

King-Snohomish County Area Committee for Christian Science Institutional Work
Quarterly Business Meeting
Location: Third Church of Christ, Scientist, Seattle
January 12, 2019

MINUTES corrected

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by the Chair, Mark Schoening.

Readings: Inspirational topic – “Salvation from Sin,” by Pat Matteson

Self-Introduction of those present: 15

Churches represented:

First Church Bellevue; First Church, Bothell; 2-First Church Burien; First Church Edmonds; First Church, Issaquah; 2-First Church Kent; First Church, Mercer Island; First Church, Redmond; First Church Seattle; Third Church Seattle; Twelfth Church Seattle; West Seattle Society; Christian Scientist Visitor (not a member currently of a church or society)

Sharing of Inspiration on the subject of the readings

A book titled, “Tattoos of the Heart,” by Gregory Boyle was shared. An article in the *1887 Journal* titled, “The Fruits of Anger,” by A.N. Crane was shared. Comments included that our goal is to heal the sin of the world (including in ourselves) and that we need to handle errors in our thought right away.

Minutes of October 13, 2018: Approved as corrected.

Correspondence: None

Abbreviated Reports from the Field (detailed reports are emailed to the reps and workers)

The worker from the Monroe Reformatory reported that he visited there three times this quarter. No one came for the second or the third sessions, but fortunately, one man did come to the first session in October. The inmate didn’t know anything about Christian Science, but was interested and appreciated their coming. The worker had taken a Christian Scientist with him to this session who was interested in learning about this work.

The other reports that were sent to the Secretary and Coordinator in writing will be sent via email to the Reps and Workers.

There is a need for more C.S. used literature at KCCF and at RJC, both in English and in Spanish. This would include *Sentinels*, *Heralds*, *Monitors*, and *Full Texts*. Please notify a worker to arrange this if your church can help.

Coordinator’s Report

At the church services presented at the Regional Justice Center in Kent this quarter on the second Thursday evening of each month, several men attended the first two services but a surprising thing happened at the last service! Two men came at the beginning of the service, and then other men began to trickle in, and by the time the service had ended, fourteen men were there! They enjoyed singing the familiar hymns that had been chosen. Some of the men signed up for visits and literature.

The Coordinator mentioned that it is important that in their prayers supporting this institutional work, our churches recognize that there is a real need in our communities for church services.

Old Business

Pat Matteson is no longer reading the Lesson Sermon to a resident in a retirement home on Mercer Island, because he has moved.

A discussion was held about the Area Committee Bylaw stating that a volunteer religious worker has to be a member of a member church or society of this committee led to the following motions:

MOTION: “That we grant an extension to any worker who has had his/her branch church/society closed and is still an active member of The Mother Church, a grace period of up to 6 months to become a member of another Christian Science branch church/society in King or Snohomish County.” Seconded. PASSED.

MOTION: “That the Coordinator ask the Programs Director at KCCF if an active Christian Scientist religious volunteer worker may continue as an active worker for a period of 6 months after their present church/society has closed. Seconded. TABLED.

New Business

Byrne Lacombe recommended reading an article entitled “From the Directors,” written by the Board of Directors of The Mother Church for the October 1980 *Christian Science Journal*. It talks about descriptions of some of the Christian Science church activities that are designated in the Manual to be observed by branch churches and societies.

The article points out that we should be alert to the intent of “Joint Activities” and to remember that branch churches are specifically democratically governed, not to be directed by any authoritative mandate of the activity they vote to join and to lovingly support. This, Byrne felt, is the intent of our Leader’s guidance in MANUAL Art. XXIII Sect. 1. under which we in our institutional activity are operating.

The secretary reminded everyone that she has packets that describe Mrs. Eddy’s interest and support of institutional activities for anyone who would like one.

David Coughtry is the Archivist for the Christian Science Institutional Services Committee for New York. He has written a document entitled, “Mary Baker Eddy and Institutional Work.” It contains interesting information as to Mrs. Eddy’s interest and support of institutional work. It can be obtained online at: [csisnys.com/Mary Baker Eddy](http://csisnys.com/MaryBakerEddy).

Next Meeting: April 13, 2019 [changed to April 20] 10 am - Third Church, Seattle

Readings by: Merry Ann Peterson

Topic: Will send this out later.

Adjournment: 12:30 pm – with the recitation of the Sixth Tenet

Lovingly submitted,
Caroline Harlow, Secretary