

Michigan Conference United Church of Christ-Board of Directors

Date/Time: Saturday May 18, 2019

Location: Michigan Conference Office

Minutes – Corrected & Approved.

Attendees:

Ralph Sims

Rev. Vaughn Peterson

Judy Furman

Karen Wheeler

Bob Heisler (Business Manager)

Rev. Ruth Moerdyk (Secretary)

Ivana Barrow

Rev. Cheryl Burke (Associate Conference Minister)

Rev. Campbell Lovett (Conference Minister-attended via Zoom)

Rev. Phiwa Langeni (Moderator)

Rev. Coni Simon (Area Minister)

Excused Absence:

Judith Booker (President)

Dan Spaulding

Akua Budu-Watkins

Greg Briggs (Vice President)

Mary Ann Martin

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Rev. Ruth Moerdyk will chair meeting in absence of President and Vice President

Ivana Barrow will be pro tem secretary for today's meeting.

March Meeting Minutes Review

Corrections noted for spelling of Akua Budu-Watkins's name

Motion made by Judy Furman to accept. Second by Rev. Vaughn Peterson

Old Business

Letter was sent to Islamic Center of North America. Conversation surrounding regarding Board's goals.

Question raised by Rev. Ruth Moerdyk: What do we want to accomplish? What are we looking to do?

Question raised by Rev. Campbell Lovett: Does the Vision 2020 work to be completed by the end of 2019 or by the beginning of 2020?

Response by Rev. Ruth Moerdyk: The “why” is a general question that may not necessarily be related to Vision 2020

Suggestion made by Karen Wheeler: The Board should pose the question to MATs. There should be a charting of the progress which can include a celebration at the end. Each person on the Board can name 5/6 values to come up with a list. The Board can pick the top values to focus on.

Comment made by Rev. Phiwa Langeni: Think about being expansive and not just inclusive

Moment taken for introductions to Rev. Phiwa Langeni

Financial Report-Bob Heisler

- ✓ OCWM-\$111,700 through April 2019 compared to April 2018 ↓ 2.3%. According to budget ↓.5%
- ✓ Income Statement
 1. Unrestricted Income-most changes come from Camp Talahi being ahead of payments
 2. Unrestricted Expense-\$36,000 less than April 2018. Changes to staff configuration with part time Area Ministers
- ✓ Investments-doing well for 2019. \$755,000 in gains, recovering from a market loss of \$734,000 in 2018.

Budget and Finance Review-Karen Wheeler

Budget and salaries will be reviewed next year with new staff. Parking lot pavement funds did not come out of current budget. Vital Growth expenses are half what they were last year. The Budget and Finance Committee will be meeting to review investment alternatives. Compassionate Generosity will be meeting to look at OCWM Ambassador Program.

Question raised by Ruth Moerdyk: Does the 2019 budget need to be adjusted?

Answered by Karen Wheeler: They will look at that during meeting on 06/10

Capital Campaign Requests-Rev. Campbell Lovett

Email sent to Board members with attachment. There are 2 current campaigns.

Shaping Our Future - National Setting (\$25,000 requested)

Generations of Service - United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance

Karen Wheeler motion to send \$10,000 to Shaping Our Future this year. Rev. Coni Simon second. Accepted unanimously.

We will commit to \$25,000 for Shaping Our Future

We will make an outright gift to Generations of Service and figure out the amount at a later date.

Conference Minister Update-Rev. Campbell Lovett

The report was sent by email prior to the meeting. There is conversation about making room for all voices. Michigan will be recognized at Ecumenical Banquet for our work with UCC Canada. Michigan has 20 delegates for General Synod this year. The experiment continues with the new staffing model.

Rev. Phiwa Langeni gave an update on Annual Meeting planning. The theme is “How Are the Children”

Instead of traditional workshops there will be takeaway talks.

General Synod Update-Rev. Campbell Lovett

Two orientation sessions for delegates. 18 youth delegates. Delegates should review resolutions in advance. You will be able to view the meeting live stream if you are unable to attend.

MAT Reports

| Mission Area Team | Report |
|--------------------------|---|
| Prophetic Integrity | Will review resolutions going to General Synod. Will also bring resolutions from General Synod back to Annual Meeting and local churches. Next meeting 06/08/19 |
| Vital Growth | Preparing for Innovation Awards. Keeping an eye on new church starts. |
| Faith Formation | Currently has a few applications for Immanuel Scholarship. There will be some youth programming at Annual Meeting. |
| Compassionate Generosity | Planning for an event “Cultivating Generous Congregations” in Feb 2020. Realigning OCWM Ambassador program. |

Meeting adjourned 1:13pm

Next meeting July 20, 2019

Submitted by Ivana Barrow