Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People

**South Task Force Meeting Minutes**

**May 19th, 2017**

**Oakland, CA**

Present: John Etheredge (chair), Joseph Johnson, Rebecca Reyes and Alonzo Johnson (staff)

Opening Prayer: Joseph Johnson

Previous Minutes approved

Agenda approved

Application revision

SS16006 – Building Youth For The Future – Alabama, we have funded them before. Designed an extended program. Young people driven, has adult supervision – their choice. Sheppards and Lapsley SDOP connection. Pine Apple Alabama, high unemployment – owned and controlled by the kids, capacity development, access to world, training opportunities for self-preservation, self-determination. High rates, prostitution and drugs. Designed for self-capacity, primarily directed at the African American male. One day visit for Joseph, with approval do the visit electronically. Reschedule visit for June 5th – Joseph will visit with this group. Joseph has connected with this group. Task Force will ask for approval pending successful site visit. APPROVED.

SS17001 – Refresh Project Community Garden Leadership Program – New Orleans LA, proceed with making a connection with the contact person Monte. Joseph will set up a site visit with them at some point this summer.

SS17002 – The Sounds of Joy Performing Arts – Albany, Georgia. John Etheridge will contact the group with questions by phone.

SS17003 – Fideicomiso Community Companionship Program, Puerto Rico Task Force will discuss this in June.

Nashville, John will contact 17 churches, Presbytery suggested that John use the Noon meetings for pastors and the evening meeting for the workshop, Monday John will have a flyer put together and he will mail it, the workshop will be advertised in the newspaper, community groups – will wait and see what the response will be. Meeting will be in Cookeville. South Task Force will make this trip together; arrangements have already been made by the members. Task Force members will stay in Nashville on Thursday night. Teresa will be consulted to take care of the arrangements.

Wed – Nashville drive to Cookeville

Thursday – Cookeville drive back to Nashville

Fri – Joseph needs a room on Friday departs on Saturday

Getting applications – John was thinking about looking around the area to do community workshops. Getting a sense of local calendar events. Thinking also about immigration conferences. Rebecca will be willing to do a calendar search. Getting in touch with people that know people. Contacting peacemaking and justice groups seeking collaboration, Richmond VA as an example. Team members will survey the landscape to see what is out there. Connect and collaborate. Rebecca will look at local Presbytery events and groups doing work with deportation. We need a process, our way for them to contact us. Brainstorming in reaching out to grassroots groups. Staff will keep task force abreast of events and contacts.

Rebecca will call and connect with the SDOP chairperson in Charlotte and Providence.

Closed in prayer by John Etheredge.

Respectfully Submitted

Alonzo T. Johnson