hosted by Seekers for the wider

community, a vegan chef event, in the fall, to offer top class cook to prepare a

tasting menu. Speaking for the team, offer the community a chance to meet

Seekers. OMG happy to support.

Kolya – interested and believe the event would be popular.

Asked if information

about the CreatureKind network would be available at the event. John named

they planned to share about Seekers' support with the team of people and not

clear about the how much to publish the CreatureKind network.

Request for approval to hire a graphic designer – Joan Dodge

Not necessarily a request for approval, but a conversation.

Aware of a lot of

things that Seekers does or might want to do. Award graphics important for

outreach – need to consider best ways to publicize. Examples where graphics

could be useful – Christmas eve service, Easter Service, hikes, the CreatureKind

event, other events that could be open to a wider community.

Been aware to do

that outreach need skills with graphic design – Katie has done it and Julie has done it. Not clear how to get it done in the future – whether to hire or find a volunteer or student. Curious to hear from others. Do you think there is enough interest?

Deborah – Julie's sister helped her – can she be hired? Keith said that is being checked on. Agree hiring on an ad hoc is a good idea, someone sympathetic to us and our needs, Do not recommend hiring a student – exams, timing available is an issue. Students not mature enough.

Kolya – great idea, agree with others, social media included? Outreach –

sympathetic facebook pages, publicity format that could be part of the job description, in addition to design

Marjory – publicity and social media important

John – social media, see Vita Poetica – Julie and her sister Liz – follow up for Kolya – several people who saw the flyer at businesses around town. Ripple effect of posting.

Keith – did put up posters – Oswaldo posted it, getting up the learning curve,

Julie has done Instagram posts

Brenda – posters around town, qr code – to spread it across

Margreta – the QR code needs to be supported with website/social media

location/etc. Also that the graphics for the front window is important and people do stop and look (Keith agreed) Keith – the front window is important

Report from website team – Margreta

The website team has been working on making updates to the website. Thanks to the mission groups and others who have reviewed the current content and provided input. The team will be proposing an alternative to the current "Members Only" area, but not prepared to do that this evening. There are 2 additional needs:

1. The photos on the website need to be updated. If people can send photos to Deborah, she can start to assemble a collection for use. If someone is willing to take photos, please let Margreta know.
2. The "Meet a Seeker" area is out of date. Either new information needs to be provided or the area needs to be removed. It would be useful if there was someone willing to interview various Seekers and create a short write up and a portrait photo.

Report from Ecumenical Council – Keith Seat

Meeting just ended. Council functioning well. Focus today was on the Dayspring report. A number of the people were there to discuss Dayspring, Wellspring and Retreat Center. Encouraged by having only a 5K loss on budget of 270K. Retreat had a bigger loss, but a lot of one time expenses. Wellspring also viewed their losses as one time. The Retreat Center is encouraged by new people coming and returning. Lots of younger people and people with diverse backgrounds are

showing up for retreats. They are wanting to hold more retreats.

Adam talked about the Native American Truth and Reconciliation project and

invited others to join him.

Calendar related – Celebration of Church of the Saviour – TBD. Sept. 14 for

Festival Center event.

Formal report for the meeting to come out later.

Marjory noted it is hard to have the Stewards and council on the same day.

Marjory also shared there was also discussion regarding M83 as an active concern.

Margaret Shelf noted now is the time for changes to the Master Plan to be submitted

and would be getting a letter out to encourage comments to be submitted.

Liz Gould-Leger shared the Sierra Club also had concerns regarding the plan and was

holding a hike to raise awareness. She would forward the email to the community.

Two Stewards shared: Deborah Sokolove and Judy Lantz

Soul Talk

Tentative business agenda and Stewards sharing for the in person meeting on June 9th

at 4pm:

Discussion about being a hybrid church

Steward sharing: John Morris