

**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**  
**28 February 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)

After a brief check-in, the meeting was opened with prayer by Bob Niehaus.

Quorum was established at 6:12 PM ET.

**Consent Agenda:**

2019 01-24 GB Meeting Minutes  
2019 02-14 thru 02-16 GB Virtual Vote Minutes  
2019 02-21 Special Called Meeting Minutes  
2019 February Moderator's Report

The minutes of the 2019 02-21 Special Called Meeting were moved to the discussion agenda.

**Motion to accept the Consent Agenda with the exception of the 2019 02-21 Special Called Meeting Minutes was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.**  
**Motion seconded by Bob Niehaus.**  
**Aye: All members in attendance**  
**No: None**  
**Recusal: None**  
**Motion carries.**

**Discussion Agenda:**

**City of Light Due Diligence Follow-up:**

Rev. Paul Graetz has been asked to resend his email as it has not been received. There was discussion of the importance of the next step which is the financial implication of their disaffiliation. Onetta thanked Christy for attending their meeting as they voted to disaffiliate. Rev. Graetz said that he felt MCC stopped communicating with him and that he felt abandoned Their lay delegate said that sometimes you have to go through things and then move forward.

Further discussion by the Board asked the question how do we hear what a church may be saying? Do we need a process? Is this an Elder issue? The Board needs to consider ways in which we may have a pre-disaffiliation process. Onetta asked do we need to

modify the bylaws to write a process. Marsha commented that HQ has become further and further away from churches.

#### **HR Employee Manual Status:**

The process is down to finalizing the table of content. We are using TriNet's process. A travel policy has been added to the manual. Once finished the final draft will go to the GB for approval. We are ensuring that all legal pieces are in place.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **Communications Committee:**

Christy reported that there wasn't much to report at this time. Items are being covered elsewhere in the meeting. We do need to address Rev. William Knight's letter and Rev. Mark Byrd's letter. An email from Andrew Ramage had just been received by some of the GB members this evening. It was not sent to the full Board at the GB email address. There has not been time to read it and respond.

##### **Governance Committee:**

Report of the Governing Board is due 15 March. There are still some revisions that are needed.

##### **MNC:**

**Motion to receive the MNC report affirming the slate of candidates, without the names, for moderator to be released to GC2019 for consideration was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.**

**Motion was seconded by Christy Temples.**

**Aye: All members in attendance**

**No: None**

**Recusal: None**

**Motion carries**

Miak will inform the MNC via email that the slate was accepted and that they can move forward with the announcement. Once the Moderator candidates are announced they will be provided an opportunity to go over potential contract details. The GB need to have these conversations by the end of May.

##### **GBNC:**

**Motion to add an 8<sup>th</sup> seat to the Governing Board ballot to fill the vacated Clergy seat of Rev. Joe Cobb to fill the remaining balance of his three-year term to GC2022 was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.**

**Motion was seconded by Dr. David Williams**

**Aye: All members in attendance**

**No: None**

**Recusal: None**

**Motion carries.**

### Bylaws Amendment Proposals:

There are three GB bylaw proposals at this time:

1. Article V: GB: Term from 6 years to 3 years
2. Article V: Lay Delegates – removed elected after GC from UFMCC, local churches can determine in their bylaws, still 3 years.
3. Addendum 1: Clergy/Lay delegates – change from 2 to 1 “other” country to support a sponsor’s proposal

There is still time for There was consensus on the Governing Board to sponsor the three bylaw proposals. the GB to add additional bylaw proposals.

COE bylaw proposal(s) are still pending. The Elders are working on 3 to 5 proposals

### General Conference Business Meeting Planning Team:

The Board needs to reconsider Virtual Voting as an option. There will be a draft of the Procedure Handbook and Bylaws available in March. The Board needs to establish the local church Lay Delegate freeze. It was proposed that it should be 1 May 2019.

**Motion to freeze local church membership count on 1 May 2019 to set the number of Lay Delegates for GC 2019 was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.**

**Motion was seconded by Marsha Warren.**

**Aye: All members in attendance**

**No: None**

**Recusal: None**

**Motion carries.**

### ITT Status:

The ITT has had two meetings to date. They are in the process of getting policy and procedures timeline. Rev. Elder Hector Gutierrez will be the international representative on the ITT. Don Eastman is operating in a consultant position on the ITT.

