

Committee on Ministry – Oversight Group
Meeting Minutes June 3, 2020
Meeting via Zoom

Present: Richard Beck, Kim Cran, Jeffrey Gerber, Steve Johnson, Kathryn Ketchum, Doris Powell, Nayiri Karjian

At 10:05 am Jeff opened with prayer.

Talmadge update

David Brumbaugh completed the psychological assessment we requested. Recommended: a course to increase his skill with conflict management. Nayiri asked David to write a report about what he learned. David signed a file release for Penn Central, where he had a similar problem of clashing with power people. Penn Central can't find his file. The church received an anonymous letter and responded to its content but won't share it with Nayiri. They are hiring a Blackburn consultant to do a process. David is leading worship services in the parking lot. The church normally has about 150 in worship. Nayiri feels we have made some progress with David Brumbaugh. The congregation is still dysfunctional but maybe the consultant will help.

Karen Bruno update: Karen is doing well. She is now retired

Dover Westlake/Don Nichols update: Don is quiet but feels there's been no justice for him.

Bonnie Jean Montgomery/St. John's, Massillon

Bonnie Jean is suing St. John's charging sexual harassment and wrongful firing. Since she's been informed that we can't circulate her profile while she's in a litigious relationship with one of our churches, she has not been in touch. She's a counselor and doesn't accept critique. She's not taking being let go well. Although St. John's Council wants Nayiri to do something, they haven't sent a letter of complaint/concern for our consideration as she recommended.

Healthy Practices

The last event, **Politics and Faith in the Purple Zone**, with Leah Schade had 42 participants.

Suggestions for future events:

- Maybe change the October 1 church administration topic to something practical for this Covid-distanced time: A tutorial for how to do Zoom and/or, Facebook live. Per Steve they tell you how to do it **well** but not how to **do it**... first steps. Nuts and bolts technology for clergy + how to merge online community w/ computer community when the time comes + future of church. Nayiri knows who she can recruit to lead this.
- How to protest in the 21st century
- Pluralism (diversity) a healthy "ism"

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 11:20.

Upcoming Committee on Ministry Meetings (via Zoom):

COM-Oversight – Wednesdays 9/2, 11/4; COM – Thursdays 9/3, 12/3