

MINUTES OF THIRD MEETING OF  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
MERCY HOUSE OF SARATOGA, INC.

The third meeting of the Board of Directors of Mercy House was held on the day and at the place set forth as follows:

Time: 7:00 pm

Date: May 6, 2019

Place: Church Undercroft, 26 Washington Street, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

Present: Gordon Boyd, Howard Nelson, Mary Withington. Invited guest: Karen Finkbeiner

Chair: Gordon Boyd, President, chaired the meeting and convened it just after 7:00 pm

In the absence of a quorum, no business was conducted officially. Instead, discussion and background information were shared in the order of the Agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Media. Recent media coverage was discussed, the outcomes considered successful. The need for getting the web site fully developed in the coming weeks was also discussed. Nelson and Boyd will follow through with Interactive Media Consulting.

Partnerships.

BEST. Boyd described the preparations under way for the celebration of BEST's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, set for July 18 at the Race Course. Mercy House will be a significant presence in the event, highlighting the partnership, the financial support. Boyd will distribute a "save the date" flyer to MH Board, congregation and others. BEST executive director Paul Ruchames met April 8 with Shannon Brown, JGWA, to fine tune floor plans for Floor 4.

TSA, Wellspring and Veterans. Boyd reported on a meeting April 29 with architect Brown to fine tune plans for Floors 2 and 3. Partners were pleased to take part, provided helpful guidance to Brown, and were generally satisfied with the direction of everything. Brown will begin work on a new set of construction drawings subject to a contract addendum now pending approval.

In Our Name. Boyd hosted a lunch between Frank Zarro and Elliott Masie (The Masie Center [www.masie.com](http://www.masie.com)) to begin exploring synergies for employment training, homelessness prevention, and other innovative approaches for programs.

Department of Social Services. Boyd reported on discussions and proposed Memorandum of Understanding between Mercy House and Saratoga County Department of Social Services. The proposed LOI has been submitted to the Commissioner. Attorney James Cox has been delegated to handle the next round of negotiations with the county.

Financial

At the request of Warden Kate Berheide, discussion was held on the desired number of signatures for invoice approvals and checks, and whether those approving invoices should be the

same or different from those signing the checks. Inquiry was made to Accountant Criscone for guidance, with an inclination to have separate names on each stage of approval.

No word yet from the IRS on Mercy House's 501(c)(3) approval. Early June would be the 90-day threshold.

Funding Status

Boyd reported that the Community Development Block Grant application was unsuccessful. Tax exempt status is not likely to arrive in time for MH to be able to apply this year for New York State funding. Thus, the church per se will apply for funding for a new roof, to abate the ongoing leakage through the asphalt shingles of unknown vintage.

Boyd reported on successful and promising encounters with the 59 Railroad Place condominium association, and with the Capital Region United Way. Recruitment of a co-leader for the Capital Campaign is in process with no result as yet.

New Business

**Next meeting: July 1, 2019 7 p.m. in the church**

# # #