

**Presbytery of Yellowstone
Leadership Cabinet (LC) Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2017
First Presbyterian Church, Billings, Montana**

Moderator Susi called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Present were:

Susi Ennis
Jack Bell
Suzanne Bratsky
Paul Helland
Steve Weber (phone)
Teresa Kendall (phone)
Dan Holland (phone)

Absent:

Jed Cauffman

Also present:

George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Kathy Goodrich, Co General Presbyter (phone)
Debbie Blackburn, Stated Clerk

- 1. Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Susi.
- 2. Christ Candle** – Susi lit the Christ candle.
- 3. Quorum** – A quorum was declared present.
- 4. Docket** – The docket was approved
- 5. Minutes of June 6, 2017**
√ The LC voted to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2017
- 6. Dwelling in the Word** – Susi led the time of dwelling in Philippians 1:12-30. There was a time of reflecting on this passage to see how it was speaking to individuals and to us as LC. Susi closed this time with prayer.
- 7. Action Item Spreadsheet** –Debbie reported that we will start using a spreadsheet to keep track of action items and due dates. The goal is for each action item to have a person (or persons) assigned and a due date for completion of the action. Debbie will send this spreadsheet to Susi after each meeting.
- 8. Stated Clerk Search Committee** –Several names were suggested for the search committee which will have four people. One of the four will be from the LC. This will be Paul Helland. Susi will contact two of the people suggested and Dan Holland will contact a third. Susi will send out an email once responses have been received from these three people. If additional people are needed to be contacted, the order of contacting will depend on who said yes or no to serving on the committee. Once a team is determined, Susi will call a phone meeting of the LC to vote to appoint the Search Committee. Susi will work with George and Kathy on a letter to the Presbytery about the process. Debbie will review the job description and report back to Jack and Paul.
- 9. Personnel Ministry Team** – Jack Bell and Paul Helland have agreed to serve on the Personnel Ministry Team. Two names were suggested for the Team. Susi and Suzanne will each contact one of these people to see if they are willing to serve on the Team. It is hoped that the moderator of the ministry team will be someone not on the LC. The LC will need to take action on the ministry team once responses have been received.

- 10. November Presbytery Meeting** – Susi reviewed the discussion from the planning team conference call in August. Rob Hagan will present a workshop at 10:30 prior to the opening of the Presbytery meeting. Kathy has asked for some more time for the Whitworth Fellows on Saturday morning which means that some business will need to be done before dinner on Friday night. One item could be a PMT examination. Susi and Suzanne will work with Dan Krebill on space needs for the workshops. Dan Holland will work with Holly on the Friday night worship and see that a bulletin is printed. Debbie Funke has asked for more specific details on what she is being asked to do in the worship music workshop. Susi will arrange for another planning meeting prior to the next LC meeting. This conference call will most likely be on October 2nd. At the next LC meeting a decision will need to be made on a designation for the offering.
- 11. Thank you from the Willetts** – Brandon and Kristen sent a thank you note for the donation from the June Presbytery offering.
- 12. Lunch** - Jack offered prayer for our meal and the LC recessed for lunch.
- 13. Presbytery Sunday preparations** – Susi will send out an email with information about Presbytery Sunday and include several resources for congregations to use.
- 14. Presbytery Meeting Dates for 2018** - St Andrew in Billings has agreed to host the meeting on March 2-3, 2018. The church in Harlowton is checking to see if they are able to host the meeting on May 4-5, 2018. Vicki Waddington is to get back with Suzanne or Susi the next couple of weeks. The fall meeting will be November 2-3, 2018. A host church has not yet been identified.
- 15. Rep/Nom Ministry Team** –Jack will contact Bob Culbertson to see if he is willing to serve a 2nd term. Susi will call about the Moderator of Rep/Nom for 2018. Nominations will need to be included in the LC report to the Presbytery.
- 16. Day of Prayer and Fasting** - It was agreed that the date will be October 16, 2017. Kathy and George will send out an email with details to the Presbytery.
- 17. Budget for 2018** – Dan indicated that the LC needs to approve a budget to recommend to the Presbytery. This will be done at the October meeting. The preliminary administrative and program budgets were sent to the members of the LC. The Synod grant in 2018 will be about \$17,000 less than what was received in 2017. The LC will also need to consider an increase in Per Capita (2017 rate is \$48.00). The GA rate will increase from \$7.50 to \$7.73. The Synod rate should remain \$3.50. The Presbytery rate for 2017 is \$37.00. If an increase is recommended, it is just for the Presbytery rate as we do not vote on the other rates. The Presbytery membership is 1696.
- 18. Intermountain and MAC** – George will prepare vouchers for 2017 for Intermountain and MAC per the amounts shown in the budget. There is no one designated for this task as there is no longer a Mission committee.
- 19. Report from Co- General Presbyters** – George reported that summer camp went very well and that there will be a fall youth retreat at Rockhaven on October 19-21. The camp had several rentals for family reunions. FPC has a new youth pastor. The Whitworth Fellows exhibited lots of growth over the summer as they visited several churches to speak on Growing Young. The preaching cohort has not set dates for the coming year. There are at least six churches currently (or soon entering) the search process. Prayers are needed for these congregations and for Jim Kidd who has been in ICU recovering from surgery. Kathy reviewed the Growing Young assessment form which has just been made available. Kathy may order an assessment for the Presbytery. A study guide is still needed for the DVDs of Stan Ott. George also reported on the clusters.
- 20. ELCA Program for LPA** – The program for training and equipping will begin in the Terry/Glendive area on October 21st. The topic will be prayer.
- 21. St Timothy's Chapel** – There was a discussion regarding a request to add additional names to Fund #3 and another item regarding the columbarium. It was pointed out that communication and

reporting between the Presbytery and St Timothy's had reduced significantly over the past few years. Several items of accountability have not been followed. No action was taken on the requests. It was agreed that a team from the Presbytery needs to meet with some people from the St Timothy's Chapel Committee. George Goodrich, Dan Holland, Jack Bell, and Debbie Blackburn agreed to be in on the meeting. George will contact the St Timothy's committee about what was discussed and work on a time to meet.

22. **Insurance** – Jack will have a proposal at the October LC meeting.
23. **Higher Ed Grant Applications** – This will be discussed at the October meeting.
24. **Child Protection Policy** – This will be discussed at the October meeting
25. **Facebook Page Administrators** – Jack reported that he went to a seminar on using FB.
26. **Docket** – Motion passed to extend the docket until 3:05 pm.
27. **Oswego Lots** – Paul Helland has been working with a potential buyer who may be agreeable to pay \$300 plus closing costs. However, the potential buyer is still checking on closing costs. Paul will give an update at the October LC meeting.
28. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 3rd in Bozeman. Suzanne will coordinate with Susi for lunch and snacks and coffee.
29. **Adjournment**– The meeting adjourned with prayer at 3:05 pm.