

March 28,2006

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Presbytery held at University Hill Congregation & Vancouver School of Theology on Tuesday, March 28,2006 at 4:00 PM, with a quorum present, and duly called under the authority of the Chair, Rose-Hannah Gaskin.

Present:

Ministry Personnel: Shelagh MacKinnon, Bruce Sanguin, Deb Bowman, Philip Cable, Cheryl Black, Barry Morris, Sharon Copeman, Nancy Talbot, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Marianna Harris, Gary Paterson, Dan Chambers, Colleen Blair, Janice Young, Brian Burke, Sally Harris, Ed Searcy, Christine Abbot, Joan Wyatt, Gordon How, Maureen Hollins, Jen Richmond, Tressa Brotsky, Art Griffin, Eleanor O'Neill, Gordon Turner, Doug Goodwin.

Lay: Karen Duddy, Jeff Seaton, Elinor Byers, Carole Kidd, Susan Henry, Pat Burns, Jo Fraser, Shawn Shenfield, Simone Carrodus, Trevor Watson, Susan Chambers, Bill Davie, Karen Millard, Trevor Harris, Barbara Matiru, Judith Hardcastle, Sue Parker, Phyllis Cooper, Michelle Ness, Sue Lamb, Katheryn Karst, Gloria Lawton, John Culter, Laurene Lewis, Syd Lewis, Karen Wootton, Jean Moore, Elaine Foulkes.

Guests: Wendy Fletcher, Principal –VST.

Regrets: Ruth Wright, Susan Dumoulin, Robin Jacobson, Daniel Bogert-O'Brien, Rob Pollock, Bob Burrows, Bill Dyer, Linda Gunn.

Opening:

The chair called the meeting to order at 4:53 PM and introduced speakers on Health Care and Camp Fircom:

Health Care: Barry Morris and Susan Henry listed the concerns of the Faithful Public Witness Committee relating to Health Care, especially wait times. Susan interviewed Sally Harris and Gloria Lawton who shared the story of Sally's life threatening illness and the 36 hours that she spent at VGH being shifted from room to room while in excruciating pain before being operated on for acute gangrene in the bowel. Gloria had to take extreme measures to advocate on her behalf or she could have died.

Susan indicated that Doctors have admitted that wait times of 10 hours are common in Emergency. Barry indicated that the Committee would be looking at how the United Church of Canada could address the issues consistent with our tradition and theology.

Camp Fircom: John Culter provided a condensed version of the Presbytery's presentation to B.C. Conference Executive regarding withdrawal of approval to sell a surplus portion of the Camp Fircom Property. Conference Executive did not change its policy as a result of the presentation and the Camp Fircom Society Board decided not to operate the camp for the 2006 season. In response to questions it was learned that the Mission Through Finance Committee of Conference had given five reasons for turning down the proposed sale:

- 1) Not convinced it was in the long term interest of the camp
- 2) Sale would allow continuation of past program, not supported by MTF
- 3) Not time to complete the sale before summer operation
- 4) Not in the Future of Camping Plan
- 5) Needs to be done as part of an overall strategic plan.

Karen Duddy, Executive Director of Camp Fircom explained the rationale for shutting down for a year and using the time to restructure and redevelop. She hoped that in the future the original mandate of Camp Fircom, to provide a camping experience for low income inner-city kids, would continue and also include those from all areas of the lower mainland as it has recently. She gave examples of the impact of the Fircom experience on those who attend. Appreciation was expressed for Karen's work with Fircom.

Minutes:

Moved by Shawn Shenfield, seconded by Michelle Ness

That the Presbytery minutes of February 28,2006 be adopted.

Carried.

Moved by Shelagh MacKinnon, seconded by Syd Lewis

That the Executive minutes of March 8,2006 be received.

Carried.

March 28,2006

Pastoral Relations (cont'd):

Authorizations (cont'd):

St David's Pastoral Charge Pemberton	Mr Dave Walden
St John's United Church - Sunshine Coast	Rev Glen Baker
West Point Grey United Church	Rev Gordon Laird
	Rev Art Griffin
	Rev Gordon How
West Vancouver United Church	Rev Cliff Henning
	Rev Sandra Severs
	Rev John Gouws

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by John Culter

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery ask for the transfer of Rev. Bob Miller from Vancouver South Presbytery. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by John Culter

That Jeff Smith be named a Member At Large of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery.

Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by John Culter

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery establish a JNAC at West Vancouver United Church and that our representatives be Rev. Bob Miller, Karen Millard and Jeff Smith. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by John Culter

That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery appoint Gabrielle McLarty as our representative to the JSC for YAYA. Carried.

Congregational Relations: Simone Carrodus reported that Trevor Harris will join her as Co-Chair, replacing Janice Young who will soon be taking on her duties as Conference President. The Committee is working on concerns about Lakeview United, Trinity United, and First United Mission, the latter in light of the recent newspaper article highlighting the Mission's operating deficit of \$260,000. The Presbytery Oversight Visits are proceeding with Mt. Seymour completed, and the others mostly scheduled for April. Simone encouraged support for finding a location for the May YAYA Retreat.

Election of General Council Nominees:

Facing the possibility that existing Staff Associates might not be employed as such, or might be employed in a different presbytery, as well as questions about whether they would be considered lay or ministry personnel:

Moved by John Culter, seconded by Shawn Shenfield

That existing Staff Associates fall into the category of Ministry Personnel for the purposes of our nominations tonight. Carried.

A process was then followed naming candidates to be lay or ministry personnel nominees, each candidate was invited to speak, candidates left the meeting while voting occurred and the results were as follows:

Ministry Personnel Nominees: Cheryl Black, Marianna Harris

Lay Nominees: Syd Lewis, Karen Millard

Human Resources and Meetings: Cheryl Black asked for a congregation to host the next meeting on April 25th. She offered to schedule the meeting to avoid dinner if dinner preparation concerns were preventing the offer of a site. It was agreed that the June meeting would be held at Squamish United.

Good Bye and Thank You: It was Karen Wootton's last meeting and she spoke of her appreciation for the friends she had met at presbytery, before being thanked for her work on behalf of Whistler Village Church.

Closing: Marianna Harris offered prayer to close at 8:57 PM

