

**Annual Meeting  
Christian Science Committee for Institutional Work  
in the State of Washington  
November 3, 2018**

The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Burien, Washington. There were 26 people in attendance, which included 14 Representatives of Member Churches.

The meeting opened with the singing of Hymn 433, accompanied by Carol Phillips on the piano.

Committee Advisory Board President, Renée Alton, CS, welcomed the attendees and began the meeting with readings from the Bible and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* and *Prose Works* by Mary Baker Eddy followed silent prayer and the audible repetition of the Lord's Prayer.

James Phillips, Advisory Board Vice President introduced himself and noted that the other Board member, Linda Lewis, was not in attendance. Two other Board members elected at the last annual meeting, Chris Silver and Beverly Foltz, CS, have resigned their positions on the board. Martha Niemi, Secretary/Treasurer, was also introduced and Martha called the roll.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

- The minutes of the meeting of October 14, 2017 were read and approved as read.
- Renée Alton thanked the Burien branch for welcoming us and helping so much in preparing for and facilitating the meeting. Renée then presented the Advisory Board Annual Report (attached here).
- The Financial Reports were presented by Martha Niemi and James Phillips. It was noted that because of a wonderful contribution of \$10,000 from a branch that had disbanded, we ended the fiscal year with only a \$710.90 shortfall. It was also noted that the proposed budget shows a shortfall for next fiscal year of \$14,662. The Advisory Board is continuing to look into ways to cut down that shortfall. The balance in the investment at the end of August was \$26,181.26 (the statement for 9/30/18 had not been received at the time of the annual meeting) and James Phillips noted that those fund will allow us to operate at we currently are for two years. Reps were asked to let their branches know that this Committee needs their metaphysical as well as financial support.

This discussion resulted in hearing ideas from the floor of perhaps cutting down on the current paid subscriptions and instead taking advantage of the used Weekly Monitors that are sent to the Joint Literature Distribution Committee. This idea will be pursued by the Joint Literature Distribution Committee, the Secretary/Treasurer, and the folks that visit Shelton as they are the largest subscriber.

**New Business:**

- ▲ James Phillips presented the Advisory Board's recommendation to reelect Renée Alton to a new two-year term on the Advisory Board. James was unanimously reelected by voice vote.
- ▲ The following people were nominated for election to a two-year term on the Advisory Board: Susan Anderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Church Bainbridge Island, and Joy Basse Emerson, 1<sup>st</sup> Church Lakewood. Both were elected separately by unanimous voice vote. The new board will meet later in December to elect President, Vice President and Members-At-Large.
- ▲ A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the 2019 Proposed Budget as presented. (S. Anderson/J. Phillips)

### OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS TO SHARE FRUITAGE/DISCUSSION

- Renée Alton started this portion of the meeting by sharing excerpts from the booklet *Mary Baker Eddy and Institutional Work* by David Coughtry, Archivist of The Christian Science Institutional Services Committee for New York State. This booklet had originally been shared with our Committee's Reps at the Annual Meeting of 2013 and tells of Mrs. Eddy's support for institutional work. Renée also shared some experiences working with inmates at the King County Correctional Facility. She told how she had gotten started in the work and her love and appreciation for it. Other workers at King County are Linda Lewis, Frank Voorhees, and Merry Ann Peterson.
- James Phillips shared how he and his wife, Carol, share Christian Science at Larch Corrections Center in Yacolt. With Carol's many musical talents she holds a complete service for those attending. They have hymns (which the inmates love to sing) and Carol sings a solo. What a treat for open willing hearts.
- Susan Anderson spoke of her and Jo Yount's experiences at Clallam Bay Corrections Center, one of two maximum security units in the State of Washington. When an inmate is moved out of Clallam Bay to a lower security facility, it is evidence of their improved attitudes and willingness to change. Recently one of the men who is dedicated to his study of Christian Science under Sue and Jo's tutelage (and has obviously grown in his spirituality) has been moved to a lower security facility and discovered, to his dismay, that the new facility does not have a Christian Science group for him to become a part of. He is very serious about getting one started at the new facility and this Committee will do all that we can do help in this effort.
- Ralph Emerson, CS, who visits Shelton Corrections Center along with Catherine Crossman, Joy Basse Emerson, George Krusz (not actively serving right now), and Mary Minsk said that Shelton is a type of clearing house for incoming inmates. The people are only there for a short while before they are assigned their permanent facility. Ralph and the crew meet with as many as want to hear about Christian Science and give *Science & Health* as often as they can. The Chaplain currently gets 50 copies of the Weekly Monitor but that might change as there has been a change in the management of the facility. One of the changes is that the group can no longer meet in the Chapel and the room they now use is not nearly as good. The situation there needs prayer.
- Aleta Matteson reported that the Kent Branch Church has adopted the Regional Justice Center as the facility they are focusing on. The Reading Room is challenged with needs of the homeless and we heard about a man who visited the Reading Room in an agitated state but left after hearing, the passage that starts, "What is man?" from *Science and Health* and the poem, O Gentle Presence. After hearing the poem read once, he asked that it be read again and left calm and comforted.
- Byrne Lacombe spoke of visiting a man at University Hospital who had learned about *Science and Health* while in prison in California. Byrne reminded us that the mandate of this Committee includes visiting those who are confined in hospitals and ask for someone to talk with them about Christian Science.

The meeting closed with singing Hymn 339. Carol Phillips accompanied the hymn on the piano.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Niemi  
Secretary/Treasurer