

Minutes of the Board Meeting
Honduras Medical Mission
November 17, 2007

The meeting was called to order. The application was looked over, especially the changes that were made. The application has a liability release form and a medical history form that spells out the conditions under which we will be working.

Expense report. St. Mark's is the only church that has a fundraising event. The board believes that other churches need to have fundraisers. We were \$800 over budget. The year before was \$8,000 over. Looking ahead, we will have a huge bill for medicines... possibly \$30,000 because all out of date medicines were given away or thrown away from the bodega before we left. Haitham brought up the fact this medication might not need to be replaced because it was EXTRA to begin with. Less was spent this year on food and on vehicles but this was not supported by the financial report.

The need is for each church that is represented by volunteers to the mission to be responsible for separate things such as vitamins. Mary Ann Hack, who was responsible for coordinating the ordering of medicine, made sure that we had enough children's vitamins. We had an overage so we took some left over to the orphanage when we left.

We would like for St. Martin's and Palmer to take over collecting for vitamins. Possibly \$10,000 for next year.

St. Martin's--Vitamins

Palmer--Vitamins

St. James

St. Timothy's—Clothing, shipping

Good Shepherd—Uniforms for the school children,

Holy Comforter

St. Mark's

St. Dunstan's (possibility)

We need to figure out what we need, figure out what each could do. If each church would be responsible for \$5,000 for the running of the mission, we need to be upfront about asking for this. Each church needs to have a presentation.

We need to look at who goes on the advance team to help with/be in charge of the container at the port, getting the container to Corinto, unloading the container in Corinto, getting the dorm ready for the team.

We did not have time to go over the evaluations. This general meeting will be a big picture meeting rather than particulars.

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Introductions of the board were made to the participants in the meeting. Debbie Daigle's place on the board will need to be replaced. Introductions of new people were made.

Reid had prepared an agenda and had a presentation of pictures of the mission of the last two years.

The financial status of the mission was discussed as people looked at the income and expense report. We are in pretty good financial shape NOW but new funds need to be raised. Medicine will probably cost \$30,000 next year because so much of the medicine was expiring and couldn't be carried over. We have about \$28,000 in CDs in the bank, which is an amount being carried over since the beginning of the mission. Evaluations were sent in by 8-10 people. One of the ideas would be to have a buddy/mentor system. Each new person needs to have a mentor to help with questions and needs. This is especially true after we get to Corinto and the work starts. After set up, the suggestion is to set up and then give everyone a general tour of the clinic area so that everyone has a general idea of how the mission operates. Also, things need to be resolved in the nightly meeting as well as reporting numbers. We also need to have a tour of the town when we get there. Need more two way radios for communication. Some people thought that the last night should just be a celebration rather than having a business meeting.

Discussion was about how to streamline, when to have meetings, how to set meetings for a year. (We need to have a calendar committee...FM)

Work load was an issue last year. We need to streamline the flow so that the people in the pharmacy don't end up working so late. Reid suggested that the clothing be up against the fence to relieve congestion. Marti and Reid both think that the generic meds be kept in the doctors stations and given out, rather than in the pharmacy.

The pharmacy is the issue. The balance between serving the people who are there for that day and the endurance of the people on the team.

A team needs to be formed that makes decisions about medicine, labels, pharmacy, in other words, logistics. The purpose is to eliminate a large percentage of the work done in the pharmacy.

Committee: Marti Miller, Bob McGill, Bob Smithers

We really need ice for next year. We need to look into that. Redi-Ice freezers were really nice. We need to make contact with the American man who owns the motel across from La Playa, who donated it to us for the use in Corinto.

Other ideas: Health and education issues such as smoke in the houses, animals in the houses, tooth health issues.

Darr Wilson will not be going next year. Bill McGonagle will be going for the last time. We need to be thinking of who can go early on the advance team. Haitham will call Padre Oscar about the plumbing repairs. Susan Lorms says that the noise of the generator makes it really hard for people to hear giving out clothing. There are generator issues, such as possibly needing small generators (2).

Clothing packing is being streamlined by packing a top and a bottom together.

Committee for traffic flow:

Haitham

Reid

Darr

Michael Huffmaster (hygiene matters)

Packing needs: Warehouse is not available this year. This warehouse has been used for years. We will need to find another storage facility. What about a storage facility in Lake Jackson? Susan Lorms will look into a facility in Lake Jackson. Chris has the lead on finding the warehouse facility.

We need more funds. Reid proposes that the churches that are involved be more active in fund raising for this year. St. Mark's does a fajita supper every year to raise money. The proposal is for St. Martin's and Palmer to take on raising money for children's vitamins. St. Timothy's is in charge of clothing packing. Reid would like for St. Timothy's to be in charge of the container because of proximity to Freeport. Reid would like for all seven churches who are active in the mission to be responsible for raising money. Fr. Jim again said we need to work ourselves out of a job. Always looking toward the future. Is there any prospect for a permanent health facility?

Relocation of the clothing distribution is brought up again. Could a slab be built for the purpose of not having water standing in the yard?

Hygiene matters were brought up by Michael. Where do people go to the bathroom while waiting all day? Jose said that there are bathrooms in the municipal building across the street. Haitham will talk to Padre Oscar about the bathroom in the church, about whether the facilities in the dorm are okay, about the availability of facilities in the town for the crowds of people there for the clinic.

Michael and Tom will make a recommendation for a generator. Michael also thinks we need to fix the way the water drains from the rectory kitchen sink. There would be more air flow through the rooms if the main door was curtained with heavy plastic.

Dr. Ferry and Dr. Trejo are returning. Tammy Osina and Mindy Matthes are dentists returning. We need a dental hygienist. No vets right now.

www.Hmmsite.org is the web site for now.

Frances Mallow