

# **Speer Fund Committee Synod of Mid-Atlantic**

## **Meeting Minutes November 13, 2017**

### **Present:**

Bill Sitterley, Baltimore Presbytery (Chair)  
Jim Ferry (New Hope)  
Larry James (Charlotte)  
Ray Williams (The Peaks)  
Matlynn Yeoman (Coastal Carolina)  
Beth Braxton (National Capital)  
George Conway (Pres. of the James)

### **Location: Synod Office, Richmond, Virginia**

### **Absent:**

Wythe Hull, Abingdon Presbytery (illness)  
Eddie Deas, Western North Carolina (recovery from surgery)  
Amy Fetterman (Shenandoah)  
VACANT - (Eastern Virginia)  
VACANT – (Salem)

- Bill Sitterley called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Went around the room with brief introductions.
- Larry James led in devotions and opened in prayer.
- Opportunity to discuss Speer Funding guidelines to make sure that these were understood before reviewing application
- Advised that we have a total of \$40,000 to work with

### APPLICATION DISCUSSION (also see summary worksheet below)

- #1 – **NEXT Church – Certificate in Organizing Leadership** – While the work seems good, there was concern over how their application relates to the stated geographical bounds of the Speer Fund. We are open if they want to reapply next year if they are able to address this concern. **DECLINED**
- #2 – **Turning Donated Cars in Local Blessings** - **APPROVED FOR \$2,500**
- #3 – **Aspire Mindsets** – **APPROVED FOR \$2,500**
- #4 – **BeLoved Asheville** - Discussion / concern over HOW they can provide “support in creating worker owned cooperatives. Look for results - **APPROVED FOR \$2,000**
- #5 – **Asheville Poverty Initiative** – Concern that this application was overlapping with Application #10 - **DECLINED**

- #6 – **StepUp Ministry** – Looks similar to Application #11, but operates separately. They have received previous funding. - **APPROVED FOR \$2,500**
- #7 – **Tuesday Tutoring** – This will be their second year of funding. - **APPROVED FOR \$3,500**
- #8 – **Transition Assistance (TAP)** – They received assistance in 2010 and 2014. - **APPROVED FOR \$3,000**
- #9 – **Job and Life Skills Program** - **APPROVED FOR \$2,500**
- #10 – **Hands and Feet of Asheville** – Be careful to note prior year funding under different names, such as Asheville Poverty Initiative, Homeward Bound, Foretaste Café, Baskets Café, etc. - **APPROVED FOR \$2,500**
- #11 – **Employment Training & Placement** – (See #6) - **APPROVED FOR \$3,000**
- #12 – **Enderly Park Affordable Housing** - This will be their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of funding - **APPROVED FOR \$3,000**
- #13 – **Washington Interfaith Network** – Contingent upon receipt of budget. Beth B. will make request, and pass on to Bill S. and Synod office when received. Note different applications in different years with different project emphasis. - **APPROVED FOR \$2,000**
- #14 – **TP/SS Community Kitchen** – This will be their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of funding - **APPROVED FOR \$3,000**
- #15 – **Campbell Community Law Clinic** – Considerable discussion as to how this relates to Speer Fund goals, and questioning the depth of their church connection / involvement. Would like to know more about this before considering future years. - **APPROVED FOR \$1,000**
- #16 – **Action in Montgomery – The People’s Agenda GOTV** – Although Action in Montgomery has received funding for 3 years, this is the first request for this initiative. There was some discussion (pro and con) as to whether this should be in the scope of the Speer Fund – **APPROVED FOR \$2,000**
- #17 – **Don’t Stand Idly By** – This will be their third year of funding. - **APPROVED FOR \$2,000**
- #18 – **Bridging Neighborhoods with Love** – This application was received quite late since they did not realize they needed to re-apply each year. (This will be their second year of funding.) Matlynn Yeoman recommended that mercy be shown, and the committee agreed. - **APPROVED FOR \$3,000**

- Rev. Warren Lesane, Synod Executive, addressed the group during lunch, updating the committee on the work of the Synod.
- Bill Sitterley (Chair) pointed out that he has served for six years on the committee, and is not eligible to continue in this role. The Committee agreed that **Jim Ferry** (of New Hope Presbytery) **will serve as the Chair next year**
- **FUTURE MEETING DATES**
  - **Conference Call on Monday, June 11, 2018 at 10 AM**
  - **Monday, November 12, in Richmond, VA**
- Rev. Sitterley closed the meeting in prayer at 2:30 PM

SPEER FUND APPLICATIONS - 2018								
Project #	Presbytery	Organization Name	Project Name	\$ Requested	\$ Approved	Notes	Committee Member	
1	National Capital	NEXT Church	Cert. in Organizing Leadership	\$5,000	0	re-apply	Beth Braxton	
2	New Hope	Wheels4Hop	Turning Donated Cars Into Local	\$5,000	2,500		Jim Ferry	
3	The Peaks	5th Ave. Pres.	Aspire Mindsets	\$5,000	2,500		Ray Williams	
4	Western NC	BeLoved Asheville	BeLoved Asheville	\$5,000	2,000		Eddie Deas	
5	Western NC	1st Pres. Asheville	Asheville Poverty Initiative	\$5,000	0		Eddie Deas	
6	New Hope	White Memorial Pres	StepUp Ministry	\$5,000	2,500	previous funding	Jim Ferry	
7	Coastal Carolina	West End Pres.	Tuesday Tutoring	\$5,000	3,500	previous funding	Matlynn Yeoman	
8	National Capital	Chevy Chase	Transition Assistance (TAP)	\$5,000	3,000	previous funding	Beth Braxton	this will be
9	Coastal Carolina	1st Pres. Wilmington	Job & Life Skills Program	\$5,000	2,500		Jim Ferry	
10	Western NC	Grace Covenant	Hands & Feet of Asheville	\$5,000	2,500	previous funding	Eddie Deas	
11	New Hope	First Pres.	Employment Training & Placem	\$5,000	3,000		Jim Ferry	
12	Charlotte	QC Family Tree	Enderly Park Affordable Housin	\$5,000	3,000	previous funding	Larry James	this will th
13	National Capital	NY Pres.	Washington Interfaith Network	\$5,000	2,000	previous funding	Beth Braxton	contingen
14	National Capital	Crossroads	Community Kitchen	\$5,000	3,000	previous funding	Beth Braxton	
15	New Hope	Campbell Univ.	Campbell Com. Law Clinic	\$5,000	1,000		Jim Ferry	clarificati
16	National Capital	Action in Montgome	The People's Agenda GOTV	\$5,000	2,000		Beth Braxton	
17	National Capital	VOICE	Don't Stand Idly By	\$5,000	2,000	previous funding	Beth Braxton	
18	Coastal Carolina	Community Pres.	Bridging Neighborhoods with L	\$5,000	3,000	late application	Matlynn Yeoman	
			TOTAL	\$90,000	40000			
			AVAILABLE		\$40,00			