

April 13, 2004

Meeting held at St. Andrew's-Wesley United Church beginning at 2:00 PM. The meeting was duly called and constituted and a quorum was present, with Chair, John Culter presiding.

Present: Deb Bowman, Pat Burns, Philip Cable, John Culter, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Syd Lewis, Barry Morris, Tracy Murton, Rob Pollock, Ed Searcy.

Regrets: Brenda Faust, Sally Harris, Janice Young.

Opening: The meeting opened with a reading of Acts 5 and prayer led by the Chair.

Agenda: An agenda was circulated.

Minutes: M/S/C by E.Searcy/R-H.Gaskin

That the Executive Meeting Minutes of March 16,2004 be adopted.

Chair Comments:

- a) The June Presbytery meeting will be held at Capilano. Bob Burrows, Pensions Convenor will be asked to invite retirees and their spouses to attend at no charge.
- b) A petition from Fraser Presbytery seeking to have other Presbyteries share further in the costs of operating the Fraser Resource Center was deferred until the May meeting.
- c) The issue of possible changes to Presbytery boundaries will be raised at the April 27th Presbytery meeting.
- d) The Chair reported on activities related to the issue of Housing Allowances arising from the previous meeting. A remuneration survey was drafted. A very good meeting was held with some members of the Pastoral Relations Committee, not including its chair. Two members resigned and four new members will be joining. Three wise people are being recruited to work on the review of current policy leading to full compliance with national policy over time. Key issues include equity among team members and overall adequacy.

Secretary Matters:

Formalities around the ordination of Jan Bihl were discussed, with the understanding that most responsibility now rests with Conference, celebration at June meeting of Presbytery. Information on potential retirees was requested. Marriages permission applications given to Rob Pollock. The Standards of Practice and Ethical Standards Survey was reviewed and is available on line.

Treasurer's Report:

Philip Cable reported that funds are slowly coming in; currently only \$15,000 received so far; behind in our contributions to Conference.

Congregational Relations:

Deb Bowman reported visits to congregations are going well with University Hill, Lakeview, Camp Fircom, and Whistler Village done, Bowen Island soon. Reports will now be presented at the May Presbytery meeting.

Camp Fircom is applying for a loan to cover existing deficit and to finance the coming season.

M/S/C by B.Morris/E.Searcy

That, on the recommendation of the Congregational Relations Committee, Vancouver Burrard Presbytery approves the application by the Camp Fircom Society of the United Church of Canada to borrow up to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) from Mission Through Finance and/or a chartered bank.

It was learned that the visit to Whistler Village Church needed to focus on urgent Pastoral Relations concerns and that a normal visit would be held at more appropriate time. The Chair of Pastoral Relations has visited the congregation a number of times to meet with the Board and the Minister.

M/S/C by R.Pollock/D.Bowman

That Mission Through Finance be notified that the basis for funding Whistler Village Church, as indicated in the original Mission Plan, is now in turmoil and that an evaluation of the situation is needed before further funds are expended.

Concern was expressed about Lakeview ministry as Bayani Baybay approaches mandatory retirement. T.Murton to discuss further with C.Black.

Pastoral Relations: Rob Pollock reported.

- a) The Mt.Seymour United Joint Needs Assessment having been completed, with special thanks to Don Robertson and Ariel Creighton:

M/S/C by R.Pollock/S.Lewis

That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery declares a vacancy at Mt.Seymour United Church for a full time minister effective immediately.

- b) It was noted that the Housing Allowance appears low for the area.

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c) It was suggested that the Pastoral Relations Committee work toward developing a policy identifying key criteria by which Joint Needs Assessment Committee reports will be approved.

d) Rose-Hannah Gaskin excused herself during discussion of the following motion.

M/S/C by R.Pollock/B.Morris

That the Rev.Rose-Hannah Gaskin be appointed to the full time position, at First United Church Mission, as Acting Executive Director for the period July 1,2004 to August 31,2005 under the following terms:

Details Available

From Secretary.

e) Notification to be provided to affected parties to appointments and calls of Remuneration Survey currently under way.

f) Working on naming people to the process regarding campus ministry.

g) Letter from Deborah Laing requesting change in Pastoral Relations has been received.

h) M/S/C by R-H.Gaskin/S.Lewis

That Christina Atkinson be appointed to the Part Time Staff Associate position at Highlands United Church for the period January 1,2004 to June 30,2005 under the following terms:

Details Available

From Secretary

i) The draft Remuneration Survey was reviewed. Comments included showing income from weddings/funerals. To be sent to Board Chairs and/or Treasurers.

Human Resources: Rose-Hannah Gaskin reported.

Next Presbytery meeting to be at St.Andrew's-Wesley starting with registration at 4:00 PM followed by worship, dinner and business.

Long Range Planning: Syd Lewis reported.

Trinity United: considering moving from partnership to tenancy as well as exploring other options.

St.Andrew's-Wesley: good news that Wesley Place has been just about all rented, consolidation of debts close.

Planning Group from Lower Mainland Presbyteries looking at building on re:VIVE.

Renfrew: Wendy Bily there until June 30th. Options include amalgamation, dissolving, renting property.

Concerns about property condition and complications around Day Care operation.

Faithful Public Witness:

Barry Morris requested a few minutes at the April meeting to share a David Suzuki Foundation report on sustainability and was encouraged to circulate it before the meeting. The committee would like to follow up Sallie Mc Fague's February presentation with time in the fall. Also Susan Henry is available to speak about the actual impact of April 1st changes.

Education & Students:

The Secretary reported that a list of students under Presbytery's oversight had been received from the Education & Students Committee and was asked to circulate it to the Executive by email.

Youth and young Adult Ministry:

Tracy Murton reported appreciation for the participation of Presbytery representatives Karen Wootton and Coleen Blair. The retreat is coming soon to be held at Camp Fircom and an Imagine Gala will raise funds for conference wide events. Silent Auction items are needed, details on the web site.

Other:

Rob Pollock distributed a handout containing a collection of resources on conflict resolution entitled "Balm in Gilead".

Adjourned at 5:00PM with a blessing from Philip Cable.

Next Executive Meeting: Tuesday, May 18,2004 at 2:00 PM at Trinity United.

John Culter, Chair

Pat Burns, Secretary