

**May 10,2006**

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

**Guest:** Doug Goodwin

**Regrets:** Hugh Creighton, Trevor Harris, Janice Young.

**Worship:** Sally Harris led worship, reading from Hildegard von Bingen and sharing a creation litany inspired by texts attributed to Chief Seattle.

**Minutes:** Moved by Philip Cable, seconded by Ruth Wright  
That the minutes of the Executive meeting of April 12,2006 be adopted.

Carried.

**Business Arising:**

**Camp Fircom:** Hugh Creighton had provided an email summary of the current situation regarding Camp Fircom. Questions arose around the meaning of Camp Fircom remaining under the "supervision" of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery, the role of a Presbytery representative on Fircom's Board and whether a Conference Campership Fund was in existence and these were carried forward in the meeting.

**Lakeview Update:** Cheryl Black reported that three productive meetings had been held with Lakeview representatives and that her goals for completion by summer included re-establishing a valid Charity Number, setting up proper financial records, and affirming with the congregation Bayani Baybay's ministry and whether it will continue. It had been determined that Bayani is not subject to mandatory retirement.

**Leadership Consultant:** Marianna Harris circulated a document outlining considerations for a facilitated discussion of how each of us can offer better leadership, how the role of Presbytery leads to some of our problems, and how Presbytery relates to Conference. There was general agreement with the idea of having an Executive retreat with Deb Bowman facilitating, perhaps using the World Café model, in the fall.

**Renfrew United:** Rose-Hannah Gaskin transferred the Chair to Marianna Harris and Doug Goodwin, Executive Secretary for B.C. Conference joined the meeting.  
Rose-Hannah Gaskin reported that the Renfrew congregation had voted on April 23<sup>rd</sup> to disband effective June 30,2006.

Moved by Rose-Hannah Gaskin, seconded by Syd Lewis

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the decision of Renfrew United Church to disband effective June 30,2006.

Carried.

Appreciation was expressed to Rose-Hannah Gaskin for her role in working with the congregation during the difficult time of reaching the decision to disband.

Moved by Simone Carrodus, seconded by Barry Morris

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery affirms Renfrew congregation's decision as being a hard one for them and that we are grateful for their 80 years of ministry.

Carried.

Doug Goodwin indicated that after disbanding the property becomes the responsibility of Conference, new trustees will be appointed and Conference will consult with Presbytery on the future of the property.

Moved by Cheryl Black, seconded by Sally Harris

That the minutes include the recommendations made by the Renfrew congregation at their April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Carried.

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**Renfrew United (cont'd):** The recommendations were:

*Renfrew United Church believes that the property at 1st and Renfrew is a valuable asset for the UC of B.C. Conference.*

*Specifically, we believe that a renewal of UC ministry in East Vancouver is an important priority for B.C. Conference and further, that the site at 1st and Renfrew should be a crucial part of that renewal of ministry. Therefore, we urge that this property be renewed and redeveloped by B.C. Conference. This would necessarily entail high quality professional evaluation and assessment regarding the particular type of ministry established to serve this part of East Vancouver.*

*With reference to the daycare, which has been a tenant for 39 years, we urge that they be given 6 months to 1 year notice.*

Moved by Cheryl Back, seconded by Sally Harris

WHEREAS we learned from Doug Goodwin that Conference will appoint new Trustees, and WHEREAS after the new trustees are appointed they will be conducting a professional evaluation and assessment of the site,

THEREFORE be it resolved that Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery request that three (3) of the Trustees appointed by Conference be members of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery, and that Conference consult with Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery as information about the site assessment results and any forthcoming actions and plans regarding the building and property become available. Carried.

Moved by Barry Morris, seconded by Tressa Brotsky

That along with, as part of the proposed "professional evaluation", as much actual community/neighbourhood/Mission Animation Zone input as practically possible be so included, so that input from below as well as above, be solicited/elicited and further, the other community serving tenants, presently in Renfrew United Church, also be given the same courtesy as warmly commended for the Day Care, such as the Sunday evening 12-step group. Carried.

Doug Goodwin invited ideas on what the consultation by Conference with the Presbytery would look like. He also was open to suggestions of potential new Trustees.

**Camp Fircom:** Doug Goodwin was asked to clarify what "supervision of Presbytery" means given the role of Conference in recent Fircom matters. Doug indicated that Conference's main role is related to property issues such as safety and security and appropriate use. Terms of reference are being drafted to clarify the Conference/ Camp Fircom Society relationship. In his view Presbytery continues to be responsible for the mission and ministry aspect of the Camp's operation. Confusion over responsibility for the Society's debt led to a call for more time to discuss Fircom issues at the next Executive meeting. Congregational Relations were asked to work on the issues in the meantime.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin resumed the Chair and Doug Goodwin left the meeting.

