

April 13, 2005

Meeting held at Canadian Memorial United Church, Vancouver beginning at 2:00 PM. The meeting was duly called and constituted and a quorum was present with Chair, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, presiding.

Present: Cheryl Black, Pat Burns, Philip Cable, Hugh Creighton, John Culter, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Marianna Harris, Syd Lewis, Barry Morris, Janice Young.

Regrets: Sally Harris, Tracy Murton, Terri Scallon.

Guest: Doug Goodwin

Opening:

Rose-Hannah Gaskin opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, lighting candles, and inviting John Culter to lead a time of worship. John read from Acts 2 and led prayer.

Camp Future Project:

Doug Goodwin, Executive Secretary of B.C. Conference, gave an overview of Derek Evans' report "A Future for United Church Camping" which included highlights of affirming Church Camping as a core ministry of the Conference, reducing the number of camps, increasing the quality and integrity of the ministry, striving for excellence in camping, funding professional staff training, encouraging congregational support and assisting with travel for children and youth participating in camping. The full report is available on the Conference website at www.bc.united-church.ca. An invitation has been extended to presbyteries, camp committees, congregations and individuals to submit alternative proposals for achieving the camping vision, by June 1, 2005.

Hugh Creighton reported on the current situation at Camp Fircom. The final year-end shortfall for 2004 was approximately \$63,000 and the budget for 2005 projects a deficit of \$37,000.

Conference has covered the 2004 accounts payable and provided operating funds for 2005 on a loan basis. Board and staff are working hard to develop new sources of funding and volunteers, but could use Presbytery and congregational support during the next couple of years of transition. It was suggested that a job description be developed for board members agreeing to serve during the transition. Recognition of the Fircom Board Chair at a Presbytery meeting was also suggested.

Minutes:

It was noted that the previous Executive Minutes should have shown the end date for Philip Cable's appointment at First United Church as September 30, 2006 not August 30.

M/S/C by J.Culter/M.Harris

That the minutes of the Executive Meeting held on March 9, 2005 be adopted as corrected.

Business Arising:

Inter-spirituality Centre – the Chair reported that the recent meeting of the four presbytery chairs felt that the United Church should have a role in the proposed Centre in the False Creek area. It was agreed that our role should be discussed at a later meeting with one of the Centre organizers present if possible. Although Cullene Bryant has volunteered to work on the project she has not been designated as our official representative.

Renfrew Section 333 Committee: Pat Burns gave an update on work being done to obtain a professional assessment of the structural condition of the Renfrew United building. There will be a Special Meeting of Presbytery on May 19, 2005 to receive and deal with the Section 333 Report.

Secretary Matters:

- Executive was surveyed regarding insurance application questions about knowledge of prior claims, etc.
- Executive was surveyed regarding Camp accountability and oversight
- Overdue Stats forms were mentioned
- Fraser Resource Centre Surveys will be distributed at next Presbytery meeting
- Event information was circulated.
- There will be a meeting Friday evening, April 22nd with General Council Executive at the VST Chapel of the Epiphany to discuss congregational life and support. All invited.

Treasurer:

Financial Statements for the year 2004 were distributed indicating revenue of \$150,632.76 and expenditures of \$150,418.36. Tracy Murton will be asked to clarify final costs for the Campus

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Ministry Consultation. It was agreed that the Campus Ministry Report be put on the website. Congregational Relations were asked to review the Report and to bring forward specific recommendations arising from it.

Pastoral Relations:

Executive received information that the Pastoral Relations Committee has asked for authorizations to solemnize marriage for David Walden at St. David's, Pemberton Rev. Glen Baker and Rev. Jim Elliott at St. John's, Sunshine Coast, Rev. Cliff Henning, Rev. Sandra Severs, Rev. John Gouws at West Vancouver United Church; Rev. Bob Burrows at Canadian Memorial; Rev. Eleanor O'Neill, Rev. John O'Neill and Rev. Bob Shank at Highlands United Church.

M/S/C by M.Harris/P.Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery retain on the roll Rev. Dr.Cullene Bryant who is in search of a call, pending the receipt of a criminal records check.

M/S/C by M.Harris/J.Young

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the appointment of Christine Abbot as staff associate category A at University Hill Congregation from January 1, 2005 to August 31, 2005; 12 hours per week. <Terms available from Presbytery secretary>

Faithful Public Witness:

Next meeting will be in early May. Barry Morris would like time at the next Presbytery meeting to express appreciation for those who supported and helped with the Lenten Vigil.

Long Range Planning:

- 1) St.Johns' – Davis Bay have decided to proceed with repairs only and not rebuilding.
- 2) M/S/C by S.Lewis/J.Culter

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the installation of an elevator at North Lonsdale United Church at a cost of approximately \$40,000.

- 3) Boundary Review – the four presbytery planning chairs will gather May 11th to review response to the presentations at the presbyteries.

Other:

June Meeting-

The idea of Presbytery meeting at Camp Fircom in June was referred to Human Resources, for an early decision.

General Council Commissioners-

It was agreed that those on Executive who wished to support Westminster Presbytery's Proposal regarding a new process for electing Commissioners to General Council could do so individually. John Culter will draft a motion of support for the next meeting of Presbytery and send it via email along with a copy of the Proposal.

Next Meetings:

Presbytery – Tuesday, April 26,2005 at 4:00 PM at North Lonsdale United Church

Executive – Wednesday, May 11,2005 at 3:00 PM at Canadian Memorial.

We adjourned with prayer at 4:20 PM.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair

Pat Burns, Secretary