

Annual Meeting
Christian Science Committee for Institutional Work
in the State of Washington
October 12, 2019

The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Burien, Washington..

The meeting opened with the singing of Hymn 527, accompanied by Carol Phillips on the piano.

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

Joy Basse-Emerson, Advisory Board Member-at-Large, introduced Chaplain Malik Shakoor from Washington Corrections Center who spoke to us about his background and how he sees his work with inmates. He makes a special effort to meet other folks where they are so, in advance of speaking with us, he investigated something of Christian Science. He read some of *Science and Health* and appreciated Mrs. Eddy's statement, "The time for thinkers has come". He had been told by his father as a young boy that he would help others and it took a while for him to discover what that meant. He wants to help inmates know their purpose. He has had many experiences that relate to the difficulties of the men with whom he works. He said, "Our character is measured by what we do." And, "We ask for favors. God gives us opportunities." He wants to let inmates know religion is a way of life, not just words and quotes. He is full of enthusiasm to make life better for the men at Shelton. He took questions from the audience and was well received.

James Phillips, Advisory Board Vice Chair, introduced Jeff Harbin, Grant Administrator, at the Principle Foundation, who spoke with us via ZOOM and told about a new program that offers support for inmates and the newly released with funds to help them meet some very basic needs (such as hygiene products, underwear, and shoes). They are also implementing a new phone app called "RedeemAbility," that helps newly released folks find employment, housing, churches, counseling and even legal aid. Any questions regarding this program should be directed to Jeff Harbin, Grant Administrator, The Principle Foundation, 9300 W 110th St, Suite 250, Overland Park, KS 66210. Jeff's cell phone number is 913-424-0582.

BUSINESS MEETING

- Roll call was taken. There were 30 people in attendance, which included 13 Representatives of Member Churches, and constituted a quorum
- 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 \$50,000 from a branch that had disbanded, we ended the fiscal year with \$68,852.92 in checking and investments accounts. It was also noted that the proposed budget shows a shortfall for next fiscal year of \$17,882.96. That shortfall will be covered with funds on-hand in the investment account. Also, we have applied for a grant from The Mother Church to help offset costs for gift subscriptions and books. We are waiting to hear from the grant administrator.

New Business:

- ▲ Renée introduced the current members of the Advisory Board. James Phillips' second two-year term has expired and Renée has moved to Oregon. The remaining Board members are Susan Anderson, Linda Lewis, and Joy Basse-Emerson.
- ▲ The following people were nominated for election to a two-year term on the Advisory Board: Trinka Wasik, CS, 1st Church Bainbridge Island, and Carol Phillips, 1st Church, Vancouver. Both were elected via proxy ballots.

- ▲ A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the 2019 Proposed Budget as presented. (S. Anderson/B Lacombe).

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS TO SHARE FRUITAGE

- Renée shared how things seem much calmer at KCCF and she attributes that to the metaphysical work the members of her church are doing since they “adopted” the facility. She added that if each of us take just 10 minutes each day to pray specifically for institutional work and the facilities we serve, it would make a big difference.
- James Phillips shared how he and his wife, Carol, share Christian Science at Larch Corrections Center in Yacolt, and expressed gratitude for the supportive Chaplain at Larch.
- 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. She told how an inmate used his solitary confinement time to read and study *Science and Health* and while he did so, the wheels turned in his favor to getting a resentencing hearing! That was a compelling story!

The meeting closed with singing Hymn 82. Carol Phillips accompanied the hymn on the piano.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Niemi
Secretary/Treasurer