

ü Note actions taken by Council or recommendations to Presbytery

COUNCIL

Presbytery of Yellowstone

MINUTES

January 22, 2010

The Council of the Presbytery of Yellowstone met J&H offices in Bozeman and Billings via Teleconference on January 22, 2010.

Attendance was as follows:

Elder Fran Babcock (Council Moderator)
Elder Debbie Blackburn (B&F)
Rev. Mary Davis (Vocations)
Jim Moses (Mission)
Rev John Dyce (COM & Transformation Representative)
Linda Smith (Representation)
Ted Williams, Vice Moderator
Cal Boyle (Saint Timothy's)
Rev. Neva Rathbun (Presbyterian Women Co-Moderator)
Dave Kimball (Higher Education)
Cathy McLean (Camping and Youth)
Bill McGladdery (Personnel)

Absent:

Connie Townsend (Nominating)

Also present:

Rev. George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Rev. Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Elder Ric Tieman (Vision Task Force)
Curt Kocher (visitor)
Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:40 by Moderator Fran Babcock. Mary Davis provided the opening prayer.
2. Approval of the Minutes – The minutes of the October 16, 2009 were not available. Ron will provide them within a week. Fran mentioned that the Council may need a conference call to approve the Minutes before the next Presbytery meeting.
3. Approval of the Docket – The Docket was approved with the addition of the Co- General Presbyters report to be scheduled shortly after lunch, just prior to the Vision Team report.
4. Dwelling in the Word – Kathy introduced the study based on selected verses from the 13th and 14th Chapters of Numbers. The discussion focused on responses to three questions.
 - a. What is the Spirit saying to you – a word, phrase, idea?
 - b. What is God saying about what it means to be God's disciple – being a disciple leader?
 - c. What is the text saying to us as a Council/Presbytery in 2010 (as we put God's vision for us into practice here in our congregations and Yellowstone Presbytery)?
5. Visioning Task Force – Ric introduced the session with an overview and update of the process. Curt presented an analogy of the three phases of change being like a journey on sailing ships into uncharted waters. The

distillation of the ideas from the Vision Retreat and the November Presbytery meeting was handed out and discussed. Curt presented a tinker toy example of our connectedness (what it is, what it might be and how we might better connect).

6. Presbytery Meeting Dates – Council set the following meeting dates for presbytery meetings.
 - ü February 22-23 at the First Presbyterian Church in Billings (previously set).
 - ü May 21-22 at Lewiston with Geysler, Stanford and Roy assisting (if the way be clear).
 - ü November 5-6 at Helena (if the way be clear). This would be a joint meeting with Glacier Presbytery.
7. Personnel Committee Report – Bill presented a report on the activities completed and the goals for 2010.
 - ü Council voted to recommend to Presbytery that the staff be given a 3% raise in salary for 2010.
8. Camping and Youth – Cathy reported on committee activities noting there is no money in the budget for the Youth Triennium. The council discussed, at length, the water issues at the Westminster Spires Camp.
 - ü Council voted to direct the Camping and Youth Committee to develop a detailed plan of how to address the issues at the Westminster Spires Camp and have that report available for Council by noon on the 19th of February so Council will have time to discuss it and present a recommendation to presbytery on the 22nd.
 - ü Council voted to dedicate the offering at the February Presbytery meeting to the upcoming Youth Triennium.
9. Higher Education – Dave reported that Jerry Crabs is no longer on the committee. He noted that funds from Synod were being reduced. Fran reported that we are still financially responsible to Christus Collegium, consistent with our portion of ownership of the facility.
 - ü Council voted to suspend payment of the Higher Education Program dollars to MSU Bozeman pending a plan for the future of the ministry there.
10. Budget and Finance Committee Report – Debbie presented the report and cautioned all committee moderators to be careful about approving expenses that are not budgeted. Debbie also presented the Preliminary Administrative Budget for 2010 which shows a projected income of \$206,000 and estimated Expenses of \$212,300 for a net loss of \$6,300. Debbie then presented a Preliminary Program Budget showing a projected income of \$61,000 and estimated expenses of \$66,500 for a net loss of \$5,500.
 - ü Council voted to approve the Preliminary Administrative Budget and recommend that budget to Presbytery.
 - ü Council voted to approve the Preliminary Program Budget and recommend that budget to Presbytery.
11. Committee on Ministry –John presented the report noting the resignation of Rev. Sherwood McKay as Moderator of the COM.
12. Nominations -
 - ü Council voted to recommend to Presbytery that Bob Muir, from First Presbyterian Church in Billings, be elected to serve on the Nominating Committee in the class of 2012..
 - ü Council requested that the Nominating Committee find a Nominee, from the list of names suggested, to serve on the class of 2010 and as the Moderator of COM.
 - ü Council approved the idea of submitting the name of Sara Pitts to General Assembly as our YAD. Sara will be proposed for election at the Presbytery meeting in February. Ben Pehl was elected as our YAD but found out he was unable to serve. Sara is also from the Terry Church and by submitting her name now she will start getting all the mailings now instead of in March.
13. Mission Committee –Jim reported on the activities and plans of the committee. Jim also suggested opportunities for giving, especially for the Food Pantry at Rocky Mountain College.
 - ü Council voted to share with the Presbytery, the idea of bringing to the February meeting of Presbytery food items for the Food Pantry at Rocky Mountain College.

14. Convocation – Mary reported on plans for the Convocation. Rev. Joanna Adams from Atlanta, GA will be the Key Note Speaker focusing on helping churches. The title of her speech will be finalized shortly. The Convocation will be held in Bozeman on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of April. As an aside Fran mentioned that the Resource Library for our Montana Presbyteries had been moved to First Church in Great Falls.
15. Co- General Presbyters Report – George handed out a report on the issues currently before Yellowstone Presbytery.
16. Vision Team (part 2) - George lead a discussion on the Visioning process. Relationships, Networking and, Discipleship were emphasized. His presentation was shortened due to lack of time.
17. St. Timothy's – The Committee requested help from the Presbytery to promote awareness of the Chapel.
18. Representation – Linda reported that the committee will be meeting soon.
19. Presbyterian Women – Neva reported that PW will have a coordination meeting on March 1st in Billings and a PW gathering on April 16-17 in Billings.
20. Announcements –
 - There will be a Council conference call at 9 a.m. on Feb. 20 and the next face to face meeting will be on April 9th.
 - Susan Siebert has requested that Committee Moderators check and correct the Directory listing for their committee.