

**Minutes of Governing Board Meeting - 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Attendees:** Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston, Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Clare Coughlin,  
Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey, James Chavis, Rev. Alberto Najera, Mark Godette

**Staff:** Marina Laws, Mike Haase, Rev. Lauren Bennett

**Apologies:** Chad Hobbs, Rev. Paul Whiting

**Establish Quorum:** Meeting commenced at 5:03p.m. US Eastern / 10:05p.m. UK Time / 4:03pm US Central

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Elder Goudy

**Brief Check In:** Check in from all present

**Consent Agenda:**

- Minutes of April Meeting
- Moderator's Report

**Move to accept the minutes of the April meeting and the Moderator's Report.**

**Moved:** Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

**Seconded:** Rev. Alberto Najera

**Passed**

**GB Preparation for General Conference: Mr. Mike Haase & Rev. Lauren Bennett**

Mike Haase & Rev. Lauren Bennett gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding General Conference 2022. It will be an online & multisite global general conference.

**\*\* Mark Godette left the meeting, due to travel, prior to the vote**

**Motion: To hold Virtual Business Meetings for General Conference 2022**

**Moved:** Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

**Seconded:** Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

**Passed**

**Update on General Conference Hotel Negotiations:** Rev. Lauren Bennett updated everyone, that The Fairmont Hotel in Austin, TX, USA has released MCC from their contract to hold General Conference there in July 2022

**\*\* Mike Haase and Rev. Lauren Bennett left the meeting after their presentation.**

## **Discussion Agenda:**

### **New Business:**

Feedback from Judiciary Joint Mtg: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston gave an update on the Judiciary Process

**Move to update the Judiciary document, to reflect staffing changes and that in an interim period that the Team Lead for Community Development, should be responsible for overseeing the process.**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher**

**Seconded: Clare Coughlin**

**Passed**

**Move that the position of Judiciary Process Manager is created and a process set up, to recruit and put in place accountability mechanisms**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Seconded: James Chavis**

**Passed**

**Motion: Move to establish a joint working group between the Governing Board and the Council of Elders, to review and update the MCC Judicial Process**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Seconded: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey**

**Passed**

**Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston & Rev. Elder Diane Fisher will serve on the working group.**

### **Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

- MCC Diversity and Inclusion Reports – Governing Board Actions (Working Group Members)

Further action will be taken by the Governing Board, following any recommendations coming from the Commission on Pathways of healing & Reconciliation. We are looking for consultants to help with training for staff, Council of Elders & Governing Board etc.

### **COVID-19 Update:**

Some of our churches are beginning to open slowly and with caution; many churches are still waiting to reopen depending on numbers of cases in their areas; many people are still not vaccinated in the USA. The Latin-American countries are in bad shape. Cases generally, are trending downwards, BUT it is still quite dangerous in many states & countries.

### **Financial Report: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey**

Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey gave an update of current finances & showed the dashboard for March

**Move to accept the financial update for March 2021**

**Moved: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey**

**Seconded: Rev. Alberto Najera**

**Passed**

### **Update on Meeting with Henderson Financial Group (Endowment Fund)**

Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston gave an update on the meeting, and presentation, with the Henderson Financial Group, who are handling our Endowment Fund. The fund will be managed by a company that specializes in portfolios with a strong ethical basis.

**Motion of thanks to Rev. Steve Torrence, for his work on the Investments Committee.**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Seconded: Clare Coughlin**

**Passed**

**Accounting Manual Update:**

**Work is ongoing**

**Property Update: Mark Godette**

Sarasota Property – Mark Godette will bring an update next month

Houston Tract of Land: Supporting detail - UFMCC conducted a diligent search, but we have not been able to find a deed for the Property wherein UFMCC is identified as the owner of it or with language providing for any reversionary interest to UFMCC.

**Motion to consider all matters resolved related to the Houston property.**

**Moved: Mark Godette**

**Seconded: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher**

**Passed**

**Governance: Rev. Paul Whiting**

Governing Board Nominating Committee (GBNC) for 2022 elections - the bylaws require that the GB approve the process and affirm the GBNC.

The members of the Governing Board reviewed two documents prepared, in advance, by Rev. Paul Whiting for Governing Board Elections.

Current members on a 3 year term: Rev. Paul Whiting, Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Clare Coughlin & Chad Hobbs

*“The Governance Committee met with the Moderator on April 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 to discuss the timeline for the appointment of the GBNC. A draft document was prepared by Leo Rossetti & Lowana Wade. It was agreed to move the dates back one month.*

*I propose that the selection committee include 2 (non Governing Board) members of the Governance Team, and a member of the Governing Board who is either not up for election, or does not intend to run for re-election. The Governing Board are required to approve the process, and to affirm the selection of the final GBNC selection.*

*Paul Whiting (he, him, his) | Governance Chair”*

**Motion: Move to approve the process for the selection of the Governing Board Nominating Committee, as set out by the Governance Committee, within the appropriate timeline**

**Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

**Seconded: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey**

**Passed**

## **Church Updates, Closures and Disaffiliations: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher & Rev. Paul Whiting**

- Update from working group: No update this month
- Update from River of Life MCC (USA): No update this month

## **HR Manual Update: James Chavis**

No update this month; HR Team meeting this coming Tuesday (May 18<sup>th</sup> 2021), so will bring an update next month

## **Staffing: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**

No update this month

## **Staffing Update: Web Design Position**

A contract for web design has been awarded to Tara Nelson; she will be working on this in the next few months

## **Commissions: The Work of the Commissions is ongoing**

- **Commission on Communication: Rev. Alberto Najera Governing Board Liaison**  
Just had first meeting & planning second meeting by week of 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021.  
**Motion: Move to approve the appointment of Enrique Zenteno to the Commission on Communication**  
**Moved: Rev. Alberto Najera**  
**Second: Rev. Diane Fisher** **Passed**
- **General Conference Commission: Rev. Paul Whiting in his role as Chair of the Governance Team as Governing Board Liaison.**  
Work is ongoing
- **Assessments Commission: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher as Governing Board Liaison**  
No update this month
- **Commission on Rites and Sacraments: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey as Governing Board Liaison**  
Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey & Rev. Axel Schwaigert have met twice; they are continuing to look for people to serve on the commission; names will be brought to the next Governing Board meeting.
- **Commission on Pathways of Healing and Reconciliation: Clare Coughlin as Governing Board Liaison.**  
**Motion: Move to appoint the Commission on Pathways of Healing and Reconciliation to serve for a further year - to July 2022**  
**Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston**  
**Seconded: Rev. Alberto Najera** **Passed**

- **Work Ahead for the Year:**

- Need to schedule a date for a joint meeting with the Governing Board and new Council of Elders.

**Review of Minutes:**

**Future Agenda Items:**

Report from Judiciary Process Working Group  
General Conference 2022

**Dates of future meetings:**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Close in Prayer:** Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey closed the meeting in prayer at 7:00 p.m. US Eastern/ 12:00am UK time