

Governing Board Meeting Minutes
24 January 2019
6:00 pm EDT

Attended: Rev. Elder Rachelle Brown, Chair; Miak Siew, Vice-Chair; Dr. David Williams. Treasurer; Christy Temples, Clerk; Rev. Onetta Brooks; Rev. Joe Cobb; Bob Niehaus; Marsha Warren
Staff: Jack Hutter

Absent: Rev. Victoria Burson (LOA)

Quorum was established at 6.04 pm ET.

After a brief check-in, the meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Joe Cobb.

Consent Agenda:

2018 12-20 GB Meeting Minutes
2019 January Moderator's Report

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.

Motion seconded by Bob Niehaus.

Aye: All members in attendance

No: None

Recusal: None

Motion carries.

Discussion Agenda:

Proposal for Commission on General Conference Cycle & Activities submitted by Lauren Bennett and Mike Haase. The idea was to create a commission to review everything about General Conference such as the timeline and charter. The proposal will be sent to the Governing Board when it becomes available. It was tabled for now.

Easter Offering Designation – In prior years it went to the Global Justice Institute. Last year, the funds were designated for projects in Africa. Because this is a General Conference year, there was discussion to consider designating the Easter Offering to Be-A-Gem scholarships. David suggested that Be-A-Gem needs to find a funding stream for itself, as there are many other places that need support. He would be reluctant to send all of the contributions to Be-A-Gem. It was suggested that the money be split for global justice issues and Be-A-Gem. Marsha pointed out that all of the BAG recipients were from outside of North America. She also would like to split the funds.

Onetta discussed the relationship with the Global Justice Institute and that it shifted due in part to the fact that no Governing Board members were on their board.

It was finally agreed that the monies would be split 50/50 to Be-A-Gem and social justice issues within MCC. There would be communication with the Global Justice Institute to let them know the Governing Board's plan. It would be clearly defined where this money would go.

Motion to split the 2019 Easter Offering 50/50 to Be-A-Gem and social justice issues not exceed what is collected was made by Dr. David Williams.

Motion was seconded by Marsha Warren.

Aye: All members in attendance

No: None

Recusal: None

Motion carries.

Receiving the letter for discerning disaffiliation from City of Light MCC in Atlanta, Georgia was discussed by the Board. Christy Temples will be the Governing Boards' representative for the congregation. They are also considering becoming an aligned organization. This would be a separate line in their congregational meeting. David discussed what needed to happen before this would be completed, including payment to the Board of Pensions to date and any other liabilities owed. We would like to receive their back reports prior to disaffiliation. It is the Board's intent to remain pastoral during this process.

Marsha mentioned that there have been issues going back to 2000 regarding getting assessments reports. We do not have the information needed to determine what is actually owed to MCC. She would like to have their bank reports to determine this information. Marsha suggested asking for the past five years information. If that is not provided, it is up to the Board to decide what the next steps should be. The church needs to be told prior to their 24 February 2019 meeting. We have to prove they have outstanding liabilities, including the BOP liability. Christy will work with Marsha to craft a letter to them.

Motion to receive the letter dated 12 December 2018 for discerning disaffiliation from the City of Light MCC, Atlanta, GA was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.

Motion seconded by Dr. David Williams

Aye: All members in attendance

No: None

Recusal: None

Motion carries.

Rev. Joe Cobb has submitted his letter of resignation from the Governing Board effective 28 February 2019. There was discussion about keeping it confidential until the effective date. Onetta suggested it is not a responsibility for the members to remain confidential. It would be appropriate to share this information with the GBNC, but not appropriate for anyone else to share it on social media. The Communications Committee will create

an official statement ready to be released on 28 February 2019. It was also decided to advise the Council of Elders and Strategic Leadership Team before the announcement is made public.

Motion to accept the letter of resignation dated 15 January 2019 of Rev. Joe Cobb from the Governing Board effective 28 February 2019 with thanks for his service to UFMCC was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks

Motion seconded by Rev. Elder Rachelle Brown

Aye: All members in attendance with the exception of Rev. Cobb.

