

January 11,2006

Minutes of the meeting of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery Executive held at Renfrew United Church, Vancouver beginning at 2:00 PM, with a quorum present, and duly called under the authority of the Chair, Rose-Hannah Gaskin.

Present: Tressa Brotsky, Pat Burns, Philip Cable, Simone Carrodus, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Linda Gunn, Marianna Harris, Sally Harris, Syd Lewis, Barry Morris.

Regrets: Cheryl Black, Hugh Creighton, John Culter, Ruth Wright, Janice Young.

Worship: Philip Cable opened the meeting by lighting a candle, leading in the singing of "This is the day", leading in *lectio divina* readings of the appearing of the Lord to Samuel, and prayer.

Minutes:

It was agreed that the minutes of December 14,2005 be adopted as circulated.

Committee Mandate Reviews: A draft document suggesting expansion of the wording of the mandate for the Long Range Planning Committee was circulated by Syd Lewis and discussed. Concern was expressed for where responsibility rests for establishing a committee to involve representation from all the committees on a short and long term plan for the Presbytery, especially for East side ministry. Question as to whether current name reflects work of committee which has been primarily concerned with property and finance. Further discussion at next meeting.

Presbytery Support Fund: Having received a proposal from Conference which would see the money formerly spent on the Lower Mainland Mission Enhancement position divided between the four lower mainland presbyteries for use according to certain criteria it was:

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Tressa Brotsky

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve in principle the "Draft Proposal: December 2005 for Conference Support for Lower mainland Presbyteries".

Carried.

As an interested party to the following, Rose-Hannah Gaskin left the Chair and Marianna Harris assumed it.

Renfrew Trustees:

Having heard the following motion from the Conference Mission Through Finance Committee:

MSC (Clark/Tunnicliffe)

THAT Mission Through Finance recommend the transfer of ownership of St. Paul's United Church from the Property Development Council to Vancouver Korean United Church in exchange for the assignment to BC Conference of the Korean United Church's legal and financial interest in Renfrew United Church and a payment of \$41,000 to be made over a five year period.

Moved by Philip Cable, seconded by Linda Gunn

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve in principle the Mission through Finance motion.

Carried.

Renfrew Property Concerns:

It was learned that the Renfrew building situation had worsened with flooding over Christmas, continued leaking of water from the east wall, and more evidence of mold. Congregation resources have been depleted and the cost estimate for initial repairs is \$50,000. Executive recommended an immediate meeting of Renfrew Trustees, plus new Conference Trustees if possible, involvement of Conference Legal Advisor if mold is a health risk, further investigation by a Professional Engineer and an environmental health consultant. Syd Lewis and Rose-Hannah Gaskin agreed to work on dealing with the immediate issues and involving Conference. Pat Burns was asked to have Craig Burns forward copies of reports done on these matters last year to Rose-Hannah and Syd.

Citing health concerns Sally Harris left the meeting, as did Barry Morris.

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Rose-Hannah Gaskin resumed the Chair.

Secretary Matters:

Conference President Darryl Auten will attend the January 31st Presbytery meeting and will have time allocated to speak. That meeting will also see 45 minutes allotted for Congregational Relations to work with cluster groups to organize for the Spring Oversight visits.

An offer from Audio Cine Films Inc. to license congregations to show copy write protected movies and videos will be distributed by email to all Presbyters.

A request from Dale Laycock to speak at a presbytery meeting about Cultus camp will be deferred to a less full agenda time.

Treasurer:

Philip Cable reported that 5 congregations have not submitted Presbytery allocations to cover the maternity leave of the Youth and Young Adult Minister and 3 congregations are behind or haven't submitted their full allocation amounts. In spite of reminder notifications in December we are short \$15,000 and unable to forward that amount to Conference.

Moved by Simon Carrodus, seconded by Tressa Brotsky

That Presbytery Executive send through the email list a letter written by Pat Burns indicating the assessment arrears of our congregations and the consequences in not being able to pay our Conference allocation, and asking for immediate response. Defeated.

Linda Gunn offered to contact the congregations in arrears by telephone.

Philip reported that the 2006 Allocation amounts have been sent to all congregations.

Pastoral Relations:

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery appoint Rev. Deb Bowman as one representative to the JNAC at University Hill and that the Pastoral Relations Committee be empowered to appoint the second representative. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery approve the request of Rev. Debra Bowman for a change of pastoral relations effective July 1, 2006. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery establish a Joint Needs Assessment Committee at Capilano United Church and that we authorize the Pastoral Relations Committee to appoint the Presbytery representatives. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That we approve the request of West Vancouver United Church to extend the appointment of Rev. Sandra Severs from January 1, 2006 to June 30, 2006 with the same terms as her previous appointment. Carried.

Highlands Covenant:

The Pastoral Relations Committee reported to the Executive that they have been unable to arrange a covenanting service with Highlands United Church and their minister, the Rev. Cheryl Black according to the policy of this Executive. The Chair was asked to follow up with Highlands on behalf of Executive.

Lakeview Accounting:

Marianna Harris reported that there is a meeting arranged between Rev. Marianna Harris and Shirley Kelly, CGA with the Treasurer of Lakeview United Church for Saturday, January 14th to set up an appropriate administration system for 2006 which would reflect generally accepted accounting standards and to examine the financial procedures used in 2005.

Moved by Simone Carrodus, seconded by Syd Lewis

That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery approve the payment of \$20/hour to Shirley Kelly to act as an accounting consultant with respect to the Lakeview United Church consultation. Carried.

A proposal regarding Lakeview accounting will be distributed by email following the January 14th meeting.

Pastoral Relations (cont'd):

West Van:

Approval of Jennifer Richmond as Staff Associate at West Vancouver United has been delayed over concern about provision of a \$925 per month apartment as a manse rather than a \$2000 per month housing allowance, or equivalent. A ruling from the General Secretary of the General Council of the United Church of Canada has been requested by West Van.

Staff Associate Hours:

Pastoral Relations asked for time at the February 28th Presbytery meeting to discuss changing back the threshold hours for Staff Associate, perhaps leading to a Conference or General Council proposal.

Congregational Relations:

Simone Carrodus indicated that 45 minutes would be needed at the January 31st meeting of Presbytery to work in clusters to organize visits to the following congregations: Canadian Memorial, Mount Seymour, St. Andrew's-North Van, West Van, and St. John's-West End. Canadian Memorial replaces Capilano which has been deferred due to the upcoming change in pastoral relations.

Youth and Young Adult Ministry:

Tressa continued to encourage applications from General Council Youth delegates. She mentioned that some Presbyteries also name a youth or young adult to be one of their representatives and the Secretary was asked to check the minutes about whether this had been done by Vancouver-Burrard in the past.

Human Resources:

Marianna Harris has offered to let her name stand for the role of Chair for the next term. The Secretary was asked to contact Jane Harding, Planned Giving Consultant to arrange a time to speak at the March or April Presbytery meetings.

Other:

First United is organizing a "Miles for Mission" half-marathon event in May. Rev. Brenda Fawkes of Vancouver-South Presbytery had a baby boy, Nathan Jack Fawkes Talbot on January 2nd.

Next Meetings:

Presbytery – Tuesday, January 31st, 2006 at 4:00 PM at St. David's United Church, 1525 Taylor Way, West Van.

Executive – Wednesday, February 8th at 2:00 PM at a location TBA.
(Ruth/worship – Simone/refreshments)

Closing:

Philip Cable led us in prayer to close at 4:55 PM.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair

Pat Burns, Secretary