

**EASTER GROUP MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2010**

Easter Group met November 12, 2010 at noon in the Upper Room of the Lutheran Church. Presiding was President Mim McConnell

The meeting opened with introductions of those attending. Two new potential members are Emily Lewis and Julie Stroemer.

A presentation by JoAnn Clyde, Director of Nursing at Sitka Community Hospital was the first item. She discussed her role in helping a local homeless person, from providing, at her own expense, a transitional arrangement to locating a more permanent space and providing ongoing visits and services. She emphasized the need for compassion and honoring the dignity of the individual when offering help. She also noted there is much variety among the homeless population, with some suffering from mental and emotional problems in addition to the more evident conditions of hunger and lack of shelter. JoAnn said Brave Heart will probably be able to offer visiting and shopping services. She also turned over to the treasurer a check for Easter Group from a local donor and the change personnel at SCH had donated. At the end of the talk, Ted said it might be possible to request funds from Jericho Road to aid with the housing costs for the individual.

Motion/Second/Pass – Dorrie/Mary moved to make the request. Unanimously passed.

Mary will write thank you notes to those who have donated cash or goods and services for the living space.

Following the presentation, the group moved to the agenda items.

Treasurer's Report:

Jack Ozment reported there is \$133. in the checking account and \$250. in the Savings Account. It was suggested and accepted that only the mandatory amount will be left in savings and the rest transferred to checking.

Unfinished Business

Blatchley Breakfast Program

Mim and Dorrie reported on meeting with SSD administrators Steve Bradshaw, David Arp and Joe Robidou to discuss the proposed breakfast program for BMS. The obstacles the administrators highlighted were the real “stigma” attached to feeding only the needy and the short time available because of bus schedules. Joan Vanderwerp has made an individual, direct donation of a case of fruit.

After much discussion, it was agreed that:

1. Donations will be cases of fruit rather than funds.
2. Ted mentioned that he will look into availability of nutrition bars from the Salvation Army to supplement the fruit and will let us know.

Motion/Second/Pass – Jim/Ted moved to purchase and deliver fruit.
Passed unanimously.

Judy Ozment will check with school for quantities needed and arrange for delivery.

Holland America Grant Application

Dorrie had received a letter of denial for the grant with a note advising that another request can be submitted in February.

Backpack Grocery Program

Judy Ozment has made calls to Food Banks in Alaska. She will meet with the staff at the Juneau Food Bank while in Juneau next week and report back at the next meeting about starting a local program.

IRS Form 1023 (Tax Exempt Status form)

Dorrie is still working on the application. She and Mary will try to complete it next week. Jack will assist with the financial report and a legal expert will be contacted before submission.

New Business

Problem Corner Appearance

Easter Group has been granted a time slot on Problem Corner on Wed., Nov. 17 at 11:40 AM. Jim agreed to go with Dorrie. The format will be an explanation of Easter Group work, including the mission statement and the history of the young organization as well as projects currently being done and a general view of possible future projects.

Asking Letters

Jack and Judy Ozment agreed to draft a letter. It will be printed on EG letterhead, requesting donations from individuals and organization within the community. All EG members are asked to submit an alphabetical list of individuals they feel comfortable asking for a donation with a goal of 15-20 names on each list. All lists should include the mailing address as well as the names! Those lists can be sent to Mim by email (or typewritten for those not on line) within the next 2 weeks.

At the Dec. 3 meeting, the lists will be culled for duplication, and short personal notes will be added. Envelopes will be stuffed, addressed and stamped.

New member Emily Lewis suggested a single page request for funds be prepared for the Women's Club, of which she is a member, requesting funds for the person who is currently being housed. The White E was also mentioned as a possible source of funding. Mim will complete these two requests.

Future Fundraising

Mim suggested an event patterned after the "Honoring Women" annual event done by SAFV, called "Honoring Men". Judy and Jim Berry agreed to work on a subcommittee to plan an event. Mary Hughes suggested waiting until after Jan. 1, 2011 to form a committee and begin planning, with the event scheduled for October or November, 2011. Mim advised that the committee confer with Martina Kurzer at SAFV for information about the planning, publicity, etc.

Adjournment moved at 2 PM, seconded and passed with the December meeting set for Friday, Dec. 3 at noon. As noted above, topic for that meeting is completing the “asking letters” for mailing. Mary will try to reserve space at St. Gregory’s or the Lutheran church. (She will notify of site by email and news article.)