Board of Directors Meeting  
Michigan Conference, UCC  
July 21

Present: Dan Spaulding, Ivana Barrow, Cheryl Burke (Associate Conference Minister), Vaughn Peterson, Greg Briggs (vice-president), Ruth Moerdyk (secretary), Judy Furman, Karen Wheeler (treasurer), Coni Simon (via Skype), George Bozanich (moderator)

Excused: Judith Booker (president), Akua Badu-Watkins, Ralph Sims

In Judith’s absence, Greg will conduct the meeting

Welcome and opening prayer  
Cheryl opened with prayer

Board Development  
Campbell introduced a short piece by Dan Hotchkiss re: fostering deep conversations by people of faith re: challenging topics, especially through governance practices. Conversation followed.

Consent agenda approved

Moved and seconded to approve May 19th minutes.  
Passed

Financial Report (Karen Wheeler)  
Treasurer’s Report reviewed (see attached)  
- Discussion re: Budget and Finance Committee sense that they should have charge of leading discussions re: physical property  
- Karen agreed that Budget and Finance will talk with existing Building Committee, review existing building policy, and return to Board for more discussion.

OCWM Report reviewed (see attached)

Pohl fund update  
- Campbell briefly reviewed funds received that will be transmitted to Southern Christian College in Phillipines

Budget and finance investment updates reviewed (see attached)

2019 Budget Proposal reviewed (see attached)  
- Discussion emerged re: 1% increase for staff when inflation rate is 2%  
- Moved and seconded to increase staff salaries by 2%  
  - Discussion followed re: how to pay for additional 1% (approximately $4000)  
  - Passed
• Recommendation made that administrative fee be increased to 1.1% in order to cover additional costs.
• Motion made and seconded to forward amended budget with further vetting to Annual Meeting. Passed.
  ○ Vetting requested re: legality of using administrative fees as proposed in present budget

Conference Property Update and Options
Problem with culvert on property. Need to clarify responsible agency.
Conversation underway re: considering uses of property to reflect faith witness of the Conference
Property committee leaning away from keeping and maintaining church house

Lunch

Annual Meeting Update (George Bozanich)
Promotion needed for advance registration
Planning Committee glad about concurrent youth event
Local work project also planned
Trying to write a hymn specific to event
Planning to present plenary in single session on Saturday
Murdale Leysath Leadership Award
  • Proposed and approved to give Murdale Leysath Award to Stan And Betsy Dole
For slate: need replacement for Dennis Green (Eastern Association), Karen Wheeler eligible to renew term as treasurer, Coni Simon eligible to renew term
  • Also need candidates for General Synod 2019 replacements and those who will attend 2019 and 2021

New Business
Mission Area Teams (MATs)
• Prophetic Integrity MAT
  ○ Receiving resolutions until end of July
• Vital Growth MAT
  ○ Bertha Dayton grant awardees chosen
  ○ Will be receiving Innovation Award applications
• Faith Formation MAT
  ○ Building funding for new initiatives into budget
  ○ Considering actions that might be appropriate to make better use of Immanuel Scholarship Fund
• Compassionate Growth MAT
  ○ Successful Hearts & Treasures event in May
Greg requested a report from Campbell about Regional Youth Event

Request for Endorsement
- Voters Not Politicians request for endorsement (see attached) from Michigan Conference, based on 2017 resolution about voting accessibility and rights.
  - Moved and seconded to endorse effort of Voters Not Politicians to establish a non-partisan redistricting commission.
  - Passed

Other new business?
- Brief discussion of prior conversation suggesting that future budgets be prepared with salary increases at least equal to rate of inflation
  - Or use Consumer Price Index, which is calculated on a regional basis?
  - Move this to old business for next agenda

Conference Minister Update
  Campbell reviewed his report (see attached)
- Conversation followed re: transitions in STEM program

Next meeting September 15, location TBD

Adjournment