

VANCOUVER-BURRARD PRESBYTERY MINUTES

January 23, 2007

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Presbytery held at St Andrew's-Wesley Church, Vancouver, BC with a quorum present and duly called under the authority of the Chair, Reverend Marianna Harris

Present:

Ministry Personnel David Ewart, Terri Scallon, Gabrielle MacLarty, Christina Atkinson, Brad Newcombe, Barry Morris, Sharon Copeman, Robin Jacobsen, Karen Millard, Daniel Bogert-O'Brien, Marianna Harris, Gary Paterson, Colleen Blair, Ariel Creighton, Janice Young, Ed Searcy, Valerie Taylor, Maureen Hollins, Don Collett, Tracy Murton, Eric Hamlyn, Bob Burrows, Art Griffin and Don Robertson

Lay: Margie Seigny, Linda Gunn, Elinor Byers, Susan Henry, Jo Fraser, Simone Carrodus, Phyllis Bottomer, Jen-Beth Fulton, Geoff Wilkins, Trevor Harris, Barbara Matiru, Sue Parker, Carol Acton, Jan MacDougall, Hugh Creighton, Michelle Ness, Brenda Wilkinson, Ellen Coburn, Laurene and Syd Lewis, Maria Kim,

Guests:

Chris Giffen, Jessie Negropontes, Harry Oussoren,

Regrets: Shelagh MacKinnon, Jeff Seaton, Phillip Cable, Brian Burke, Sally Harris,

Welcome

Jim Cruickshank extended welcome from St Andrew's-Wesley Church.

Agenda:

Moved by Michelle Ness and seconded by Barb Matiru that the agenda be accepted with a change in order. **Carried**

Call to Order and Introductions:

The following guests were introduced; Harry Oussoren, from the National church; Julie Leburn, student at St Andrew's-Wesley Church; Jan McDougal, new presbytery representative from St David's; Ariel Creighton; Hugh Creighton from First United; Wade Lifton; Jessie Negropontes & Chris Giffen of the GoProject.

Motion to Extend Corresponding Privileges:

Moved by Michelle Ness, seconded by Ed Searcy that corresponding privileges be extended to the guests. **Carried**

Minutes of Presbytery Meeting Nov. 28, 2006:

Moved by Simone Carrodus and seconded by Sharon Copeman that the minutes be approved as circulated. **Carried**

Minutes of the Executive Meetings of Dec 13, 2006:

Moved by Michelle Ness and seconded by Ed Searcy that the minutes be received. **Carried**

VANCOUVER-BURRARD PRESBYTERY MINUTES
January 23, 2007

Pastoral Relations: (Sue Parker for Ruth Wright)

1. Moved by Sue Parker, seconded by Linda Gunn that Presbytery approve the appointment of Wade Lifton as staff associate (b) of Mt Seymour United Church, commencing January 1, 2007. Terms of appointment are: 18 hours/week; \$14,000 per annum; housing \$9720.; Con Ed \$600.; Travel costs, 43 cents / km; secretarial services full time. **Carried**

2. Moved by Sue Parker, seconded by Phyllis Bottomer that Presbytery approve the appointment of Ariel Creighton as staff associate (b) of Highlands United Church, from January 15, 2007-June 30, 2008 Terms of appointment are: \$14,915 per annum; housing \$12,510.; Telephone \$26.85; Con Ed \$600.; Travel costs, 43 cents / km **Carried**

3. Moved by Sue Parker, seconded by Jeff Wilkins that the Presbytery representatives on the First United Mission JNAC be Rev Bob Miller, Rev Gary Paterson and lay representative Ian House. **Carried**

4. Moved by Sue Parker, seconded by Gary Paterson that Presbytery receive, with appreciation for 10 dedicated years of service, the request for change in pastoral relations of Rev Ruth Wright effective June 30, 2007.

Accountability Report of First United Oversight Board (by Don Robertson)

Don Robertson and Hugh Creighton shared some fact about the First United Church Mission. They recognized the contribution of Ruth Wright. Some of the Key Initiatives of the Board are retooling the management structure, recasting the place of a worshipping community, fund development and long range planning. Don stressed that this Presbytery has a particular responsibility for First United, the First United Mission Board is a Committee of Presbytery and the members of the Board are appointed by Presbytery. Don further stressed that “in all its planning and decision making concerning the east side of Vancouver, this Presbytery surely begins with looking at First United Mission and its place and its role in the life and work of the United Church in the downtown eastside.”

Susan Henry reported on the “Advocacy” work as an example of one of the programs that works out of First United.

Congregational Relations Committee:

1. Report of Oversight visits at St Andrew’s

Marianna Harris (pastor) vacated the chair to David Ewart for receipt of this report.

The oversight committee visited St Andrew’s, North Vancouver the week of Sept 24, 2006. Three members of the committee attended Sunday Service and met with members of the congregation, as well as with Marianna and other staff and committees.

Many strengths were identified including the warm welcoming atmosphere; satisfaction with the minister and music leaders and music program; a strong Sunday School, and expansion of opportunities for Bible study and spiritual growth; the newly renovated sanctuary; the willingness of younger newcomers to take increasing responsibility in the life of the congregation; the growing emphasis on looking outward and interacting with the surrounding community; and the new board structure.

VANCOUVER-BURRARD PRESBYTERY MINUTES
January 23, 2007

The recommendations that were put forward were;

- 1 attention to internal communication ensuring that everyone was informed
- 2 attention to change; there have been many new folks in the congregation
- 3 potential for connecting with other churches in outreach
- 4 consideration to facility needs
- 5 planning for the minister's coming eligibility for a sabbatical
- 6 certification of the financial records annually
- 7 clarification of the model of governance: the function and name of the mission planning team

Moved by Simone Carrodus and seconded by Michelle Ness that the oversight report be accepted. **Carried**

Oversight visits for 2007:

Simone Carrodus then facilitated a process to work on the oversight visits for the spring of 2007. Presbyters met in cluster groups to organize the teams for visiting Highlands, Lynn Valley, St. John's Sunshine Coast, the Longhouse Native Ministry, and St. Andrew's-Wesley. Pizza was promised at the visitation training workshop to be held January 29, and presbyters of the churches to be visited were asked to help in communicating with their congregations.

Introduction Harry Oussoren and his work with the National Church:

Harry explained the areas where he works within the Nation Church providing support to Local Ministries (Lenten Study, Worship Matters), Congregational Renewal and Community development, and Faith Formation and Education.

Keith Howard is willing to meet with Congregations Sat February 24th about the Emerging Spirit Program

Long Range Planning:

Syd Lewis distributed the results of "LRP Vancouver-Burrard PC Statistical Summary" to all the churches. He outlined changes in the LRP in relation to building changes. If the changes are greater than 10% of the congregation assets, the congregation needs to discuss the changes with Presbytery. The guidelines are included in the above package.

Faithful Public Witness:

A letter to Premier Campbell concerning climate change was circulated for signatures.

Motion for Adjournment:

Moved by Gary Paterson that the meeting be adjourned. **Carried**
Closing Prayer was lead by Chris Giffen

Future Meetings:

Executive Meeting Feb 13, 2007

Presbyter meeting February 27, 2007 at Lynn Valley United Church