The ITT has spent a lot of time discussing a process for healing within MCC. Elder Nancy Maxwell will be going back to the COE to get their input on this. They have had to modify the terms of reference, and put forth a realistic timeline as to what can be accomplished. They will ask to see if it would be wanted for them to extend their work to the end of the year. Their next meeting is 13 March 2019.

### 2019 02-21 Special GB Meeting Minutes:

There was discussion about the minutes of the special called GB meeting. It was stated that the minutes summarized what was shared as concerns and should be approved and posted without attachments. Posting attachments could create some challenges the Board is not prepared to deal with especially if released before the MNC’s announcement. Others were also impacted and haven’t had an opportunity to share their truths. The minutes show the Board is committed to find a way forward for healing.

**Motion to approve the 2019 02-21 Special Called GB Meeting Minutes without attachments was made by Rev. Joe Cobb.**

**Motion was seconded by Marsha Warren**

**Aye: Miak Siew, Dr. David Williams, Christy Temples, Rev. Onetta Brooks, Rev. Joe Cobb, Bob Niehaus, Marsha Warren**

**No: None**

**Recusal: Rev. Elder Rachelle Brown**

**Motion carries.**

Assessments Committee:

Reports of Churches Ineligible to Vote – reaching out to churches that are six months or more behind. Marsha and David are drafting a letter to send to the ineligible churches. There are about two dozen churches in this category. Watching to ensure that those who are one or two months behind stay current. Will be getting a letter out to those churches who are ineligible per the Board of Pension.

There have been two more churches that have signed agreements.

Emerging Church Partnership – There is nothing in either the Bylaws or Policy that sets assessment rates with emerging churches. It was suggested that it be set at 3% to 5% of their total giving depending on the exchange rate. There could be a Bylaw revision to present a rate of X% of affiliated church rate.

Emerging churches who have partnered with an affiliated church receive a % from the affiliated church. Now that the rate has dropped to 10%, churches can't subtract that percentage from their assessment as this would have a negative effect on denomination assessments. We could ask churches to just do a flat rate of giving or a percentage about the 10%, but to not stop giving to emerging churches. The denomination can provide guidelines on affiliated and emerging church partnerships. The rate for emerging churches can be part of policy 26. There can be a motion at GC to vote on a percentage for emerging churches. Churches are to give directly to the emerging church and not go through denomination books.

This topic needs a little more thought and should be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Finance Committee:

David did a review of the January 2019 financial reports. He reported that the monies from the Lilly Grant have been received and deposited in a special account. This money will be untouchable and can't be used for any other purposes. This is the first month with the new lower assessment rate of 10%. Target amount anticipated is about \$4,000 less than expected.

**A motion to accept the January 2019 Financial Reports as presented was made by Rev. Onetta Brooks.**

**Motion was seconded by Rev. Elder Rachelle Brown.**

**Aye: All members in attendance**

**No: None**

**Recusal: None**

**Motion carries.**

General Conference expenditures were discussed. It was decided that Lauren Bennett and Mike Haase could approve expenditures up to \$1,000. Any expenditure above that amount would have to come to David, Marsha, and Tammy.

**A motion to approve a spending limit of up to \$1,000 for General Conference Expenditures by Lauren Bennett and Mike Haase was made by Dr. David Williams.**

**Motion was seconded by Rev. Onetta Brooks.**

**Aye: All members in attendance**

**No: None**

**Recusal: None**

**Motion carries.**

Internal Audit Team:

Marsha reported that \$39,000 in designated funds has been paid back and that slowly but surely all the designated funds would be repaid.

Marsha discussed forming an Internal Audit Team to check on how we do things. They would report back to the Governing Board. People who have auditing experience will be identified and recruited to participate.

It was suggested that they start with the Accounting Procedures Manual. This is already on the Finance Committee's agenda.

There was discussion of Rev. William Knight's communication in regard to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Jubilee year. He suggested forgiving all debts to the denomination by the local churches. This was discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. MCC doesn't have the money to be able to do this at this time. It was suggested that this could be part of the healing process and spiritual forgiveness. It would be fiscally irresponsible to do this now.

Development Committee:

Rachelle reported that we are getting some sponsors for GC, but need more. There are marketing materials available. How to sponsor is on the GC App. It's a one-page sheet to help with how to become a sponsor.

Be-A-Gem will be able to move forward with the Easter Offering.

**Closing Prayer:**

The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Onetta Brooks at 8:20pm ET.