

Board of Directors Meeting
Michigan Conference, UCC (via Zoom)
March 26, 2022

Present: Ruth Moerdyk (secretary), Mary Ann Martin, Cheryl Burke (Associate Conference Minister), Jean Winther, Judith Booker (President), Judy Furman, Jonathan Riedel, Ralph Sims, Greg Watling, Phil Hart (Transitional Conference Minister), Liz Larivee, Karen Wheeler (Interim Treasurer), David Wheeler (Interim Moderator), Akua Budu Watkins, Ivana Pugh

None Absent

Opening devotion offered by Cheryl Burke.

Moved and seconded to adopt agenda. Noted that approval is needed for Feb 12 Special Board Meeting Minutes, not March 19 Special Conference Meeting Minutes. Comments from Personnel Committee added. Passed with corrections.

Moved and seconded to approve January 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Jean Winther noted that she was not present. Passed, with corrections.

Approval of Feb 12, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes moved to May meeting, due to late distribution of those minutes.

Moved and seconded to approve February 28, 2022 Emergency Meeting Minutes. Passed.

Financial Report

- Karen Wheeler, Interim Treasurer, reviewed previously distributed reports.
- Moved and seconded to accept the financial reports. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Courage Grant Updates

- Phil Hart noted that 85 churches have applied; funds are being sent.

PIMAT Update

- Judith Booker noted that the Prophetic Integrity Mission Area Team (PIMAT) has requested an additional \$4000 to create a subcommittee for antiracism work. More details have been requested and information will be reported back.
 - Conversation followed about Board members joining Mission Area Teams.

Camp Talahi

- Phil said that Conference is still on track to sell the camp as directed by the Board. Details coming together.

Update re: results of Special Meeting

- Judith said that Rev. Lillian Daniel's letter of call has been signed.

NEW BUSINESS

Orientation for Board Members

- Judith noted that orientation for Board members with UCC legal counsel is postponed until Rev. Daniels can join.

Personnel Committee

- Judy Furman requested that personnel committee meet following current meeting in order to set a date.

Planning Committee Report Annual Meeting

- David Wheeler reviewed previously distributed report about Annual Meeting planning.
- Moved and seconded that Annual Meeting date be set for October 22, 2022. Passed.

New Board Members

- Judith noted that this is David Wheeler's last meeting as Interim Moderator.
- Nominating Committee will be looking for:
 - New moderator.
 - At-large member, due to Catherine Balk's resignation.
 - Treasurer, due to Karen Wheeler resigning as Interim Treasurer.

Transitional Conference Minister's Report

- Notes about staffing:
 - Karen Wheeler shifting over to position as interim financial administrator, with an overall goal of looking at clarifying process and procedures, as well as possible ways to organize financial staffing, procedures, and reporting.
 - Rev. Coni Simon has offered her resignation as Association Minister in Detroit Metro Association. United Northern Association also does not presently have an Association Minister. Plans regarding options for staffing in process.

- Request made for organizational chart and a visual image of where churches in Conference are located.
- Query also made re: what congregations did not attend Special Meeting
 - Might be possible to work with national offices to assess congregational needs and factors affecting engagement with Conference.
 - Need to be clear about what information is wanted in data; that will determine shape of inquiry.
- Encouraged Board training with legal counsel after Rev. Daniel arrives.
- Sacred Design has completed research contract with Michigan Conference re: youth and youth programming. Info will be shared and used to help determine moving forward with programming in Conference.
- Offered thoughts about his time with Conference; noted that due to lease arrangements he will not be in Michigan the last month of his time with Conference.

Closing prayer offered by David Wheeler.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Moerdyk, Secretary

Next Board Meeting May 21, 2022