

Regional Board

September 23, 2019

7:00 PM Meeting

MINUTES

Opening Devotion – Delesslyn Kennebrew did a scripture reflection

Present: See Attachment

Minutes: Minutes approved (Peggy Chandler Motion/Travis Smith-McKee Second)

Reports:

Budget and Finance Committee - James Vertreese

B&F and Shandra are working with Accounts Receivable and Tall Oaks to figure out income/expenses from summer camps for Region. Currently it shows as a negative balance, but adjustments are being made. There is a worry camps are not breaking even for Region. James hopes Shandra can shed more light on this process.

Tall Oaks currently running a cash deficit on its balance sheet, thought they would not be if all accounts receivable were received.

Regional Minister for New and Transforming Churches - Delesslyn Kennebrew

New Cohort/Church Planters started in August, going well. N&TC working on a process for churches interested in engaging in transformation and a process to help churches discern options available to them. Hoping to host a webinar to reach more churches. It was stressed there is no fee for churches to engage in this discernment process with Delesslyn. At the July meeting, Dr Casey Sigmon resigned as chair of N&TC. The Commission is in discernment for a new chair. It was stressed we need to help our churches know of this resource.

Regional Minister and President William Rose-Heim (*On Vacation*)

Camp and Conference Coordinator - Shandra Yost Soltani – Not Present

New and Transforming Church Commission – Travis Smith-McKee

Transformational work/process coming along, hoping to roll out to Region soon.

Community Engagement Commission - Matthew Silvers

Israel Trip February 2020 for an inter-faith group from KC.

Open/Affirming team working with AllianceQ to put on a session on Leading/Building Inclusive Church November 9th at Country Club CC.

Greater KC Inter-Faith Council Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 10th.

Tall Oaks Board - Kristin Dow, Dr. Bill Drake to give report – Not Present

Commission on the Order of the Ministry - Rob Carr – Not Present (Had sent report)

Personnel Committee - Dave Arnold

Dave has started a conversation with BRH. His contract ends 2021 and we need to begin discussing next steps.

Veronica Fallah has tended her resignation. DWM had asked for an increase to Veronica's stipend in November 2018. The Board, through Personnel had asked for more documentation on the reason for increase – no one was ever received. In February 2019, DWM asked for a change to stipend, to pay it as Housing Allowance instead of Salary. Approved by Board March 25th Board Meeting. Personnel did not make the change. When a review was conducted in summer by Personnel with Veronica, they asked if there were additional duties/responsibilities beyond original job description. Veronica said no, original job description was still comprehensive. Personnel decided at that point no raise was warranted with no additional duties. In early September Veronica tended her resignation.

Question raised on if we need to pay Veronica back pay for failure to change stipend from salary to housing allowance. It was stated she can file the change as unpaid housing in her taxes and will get that money back then.

Issue also raised about BRH's raise approved by Board February 25, 2019. This has not been enacted. Board decided we need to honor this decision and pay BRH retroactively. Dave Arnold will take care of this adjustment.

Disciples Women - Deb Morche - Not Present

MoKan Fellowship - Sheryl Tucker - Not Present

KC Convencion - Rodolfo Acosta – Not Present

MORE2 Board - Trish Winters/Sheryl Tucker

Meeting on Medicaid Expansion November 4th at Trinity UMC @7PM

There is an issues-to-action event every month

Young Disciples - Travis Smith McKee

New Youth Cabinet has begun meeting, planning fall gathering at Tall Oaks

General Board Report - Laura Phillips – Not Present

Nominating Committee Report

Anti-Racism Pro-Reconciliation (Becoming Beloved Community Team)

Becoming Beloved Community looking into quarterly worship events

Action Items:

- Executive Committee requests we convert \$67,500 for liquidity. This would be converted from the Regional Office Operating and Temporary Restricted Funds. Money needed to cover regular operating expenses.
 - Amendment – per discussion and DCEF recommendation, a change was made to reassign monies from Demand Account in amount of \$68,000 from New Church to the Region. We also reassigned \$68,000 in the Regional CD back to NBew Church to compensate for this change. This way we didn't have to cash in CD. – Gerry Jones motion/Dave Arnold 2nd - Passed
- Executive Committee requests we approve the sale of the South Summit Property after October 1, 2020. South Summit CC is ending their ministry September 30, 2020 and the Region will assume control of the property. There is a mortgage on the property. DCEF will suspend mortgage payments until the sale, with the entirety of the note to be paid at that time. We will secure the help of a commercial real estate agent in this endeavor.
 - Approved (13 Ayes/1 Abstain)
- Executive Committee requests we approve a change to the Bowen Fund, from a permanent fund to a temporary restricted fund for church transformation. Regional Board action created the terms of the Bowen Fund in the 1980's. Executive Committee asks Board to allow this change to establish grants for churches in transformation to be administered by New and Transforming Church Commission
 - Approved
- Executive Committee requests we approve the use of \$30,000 to be borrowed from the Bowen Fund for maintenance and upkeep of South Summit property until sale of said property at which point the monies will be paid back to the Bowen Fund in their entirety. The \$30,000 will be in a restricted fund for this use only.
 - Approved (13 Ayes/1 Abstain)
- Review the progress between DWM and Personnel in relation to increase in stipend for Veronica Fallah from \$400 to \$6000. Discover what more information or action is needed for this decision.
 - Not needed, see discussion in Personnel report earlier

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Gerry Jones welcome the five lay people who have agreed to serve in the Regional Board

Gerry Jones recommended we send a copy of the new by-laws/rules of procedure to every church to make sure churches are aware of changes

Prayers offered for Regional Office Manager Jessica Lopez