



Bill Rose-Heim <billrh@kcdisciples.org>

Regional Board Meeting June 27 2021 Minutes

2 messages

Mark Willis <markswillis@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 28, 2021 at 9:24 PM

To: Bill Rose-Heim <billrh@kcdisciples.org>, Mary Kegler <mlkeg51@aol.com>, Greater Kansas City Christian Church <office@kcdisciples.org>, James Vertreese <james.vertreese@gmail.com>, John Steinmetz <johnmsteinmetz@yahoo.com>, Neil Engle <neil@hccck.org>

In attendance via Zoom: Bill Rose-Heim, Mary Lou Kegler, James Vertrees, Lois Kelley, Peggy Chandler, Kathy Harris, Adria Patterson, Keith Asaeli, Trish Winters, Dave Arnold, John Steinmetz, Mindy Fugarino, Mark Willis, Delessyn Kennebrew, Shandra Yost-Soltani, Lara Blackwood-Pickrel, Linda Harris, Neil Engle, Dave Roebuck

7 pm Welcome and Opening Devotion - BRH - short video on CC(DOC)

7:05 Anti-racism work – a glossary – Doctrine of Discovery – BRH (2 minute video/brief discussion) - shared a historical doctrine giving white Europeans lands they hadnt discovered and rule and governance over the indigenous peoples - a piece about our shared racism in our history as a nation and a church

7:10 Approving/Amending/Modifying the Agenda

QQuestion - will info about signatories from Exec Comm notes be included - action item

Agenda approved with amendment - moved by James Vertrees. 2nd by Peggy Chandler - approved

7:13 Review/Approval of the Minutes - Moved Neil Engle, 2nd John Steinmetz - Minutes Approved

7:17 Financial Report: See May GKC Financial Report/UCCR Report

-James shared financial information, in comparison to last year's financials, overall doing better financially, James detailed several funds and monies

-DMF - main source of income for region - higher than last year, performing just above budget projection (\$78)

-Shared info on generous donation from Blue Valley CC, it has boosted Regional Support Fund

Tall Oaks Financials

-Tall Oaks operating at \$86,694 deficit

UCCR Financials

UCCR negotiated their insurance rate down and saved us money in budget

Also handling their staffing and volunteers well to lower expenses

Overall investment \$206,000 Region has given to UCCR since partnership began in 2019

-cash on hand is less than future use deposits, but region made another payment of \$60,000 that is helping to address this

ACTION ITEM: On this date the Regional Board designates these peoples as signatories on CD's with Church Extension: Moderator, Moderator-elect, Treasurer and Regional Minister. The motion is for two signatures for transactions. *James Vertrees Moves, Neil Engle 2nd - Motion Passed*

7:37 Other Report Highlights

• Commission on Ministry Innovation

Lois Kelley - Starting 2nd cohort in September - opened to other churches, but any grants restricted to regional DOC churches

Monthly Innovation Circles Zoom Meetings to share ideas/innovations among churches - discussion/conversation on Third Thursday of the month

Targeting some churches in region that might benefit from transformation

New Church Ministry - Water the Plants prayer call

Dr. Kennebrew - have moneys for grants available, in July will be scheduling Q/A's for information on transformation grants and innovation grants
Thankful for opportunities to reach out ecumenically this quarter

- Summer Church Camps - Shandra Yost-Soltani

- Camps underway, 60 for CYF!

- Operating about 50% compared to 2019, which was expected/projected

- Challenge finding volunteers for camps, Tall Oaks has notified us we will probably have to provide Life Guards for our camps this summer due to TO staff shortages

- As church shifts, we are seeing shifts in camping as well - discussions this fall on how to address/flex to those changes

- Becoming Beloved Community

- Mindy Fugarino - working for anti-racism/pro-reconciliation efforts through education, empowerment and action

- Letter sent by BBC detailing support for change in leadership in KCMO police department and work for change in department

- Regional Commission on the Order of the Ministry

- Looking for lay people to serve in commission - if you know of any, let James Vertees know

- Reforming clergy support mechanism in region

- Committees are active and working, even as they search for lay representatives

- Tri-Regional Partnership Exploration

- BRH - looking at Covenant Conversation Pieces

- Tall Oaks/GALA

- BRH - smaller committee - planning gala event online and on-site at Tall Oaks

- Regional Board Retreat

- July 31st, 9:30 am-4:30 pm in-person for those fully vaccinated.

- Zoom link available.