No: None

Recusal: Rev. Joe Cobb

Motion carries

Committee Reports:

Communications Committee:

Christy reported that they are working on answering the 12- page letter from New Life MCC of Hampton Roads. There are several people working on various pieces of the letter

Governance Committee:

There was nothing new to report from the MNC at this time. They are preparing for their face to face meeting.

The GBNC has extended the deadline for applications to 9 February 2019, and will begin reviewing applicants.

Miak and Onetta had a conference call with Darlene and Candy. They have been invited to meet with the whole board on 29 January 2019. They will be discussing an agreement for a celebration of Darlene. The board acknowledged they did not consult with them previously about this. The meeting will determine if we have a celebration. The Board acknowledges that they need to listen and build a bridge.

In an update about the Bylaws, the Board will bring three amendments forward. They are being sent to the Board to review prior to the next meeting in February.

The Governing Board report to the General Conference is in process. Everyone may not be able to contribute. Joe has been asked to assist with the summary.

The topic of Virtual Voting is being discussed by the Business Meeting Planning Team. There are seven reasons to consider it:

Economic Justice

Already part of MCC culture. If do not offer it, for the sake of transparency, should explain why it is not offered.

Will not impact MCC General Conference budget. Those who cannot attend due to finances, regardless of country of residence, would not have been able to pay for trip to Orlando.

Widen the net of inclusion. Regardless of the reason a delegate cannot attend actively seek their input and vote.

Add a layer to voting opportunities. Open Virtual Voting at start of Business Meeting of all areas that do not have the opportunity to be revised on the floor. Dramatically reduce window to vote so that people can vote in second round of Moderator Election. If people want to vote in the window offered despite time zone.

Intentional Transition Team will have their second meeting on 21 January 2019. They discussed the absence of an international representative on the team and are working to resolve that issue.

Elder Nancy Maxwell, and ITT member, said that healing needs to take place and that the team needs a Spiritual Covenant that they all will sign. The team members from the COE and SLT will be able to share information with their bodies.

They are planning to release the information about the ITT very soon.

Development Committee:

Rachelle reported that she heard back from a major donor and will give this info to the committee to put the name forward. They are moving forward with rebranding the Moderator's Circle. The goals if financial. There will be an event for donors at the Conference.

Assessments Committee:

David reported that we are down to the last few churches with whom to get agreements in place. There have been some struggles with getting these churches to provide reports.

He also reported that the language has been softened to ask churches to consider collecting a special offering rather than making it sound like a command.

Finance Committee:

2019 Budget was discussed. The Board had gone through the budget at the meeting on 17 January. The numbers as they were shown on the reports was a bit confusing, so reports that will be posted will need to be made clearer and include summary information. It was stated that designated funds and grants would have separate budgets and that this would only be the operating budget.

The budget as presented shows a deficit of about \$10,000. Some of the December numbers are not final. It was determined that the final budget will be revisited and

adopted by the end of the first quarter. The December 2018 year-end actuals will be used as a baseline for the final 2019 Budget.

**A motion to adopt the presented 2019 Proposed Budget with a request to Finance Committee to provide a 2019 budget replacing the 2018 projections with 2018 actuals for comparison to be provided and voted on by end of next quarter was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.
The motion was seconded by Dr. David Williams.**

**Aye: All members in attendance
No: None
Resucal: None
Motion carries.**

2018 November Financial Reports
2018 December Financial Reports

**Motion to accept the 2018 November and December Financial Reports was made by Dr. David Williams
Motion seconded by Rev. Miak Siew
Aye: All members in attendance
No: None
Resucal: None
Motion carries**

Executive Session:

The meeting moved into Executive Session at 8:00 pm ET. The meeting exited Executive Session at 8:45 pm ET.

Closing Prayer:

The meeting was closed in prayer by Marsha Warren.