

Steven D. Reece

From: Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org>
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2014 11:32
To: Bruce and Jane Mussey; Daniel Compton; JoAnn Siegienski; Kevin Little; Robin Park; Slawek Laskowski
Cc: Cynthia Jones; Elaine Brown; Elizabeth O. Thomas; Jacek Jerschina; John Mark Folker; Kevin Little; Lindsay Cade; Lindsay Cade; matt dickstein; Monika Radkiewicz (Yahoo); Rachel McRae; Robin Park; Wes Plunk
Subject: TMF Board Meeting 10 to 12 October

TMF Board Meeting, 10 – 12 October, Nashville, TN

Our board meeting is about three weeks away in Nashville. Presently, I know that board members, Daniel Compton and Dr. Robin Park, will not be able to join us. You all know of Daniel and his decision to step down from the board to the advisory board. Robin will send her comments regarding the what is going to be considered below. Board members that I know will be present are me, JoAnn Siegienski, Kevin Little and Bruce Mussey. Slawek I will call you on Saturday and confirm with you regarding your participation in this meeting.

Advisory board members who I know will be present are Rachel McRae, John Mark Folker, Matt Dickstein, Elaine Brown, and Cindy Jones. Elizabeth Thomas will not be able to attend. I have not heard from anyone else. This means that presently, there will be nine of us present for this board meeting.

I am working on an agenda for our meeting and will have it out probably the week of our meeting. In the meantime, here are some things that we need to cover at our board meeting:

At our meeting we need to discuss some major, critical issues that are affecting our work and for which we must take into account if we are going to be able to embrace what God is giving and calling us to do. Here is an overview of major points for us to consider:

1. We must deal with finances and fundraising. We need a better system of tracking funds and keeping up with designated gifts. We discussed this last October and again in March. Plans are in development.
2. We must also explore and develop financial resources and not rely on the few people who financially support our work presently.
3. Last March, the board voted to consider restructuring and modifying the By-laws of TMF. Nothing formally has yet been proposed. By law we have three officers and we have chosen to have four additional "at large members."
4. The board must act, especially in light of Daniel's transition. In October, we will restructure our board of directors so that we can better operate and develop the work of TMF. In order to do this we must seriously address commitment and responsibility of TMF board members to the work of TMF. We need to speak to term length of board members, duties/roles/functions, gifting, giving and time availability.
5. Additionally, we must consider the role of the advisory board and its relationship to the board. Ideally we would like the advisory board to serve as a pool of potential board members, who are not able to participate "full time" but embrace the work volunteering their time, abilities and resources.
6. We need to consider future projects and their selection along with how to best plan for and finance them. We have four or five project possibilities.

7. Behind the scenes, our media work has blossomed and now we are making great strides thanks to the leadership of Rachel McRae, John Mark Folker and Matt Dickstein.
 - Rachel has been championing our social media efforts and faithfully “tweets” and posts to our TMF FB page. The number of likes on our FB page have risen from 108 in May to 180 roughly this month.
 - Rachel and John Mark are working on updating our TMF webpage. Rachel has edited some of the content about our work that I have written for my studies and has produced a completely new web structure and content. John Mark has been working on a new design and template for our page. We have an “off-line” version in the works but should have a working version for your viewing before our board meeting.
 - Matt is working on producing two videos for us from material that I shot this summer and that Lindsay shot in the summer of 2013. One video will be a three-minute promo of TMF and the other will be an extended version.
8. We need some training time that will allow us to deal with issues that relate to cross-cultural interaction as we had our first real encounter in Oświęcim with non-Christians in our midst and as a group had a lengthy conversation with Alek Schwarz in which he asked some very direct and difficult questions. We need to debrief these experiences and understand how we as an organization need to embrace and include differing viewpoints from our own as we work cross-culturally. We need to understand the inclusive workplace model and how we are adapting it to our work.
9. We will have some time to have some fun as well, so be prepared for spending some time “not working” but enjoying our time together and getting to know one another. We will worship together on Sunday morning and then share a meal with each other before we hit the road.

I look forward to being with you all and I would like to thank each of you for your participation in the work of TMF. Without you, we could not do what God has called and is leading us to do as we serve him and his people.

L'shalom,

Steven

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