- Individual lunch reservations through Jessica at office@kcdisciples.org or 913.432.1414

- BRH shared prospective agenda and outline of what is planned for the retreat

- Sending out a Ted Talk link called "How to Make Toast" - on boards making decisions that require more input than just committee process

- August 7th Disciples Virtual Gathering <https://disciplesconnect2021.vfairs.com/>

- BRH - virtual convention center, maybe model for how we meet hybrid in future

- Filmed a video with Jessica and Dr. Kennebrew to represent region during this meeting

8:26 Pending

- Tall Oaks – John Steinmetz presented

- Proposed sale of an unused portion (30 acres) - report

- \$150,000 for sale

- Budget for high priority repairs, replacements, and upgrades in 2021

- South Summit Parsonage – terms of sale - pastor has vacated property - owned outright by region - built in 2002 in nice suburb with other new construction - house needs attention/repairs/fixing up

- two option

- 1 - sell it outright - flipper looked at pics, gave estimate of \$200,000 to buy as fixer upper

- 2 - fix it up and sell it - house is smallest in neighborhood, average sales in area of \$295,000

- Cost or preparation for sale - estimated to be \$50,000

- What does Board want to do? - discussion

Timeline - needs to be done in next few months to hit housing market while it is hot

Motion - give Executive Committee authority to make decision on sale of house based on additional information with \$50,000 limit on repairs - *Moved by Mindy Fugarino, 2nd by Neil Engle, motion passed*

Blue Valley CC gave a donation to the region after receiving moneys from sale of church building - approximately \$82,000

- Sabbatical - Kathy Harris, BRH

Regional Minister's proposal for Sabbatical leave September 1-November 30, 2021

BRH facilitated invitations of candidates and set up interviews, but did not participate in interviews

Sabbatical Regional Minister candidate and terms

- Introduction of the Candidate bio - BRH gave some general info on Rev. Jones, shared bio in chat
- Job description as approved by the Personnel and Executive Committees

- **ACTION ITEM:** The Executive Committee of the Greater Kansas City Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) proposes the calling of Rev. Paxton Jones to serve during the Sabbatical leave of our Regional Minister and President under the terms outlined in the job description above. *Motion Passed*

Discussion - Adria Patterson asked: why was Dr. Kennebrew not considered for Sabbatical position? - how many people of color were considered? BRH responded that Dr. Kennebrew was not considered as she has a full time ministry now and the additional duties would have added too much to her load. We purposely reached out to retired Regional Ministers to fill this position, and interviewed those that responded.

Kathy Harris mentioned Personnel Committee looking for people to serve on committee - would love to have people with Human Resource background/experience

- Regional Board Retreat – July 31st, 9:30 am-4:30 pm in-person for those fully vaccinated. Zoom link available. Individual lunch reservations through Jessica at office@kcdisciples.org or 913.432.1414

9:00 New - BRH

- At our September 27th meeting of the Regional Board:
 - Charter congregations no longer in formation
 - Approve removal from the Yearbook for non-participating congregations
 - First FY 2022 Budget draft

MLK encouraged everyone to read Regional Minister's Report from June 21 2021

Budget proposals for 2022 are due in our Regional Office by **August 20** so that a draft budget can be prepared and reviewed at the September 27 Regional Board meeting.

9:03 Wrap up

Janice Harris no longer able to serve on Regional Board due to health issues - pastor asked we keep her in our prayers - we will need to fill vacancy, if you know someone who might serve, let Office Administrator Jessica know

- Can we name any tension in the room?

Dr. Kennebrew mentioned Adria's observation about lack of people of color in sabbatical search, mentioned the silence of other board members when question was asked

David Roebuck agreed with observation. Mindy Fugarino mentioned the longstanding white privilege and supremacy inherit in this process. Neil Engle mentioned executive committee wanting to be in this process due to presence of people of color on executive committee. Kathy Harris mentioned of the six sabbatical candidates, 3 were female, and two were people of color.

MLK mentioned her own frustrations with process, and need for more purposeful intention in processes to make sure people of color included.

- One word expression of your experience tonight - feelings shared in one word answers

- What did we learn tonight about how we work together?
our best discussion was when we had different views discussed
we have come a long way but have a long way to go

Question - when will we meet in person again? July 30th Board Retreat will be in-person, and decision made then about moving forward

9:20 Closing prayer - Mindy Fugarino

Meeting Adjourned 9:22 PM

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Mon, Jun 28, 2021 at 9:24 PM

Thank you, Mark!

Bill Rose-Heim

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William B. Rose-Heim, M.Div.

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Donna and I give monthly to support Regional partnership ministry. Will you join us? [Click!](#)

6/28/2021

Christian Church (DoC) of Greater Kansas City Mail - Regional Board Meeting June 27 2021 Minutes

My day off is Friday. Please direct non-emergency calls to the office.

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