

**Presbytery of Yellowstone
Leadership Cabinet Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2015
1st Church, Bozeman, Montana**

Moderator Jody called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present were:

Jody McDevitt
Debbie Blackburn
Dan Holland
Teresa Kendall
Dave Kimball
Jed Cauffman
Susi Ennis

Absent:

Don Holland

Also Present:

George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk
Suzanne Bratsky

1. **Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Jody.
2. **Christ Candle** – Jody read the Litany of the Christ Candle and lit the Christ Candle.
3. **Quorum** – The Clerk declared that a Quorum was present.
4. **Docket** – The docket was approved.
5. **Resignation of Member** – Jody announced that Don Holland has resigned from the Leadership Cabinet as he is unable to attend most meetings.
6. **Minutes of October 14, 2014, October 22, 2014 and November 6, 2014**
 - ✓ The LC voted to approve the minutes of the meetings of October 14, 2014, October 22, 2014 and November 6, 2014.
7. **Dwelling in the Word** – Jody led Dwelling in the Word focusing on 1 Samuel 3:1-10. There was a time of sharing what this Scripture is saying to individuals and to us as Leadership Cabinet.
8. **Review Team** . Debbie reported that the Review Team does not have any specific recommendations for Presbytery at this time. Communication is still a critical item for the structure to succeed. It was noted that the clusters are growing but generally do not include RE involvement. The Leadership Cabinet has responsibility for Mission as there is no Ministry Team or Task Force for this. Getting more frequent reports from Ministry Team Moderators was suggested. Also more communication between the LC and the coordinators of the clusters might be helpful.
9. **Leadership Cabinet 2015 Goals** . Time was spent looking at goals for 2015. The four broad areas of most concern were Experimentation (including communication), Building Community, Spiritual Nurture of Pastors and Leaders, and Stated Clerk Transition.
10. **Proposed Amendments** . There was a time of discussion on the various amendments that will be considered at the March Presbytery Meeting. The PMT is working on amendments 14-B and 14-C Ron is looking at Amendment 14-D and Susan Thomas is looking at Amendment 14-C. Debbie and Teresa will work on a plan for presentation of the Amendments.
 - ✓ The LC voted to recommend that Presbytery approve Amendment 14-1 (Confession of Belhar). Either Dan or Jody will give an explanation of why to vote yes on this Amendment.
 - ✓ The LC voted to recommend that Presbytery approve Amendment 14-E.
 - ✓ The LC voted to have a printed ballot prepared beforehand with all amendments on it. Ron will prepare the ballot.
11. **Lunch** - The LC took a short break to gather food for lunch. Susi offered prayer for the meal.
12. **PW Report** – Suzanne Bratsky gave an update on activities of PW. She stressed how important it is to have communication from the LC.
13. **Presbytery Meeting Planning** . As previously agreed the theme for 2015 meetings will focus on Mission.

We were reminded that a few years ago the Presbytery initiated a local mission project to take place right before the start of Presbytery meetings. Jody's power point presentation will be included at the March meeting. Susi Ennis will convene a group to do further planning for the mission part of the meeting.

- 14. Financial Review for 2014** – This review was postponed until next meeting as the end of year financial reports were not available.
- 15. Grant Request from Presby Cats** - A grant request for help with a spring mission trip had been received from Presby Cats. There was some discussion about which fund should be used.
 - √ The LC voted to approve the grant request of \$2,500 for Presby Cats from Equip and Encourage Fund.
- 16. Request for approval of zip line lease extension (FPC Bozeman)**
 - √ The LC voted to approve the lease extension request from FPC Bozeman (no financial implications for YP).
- 17. Search Committee for Stated Clerk** – Jody pointed out that there will be Stated Clerk training in Portland on October 9-11, 2015 so it would be good for our new stated clerk to be able to attend which means that the selection process would need to be completed before then. Dan Holland agreed to be the LC representative (not the moderator) on the committee. Jody will contact the three people suggested as other members of the committee.
- 18. Relationship with Glacier Presbytery** . Jody, Debbie B, Teresa, and George will work with a group from Glacier about ways we might partner together. There will probably not be a convocation in November of 2015. The covenant between the two Presbyteries for the convocation has not been renewed at this time. It was also noted that we need to pursue working with other Presbyteries as well.
- 19. Stanford-Geyser update** . The Pastoral Listening Team for Stanford along with Jody (representing the LC) will be traveling to Stanford on January 20, 2015 to meet with the Stanford session as well as other interested people from Stanford and Geyser.
- 20. Extending the Docket**
 - ½ LC voted to extend the docket to 2:10 p.m.
- 21. Whitworth Partnership Update** . The Dream Grant from the denomination is still pending. Whitworth is interested in pursuing rural ministry in Montana. A representative from Whitworth is schedule to visit YP in late January for further discussions.
- 22. Co-General Presbyters Report** . A written report was received. George mentioned that the cluster groups are emerging as a real positive element of the new structure. Also YP is on Facebook. Tom Long will be giving a seminar at First Bozeman on July 25, 2015. Tom will be here in connection with the 50th Anniversary of St Timothy's Chapel.
- 23. Stated Clerk's Report** – Ron indicated that mailings for the year end reports had been completed. The request for increase in liability insurance has been sent. Ron is working with Mark Parker on an advertisement for the Mildred church. Ron continues to work on an electronic form of the Administrative Manual
- 24. Next Meeting** – The next regularly scheduled meeting is February 10, 2015 in Billings.
- 25. Adjournment** - Jody gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.