

ü Note actions taken by Council or recommendations to Presbytery

Presbytery of Yellowstone  
MINUTES  
August 27, 2010

The Council of the Presbytery of Yellowstone met at First Church in Bozeman on August 27, 2010.

Attendance was as follows:

Elder Fran Babcock (Council Moderator)  
Elder Debbie Blackburn (B&F)  
Elder Jim Moses (Mission)  
Elder Ted Williams (Presbytery Moderator)  
Elder Dave Kimball (Higher Education)  
Elder Linda Smith (Representation)  
Cal Boyle (Saint Timothy's)  
Elder Connie Townsend (Nominations)  
Elder Bill McGladdery (Personnel)  
CLP Editha McKay (Vice Moderator)  
Susanne Bratsky (Presbyterian Women Co-Moderator)  
Rev. George Goodrich, co-General Presbyter  
Rev. Kathy Goodrich, co-General Presbyter  
Elder Ric Tieman (Vision Task Force)

Absent:

Rev John Dyce (Transformation Rep)  
Rev. Mary Davis (Vocations)  
Rev. Neva Rathbun (CoM)

1. Call to Order – Council gathered at 9:00 a.m. for fellowship and snacks. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Moderator Fran Babcock. As the Christ Candle was lit we read in unison a litany for lighting the candle.
2. Dwelling in the word - George Goodrich led us in a reading from Luke 5:1-11. Members responded on what the Scripture meant to them.
3. Roll Call – Ron Announced he had taken the attendance and that a Quorum was present.
4. Docket – The Docket was approved as presented.
5. Approval of the Minutes - The Minutes of the Meeting of April 9, 2010 were approved as printed.
6. Higher Education – Dave presented, and explained the background of, a recommendation of the committee on the initiation of a process of terminating our membership in the Campus Christian Center at MSU by the end of 2011. George shared a new idea of Camping and Youth and Higher Education working together to take advantage of the relationships that have grown among the youth.
  - ü Council voted to initiate termination procedures for our membership in the Campus Christian Center at MSU.
7. Camping and Youth – Fran read a letter of resignation from Cathy McLean as Moderator of the Camping and Youth Committee. Fran also noted that Kurt Kocher and Susan Thomas have agreed to serve as co-moderators of the Camping and Youth Committee.
  - ü Council voted to accept the resignation of Cathy and have the Clerk send a letter of appreciation for her service over the past years.
8. Insurance – Ron mentioned that the presbytery has a responsibility to annually review the adequacy of the insurance coverage of the member churches. He has gotten information from Ray Pryor of Guide One Insurance on 15 of the churches but has no information on the other churches.
  - ü The Council directed Ron to contact the churches not insured through Guide One and request a copy of their insurance coverage.

10. Mission – Jim gave a verbal report (the Committee will be meeting tomorrow). Jim shared the status of his grandson. The Doctor's have finally been able to diagnose what the problem is. There is medication available for his condition in his adult life. Kathy announced the receipt of an award from the GA for being in the top ten presbyteries for per capita giving.

11. Admin. Commission- Fran passed out a copy of the Dismissal Policy and noted that this will be discussed at the next meeting.

12. Vision Team- Ric and Debbie presented the four strands (Practices, Relationships & partnerships, Process and Structure) for fulfilling the Presbyteries Vision Statement. A suggestion was made that the Council needs to interface with the COM as we move forward to fulfilling the Vision. A need was expressed for more people who are technologically competent to deal with the technology component of the Process strand. Rick then shared a handout titled Great Vision – Achievable Expectations. Next, we moved on to the Structure Strand. Two Options were presented. Option 1 was to "Retain Current Council Structure to retain Ministry emphasis of Council's duties". Option 2 was to "Reform the Council Structure to emphasize The Visioning Role of Council's duties".

13. – Lunch – Ted offered the blessing for our food.

14. Vision (Continued) – The survey titled "Living God's Vision – My Evaluation" was presented and discussed. Some changes were made. The survey will be on the web site. There may be separate versions for individuals, groups and for the Presbytery. The Council was then asked to state their preference for Option 1 or Option 2 of the possible structure. The first option is to "Retain Current Council Structure to retain Ministry emphasis of councils' duties". The second option is to "Reform the Council Structure to emphasize the Visioning Role of Councils duties". The benefits of each option were also presented.

ü Council voted to have the vision team bring back more detailed information to the next Council Meeting.

15. Communication – Fran expressed her concern that there is a lack of communication across the presbytery. Often we are unaware of the needs and issues in the churches and with their leaders. One suggestion was to publish a newsletter on a regular basis. It was suggested that someone should be found to take on this responsibility. Ric offered the use of his teleconferencing facilities for remote meetings. His offer was contingent upon being reimbursed for half of the travel cost savings.

16. Personnel – Bill commented on his written report.

17. Budget and Finance- Debbie presented 9 notes from the committee and asked for input from the Council. Discussion followed. The committee will take the councils comments into consideration as they finalize a proposed budget.

ü Voted to raise the Per Capita for 2011 to \$43.00. Connie, Ted, and Jim voted no.

ü Voted to take the necessary dollars from the Administrative Reserve account in order to show a balanced budget.

ü Directed B&F to transfer some checking account funds into the Money Market account and keep only a minimum balance in the Checking account.

18. Mary Davis – Fran read a letter from Mary Davis explaining her recent health issues. Fran also mentioned that Neva is having some health issues.

19. Neva's request – Rev. Neva Rathbun requested permission to serve communion on Oct. 8, 2010 at a gathering of Presbyterian Women.

ü Council voted to approve Rev. Rathbun's request.

20. Announcements –

- The next presbytery meeting will be a Joint Meeting with Glacier Presbytery on Nov. 5-6, 2010 in Helena.
- The next Council meeting will be on the 21st of October @9:30 a.m. at First Church in Bozeman.
- Ron read a letter of appreciation to Jody McDivitt for her work in registering youth for the Youth Triennium. Council requested that Ron forward the letter on to Jody along with a note of appreciation from the council.
- Jim announced his son will be ordained as a Rabbi in Germany

- A Financial Review of the 2009 accounts will be done soon. The review will follow the format of previous reviews conducted by Stan Cornell.

21. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. Ric offered a closing prayer.