Regional Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
of Greater Kansas City  
January 28, 2019

Present: Sheryl Tucker, Kristin Dow, Laura Phillips, Mark Willis, Gerry Jones, Dave Arnold, Matthew Silvers, Casey Sigmon, Mary Lou Kegler, Bill Rose-Heim, Ted Satterfield, Hank Riffe, Delesslyn Kennebrew, James Vertreese, Veronica Fallah, John Steinmetz (via video conferencing)

Opening Devotion: Bill Rose-Heim read from the book “Prayers Your Church Needs but Doesn’t Know It”

December Minutes: Kristin Dow moved minutes be accepted with correction/ Gerry Jones seconded.

Budget and Finance Committee: Financial Report
Reviewed 2018 End of Year Report – mentioned the General Operating and Tall oaks both owe New Church. New Church’s resources are keeping the region going at this point.

Tall oaks Funds – conversation about how restricted funds are tying their hands on allocating resources effectively. Kristin Dow mentioned need for Regional policy on gifts and donations to make funds available for actual needs. Currently there is no policy. BRH mentioned he is working on developing this policy to present to the Board. This new policy will tell our stories better and include a better description of Regional needs. It was noted, even with a new policy, we can’t change existing restricted funds without the permission of the original givers or the state Attorney General’s action.

Question raised about Regional assets and how they are distributed between equities and liquid assets. With a Stock market correction expected in the future, should we consider redistribution? The Board will monitor and can make that decision if needed.

2019 Proposed Budget Reviewed and Discussed – The budget currently will have a $38,254 deficit. If there are no unexpected expenses or drastic drops in income, BUT we should not rest on that. We need a new solution; soon. James Vertreese noted we had not budgeted for meals, lodging, etc for staff when traveling on Regional business – should we consider reinserting that budget item?

Casey Sigmon inquired if New Church should raise their portion of income to region back to 2018 level of $12,000. New Church will discuss/decide.

There is a substantial need for the Region to develop an ad hoc team to approach donors of restricted funds to reallocate for existing needs. We also need to develop a fund raising team to raise significant future funds.

Housing allowance for BRH raised from $25000 to $30000 and we accepted the existing designations for all other staff. Personnel noted we need Housing Allowance Designations submitted in December for all staff so they can be approved and noted in January minutes.

Dave Arnold motioned we accept 2019 Budget as presented to be reviewed quarterly by Regional Board/Seconded by Ted Satterfield – motion passed
THANK YOU to James and the Bud/Fin Team.

Bylaw Task Group
New By-Laws and Rules presented by Committee for Board review/approval. (See Proposed By-Laws/Rules)

BY-LAWS - Discussion on quorum proposal. Proposed-one representative from 33% of regional congregations constitutes quorum. After discussion, motion to adjust to 25% (Veronica Fallah moved/Cassey Sigmon seconded) – Motion Passed

Once passed we will need to identify and nominate seven lay members from congregations to Board.

RULES – Added electronic media language to quorum section. Nominating committee charged to nominate voting delegates for GA in rules – discussion on how this could happen and what expenses this might cause. MLK suggested we table until April for 2019 GA discussion.

Standing Committees – Kristin Dow proposed moving DMA under Commission on Order of Ministry to eliminate need for separate Board representative. Approved.
Motion from Committee to Approve By-Laws and Rules – with two amendments from Board.

Amendment 1 – Change the terms of service from “can’t serve more than two terms” to include “in same position”

Amendment 2 – Note previous change approved changing quorum from 33% to 25%

Motion Passed
THANK YOU to Gerry and By-Laws/Rules team.

Stewardship and Development
No report

Nominating Committee
Dave Steinmetz has agreed to accept nomination for Vice-Moderator. Gerry Jones moved nominations be closed and accepted as presented/Dave Arnold seconded – motion passed.

New and Transforming Church
No Report based on time remaining.

Community Engagement Commission
No Report based on time remaining.

Tall Oaks Board
No Report based on time remaining.

Commission on the Order of Ministry
No Report

Young Disciples
No report

Regional Minister for New and Transforming Churches
No Report based on time remaining.

General Board
No Report based on time remaining.

DWM
No Report

MoKan
No report.

KC Covencion
No Report

More2
No Report

Personnel
Committee proposed a 3.5% raise for staff – discussion ensued. It was decided BRH would be given a $3.0% raise (Compromised between cost of living increase of 2.7% and 3.5% requested by committee). Other staff have received increases within last year or have been here less than one year, so no raises were given at this point. Personnel did note they did not receive a request for increase for Veronica Fallah from DWM – they will check on this with DWM.
Motion to accept 3.0% increase for BRH made by Kristin Dow/Seconded Casey Sigmon – motion passed

Regional Minister Report
See written report.

Action Items
None based on time remaining.

General Discussion
Gerry Jones noted that will acceptance of new by-laws/rules – the Regional Board is to meet quarterly, with the executive committee meeting monthly. It was decided the Regional Board would meet in March and then go to every other month as we transition into this new structure.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: The Region Board will meet March 25th at 9:30 am at Merriam Christian Church

Delesslyn Kennebrew closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Mark Willis, Secretary

Dates:
- March 28-31 The Universal Christ- a satellite webinar at Southwood UCC in Raytown
- March 29-April 1 – Mrs. Joyce Larko Steiner, Program Coordinator, Christian Council of Ghana
- April 2 – Reconcilliation Ministry program grants announced
- May 6-8 Anti-Racism Train the Trainer Workshop at Tall oaks
- May 20-21, Heartland Regional Ministers meet at Tall Oaks
- May 21 – Pension Fund Clergy Fianancial Wellness event at Country Club Christian Church
- July 20-24, General Assembly, Des Moines, IA 1 https://ga.disciples.org/