**Trinity:** Concerns about the strategy developed at the last Executive meeting entitled "A Way Forward" and lack of agreement by those involved in a revised version led to the following:

Moved by Cheryl Black, seconded by Ruth Wright

That a professional conflict mediator be engaged to help resolve or find a way forward in the conflict between Trinity, St. Mark's, the Diocese and the Presbytery, at a cost of up to \$6,000. Carried.

Moved by Philip Cable, seconded by Linda Gunn

That Cheryl Black, Ruth Wright, Marianna Harris, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Syd Lewis and Gordon Turner meet and be authorized to set the Terms of Reference for the conflict mediator, and that Ruth Wright and Cheryl Black be authorized to meet with Treena Duncan to enlist the services of the mediator. Carried.

Moved by Philip Cable, seconded by Linda Gunn

That the foregoing amount of up to \$6,000 be used from the Lower Mainland Presbytery Support Fund available from Conference. Carried.

**Secretary Matters:** Correspondence regarding a Residential Schools Update and Diaconal Ministry were circulated. The resignation of John Culter had led to a need for a new website administrator and Katryn Harris has generously offered to fill the role in a limited capacity.

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**Secretary Matters (cont'd):**

The Secretary was asked to send a letter to John Culter acknowledging his resignation from Executive, thanking him for his years of service, and expressing regret about the nature of his parting.

The Secretary was asked to send a letter to Katryn Harris thanking her for taking on the website administration.

Moved by Linda Gunn, seconded by Syd Lewis

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the application from First United Church for a technology grant of \$2000. Carried.

Moved by Sally Harris, seconded by Simone Carrodus

That \$140 be authorized to be spent from the Lower Mainland Presbytery Support Fund for facilitation of a workshop for First United Church Congregation held on April 19,2006. \_

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Cheryl Black

That the foregoing motion be tabled until the next Executive meeting. Carried.

It was agreed that the Terms of Reference for the Lower Mainland Presbytery Support Fund would be emailed to Executive again.

**Pastoral Relations:**

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Ruth Wright

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the transfer of Rev. Deryl McCrindle from Westminster Presbytery effective July 1,2006. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Ruth Wright

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery retain Rev. Joseph Driskill on the Roll effective July 1,2006. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Cheryl Black

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the recommendation of the First United Church JNAC that Rev. Philip Cable be re-appointed as United Supply from October 1,2006 to June 30,2007.

< Terms available from secretary > Carried.

Marianna Harris reported that West Vancouver United Church Executive had decided the night before to recommend to the Board of the Church that they comply with the motions passed by Presbytery.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Ruth Wright

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the report of the JNAC of University Hill with respect to a UBC Campus chaplaincy position with the following modifications:

This approval does not include the section on accountability.

The last 2 sentences of 2.2 have been moved there from 2.3 in order to distinguish between a vision statement and a description of skills.

We would like to see "providing pastoral and spiritual care" as part of the job description.

Our preference is that the job description be further refined by the Joint search Committee in order to be clearer about what is expected from the person who will be holding this position.

We are removing the flow chart on page 13. Carried.

There was further discussion about issues raised by accepting the report, proceeding with declaring a vacancy, and future accountability.

Moved by Simone Carrodus, seconded by Philip Cable

That the foregoing motion be reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Cheryl Black, seconded by Simone Carrodus

That the University Hill motion be postponed definitely until the next Executive meeting, by which time the Pastoral Relations Committee will have answers to the concerns. Carried.

**Education and Students:**

Linda Gunn reported that Betty Parrell will be ordained at Conference General Meeting and will be settled in Labrador.

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**Youth and Young Adult Ministry:**

As this was her last meeting, appreciation was expressed to Tressa Brotsky for her excellent work with us over the last year. Her valued contributions to Executive meetings and to the work of the Presbytery will be missed.

Tessa reported that Tracy Murton returns to work on May 21<sup>st</sup> and Tracy would be focusing on Young Adult Ministry for her half of the shared position. The Youth Ministry will resume in September when the other half of the position is filled. A new office support person will also be recruited over the summer.

Tessa reminded Executive of the Saturday, May20th Event at Shaughnessy Heights, especially encouraging people to attend the intergenerational dance in the evening.

Best wishes were extended to Tressa as she moves expectantly into the next stage of her life.

**Human Resources:**

Cheryl Black expressed concern about the difficulty of filling upcoming vacancies in the Presbytery. The good news was that Sue Parker had agreed to be Treasurer, but the search is still on for an M&S Convener and a Secretary.

**Other:**

Ruth Wright asked that further work be done on developing a Conflict of Interest Policy in the future.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin shared the news that Fraser Presbytery had approved her appointment to Oak Avenue United in a two-year interim position.

**Next Meetings:**

Presbytery – At B.C. Conference General Meeting in Esquimalt, at noon on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> exact location to be advised on site.

Executive – Wednesday, June 14,2006 at 2:00 PM at Renfrew United.

Presbytery – Tuesday, June 27,2006 at 4:00 PM at Squamish United.

**Closing:**

Rose-Hannah Gaskin led prayer to close at 5:20 PM.

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Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair

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Pat Burns, Secretary