# Restorative Justice Ministries CORRECTED Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 21, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 P.M. by Chair, Doug Ralston at Brazos County Detention Center Training Room.

In attendance: Doug Ralston Carolyn Carroll Jennifer Nedbalek

Kelli Nall Linda Bow Sgt. Preston Obed Matus

Visitor: Robert Madkins

Opening Prayer – Jennifer Nedbalek Opening Scriptures – James 2:19

The March 29, 2016, RJM Board minutes were accepted as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report -** There was no report.

## **Chaplain's Report**

- \* Obed reported of the help he has received delivering Bibles and doing baptisms due to his shoulder problems.
- \* Obed gave an up date on the progress being made with the treatment of his shoulder. He will attempt to make Bible deliveries this coming week-end.
- \* One hundred sixty eight deliveries have been made, 48 non-deliveries, 9 baptisms, 33 have been discipled and there are 6 new inmates to be discipled.
- \* Obed reported attending "Straight Through the Heart Training" and offered to share more with any of us who are interested.

## Secretary, Office, & Life Skills

- \* Shannon's school will soon be ending this semester. She will be out of town from May 11-26.
- \* The monthly calendars are being prepared for May ahead of schedule.
- \* A significant amount of materials on the computer and the file folders in the office need updating. Carolyn and Shannon's goal is to update these file on the computer and in the office file folders this summer.
- \* Andy Hurley of Westminster Presbyterian Church volunteered his time and came today and evaluated our computer needs. He recommended that RJM back up all their files with an external drive for the computer. Early RJM files can be archived and saved on the same external drive along with the current files that are being used. Andy volunteered to purchase the external drive and install the files in conjunction with Shannon's oversight and with Carolyn observing. Additionally, Andy evaluated the old computer, monitor, and printers that were stored in a much needed cabinet and found this old equipment to be of no use. He will erase all that was on the old computer and will dispose of all these useless items. Andy suggested that the present key board be replaced with the one that was stored. Carolyn concurred and had him make the key board exchange today.
- \* Shannon has been updating all documents that have the old logo which include LS certificates and Board documents.

- \* Because of Obed's shoulder and back issues, Shannon and Carolyn have made two deliveries of Bibles for him.
- \* Carolyn assembled a master binder for the RJM Board member manual, a binder for new Board member Jennifer, and a third binder for a possible new Board member
- \* Life Skills Session II ends next week and Shannon has been printing certificates for qualified Life Skills students. Session III begins May 16.
- \* Shannon and Carolyn have been working together to maintain the LS totes.

### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee met last week and went over a few "housekeeping" type things.

**Sheriff's Department -** Sgt. Preston reported that the sheriff's department is going to budget for a person to oversee the re-entry program. She also reported that S.O. is working with IT Department in setting up a portable computer lab for the inmates. If this is approved by the S.O., then Work Force Solutions would work with RJM and SO to develop an updated Career & Job Goals Life Skills class and teach the computer portion of the class.

\* Pictures of all volunteers are needed for the S.O. These can be pictures of driver's license and may be dropped off at with Visitation Office or emailed.

### **Unfinished Business**

- \* Due to a transition period at Central Baptist Church, the funding for which RJM applied is delayed.
- \* Doug reported further on re-entry as being an 8 week course for the inmates divided into two 4 week sections with the last 4 being life skills as a precursor for their re-entering the outside. This would include helping the inmate make a plan what they will do when they leave the "inside", give them job resources, make known job opportunities and educate them on job etiquette.
- \* Doug is working on developing a mentoring program for Lt. Walker to be possibly used in the later part of the 8 week re-entry course.
- \* Doug recently attended a gathering of Leadership of Brazos Valley and at Lt. Walker's request he spoke about RJM and made known the need for mentoring.

#### **New Business**

Doug asked everyone to let him know about their summer availability.

The next meeting will be May 19, 2016

Closing prayer by Linda Bow

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Submitted by Carolyn Carroll RJM Board Secretary