

Minutes of Governing Board Meeting – 1st June 2021

Attendees: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston, Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Clare Coughlin, Mark Godette,
Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey, Rev. Alberto Najera, Chad Hobbs, Rev. Paul Whiting

Staff: Marina Laws

Apologies: James Chavis

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

Opening Prayer: Rev. Elder Alejandro Escoto

Brief Check In: Check in from all present

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of May Meeting
- Moderator's Report

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

Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

Seconded: Rev. Alberto Najera

Passed

Discussion Agenda:

New Business:

Governing Board Policy Manual: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston will check with Rev. Onetta Brooks & Rev. Marsha Warren, who previously updated the policy manual

COVID-19 Update:

The Governing Board were updated on how COVID-19 is still affecting the world and our congregations

General Conference Update: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

At the May 2021 Governing Board meeting, it was agreed to hold the General Conference 2022 Business Meeting online. Rev. Elder Cecilia has since met with Rev. Lauren Bennett & Mike Haase to look at options for when to actually hold the Business Meetings. The General Conference Core Team will also be asked for their input.

Motion: to approve the date of the business meeting, for General Conference 2022, to be after the in-person gatherings and to delegate the decision, about the exact date for this, to the General Conference Core Team

Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

Seconded: Mark Godette

Passed

Feedback from Judiciary Joint Mtg: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston gave an update on the Judiciary Process; Rev. Elder Troy Treash & Rev. Karl Hand are the Council of Elders representatives & will be working with Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston & Rev. Elder Diane Fisher on the Judiciary.

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

Work is ongoing on reviewing the Diversity & Inclusion reports, to see what actions can still be taken; much of the work of the Governing Board will be in response to the Commission on Pathways of Healing & Reconciliation recommendations.

Financial Report: Chad Hobbs & Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

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

Move to accept the financial update for April 2021

Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

Seconded: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

Passed

Update on Meeting with Henderson Financial Group (Endowment Fund): Chad Hobbs

Chad Hobbs gave an update on progress with the Henderson Financial Group

Accounting Manual Update: Chad Hobbs

Work is ongoing

Property Update: Mark Godette

Mark Godette gave an update on the MCC property in Sarasota, FL

Motion: To take the Sarasota property off the market, at this time

Moved: Chad Hobbs

Seconded: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

Passed

Motion: Of thanks to Mark Godette for his extensive work on all MCC property negotiations

Moved: Chad Hobbs

Seconded: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

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

Appointment of the team to appoint the GBNC

Motion: To appoint Rev. Paul Whiting, from the Governing Board, Leo Rosetti & Lowana Wade as the appointment team to approve candidates for the Governing Board Nominating Committee

Moved: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston

Seconded: Chad Hobbs

Passed

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

- Update from working group: No update this month

HR Manual Update: Mark Godette

An HR Team meeting was held & a meeting has been scheduled with TriNet (MCC Payroll Company) as to what they can offer to the staff in terms of support etc.

Staffing Update: Rev. Cecilia Eggleston

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. Some additional funds were available and an 18 month contract will be offered to assist Mike Haase whilst he works on General Conference

Commissions: The Work of the Commissions is ongoing

- **Commission on Communication: Rev. Alberto Najera Governing Board Liaison**
A draft Terms of Reference is waiting to be submitted to the Governing Board for their July meeting; it is hoped to have this ready to submit by the end of June; the commission is still looking for members to join their team
- **General Conference Commission: Rev. Paul Whiting in his role as Chair of the Governance Team as Governing Board Liaison.**
Work is ongoing to form sub groups that will explore different aspects of General Conference; the Business Team is now ready to have their first meeting; the commission is going well & people are very engaged
- **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 are having a meeting this month; Rev. Cathy Alexander has been invited to join them

Motion: that the work of the Commission on Rites & Sacraments be extended through to the end of General Conference 2025

Moved: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

Seconded: Mark Godette

Passed

Rationale: Due to the complexity & importance of its work, the commission will need more time for its work; they will use the 2022 GC as an opportunity to engage in dialogue & get feedback

- **Commission on Pathways of Healing and Reconciliation: Clare Coughlin as Governing Board Liaison.**
The Commission will be offering several pathways for people to submit their experiences of racism & other issues within MCC, in the next couple of months.

- **Work Ahead for the Year:**

- Scheduling a date for a joint 2 hour Zoom meeting with the Governing Board and new Council of Elders, for both bodies to get together to look at strategic aims, prayer time & how to work in support of each other.

This would be an online meeting – looking at holding this around 2nd week September 2021 (8th to 15th Sept)

Review of Minutes:

Future Agenda Items:

Report from Judiciary Process Working Group
General Conference 2022

Dates of future meetings:

Tuesday 6th July 2021

Review of last 2 years

Tuesday 3rd August 2021

Tuesday 7th September 2021

Labor Day Public Holiday on day before

Tuesday 5th October 2021

Tuesday 2nd November 2021

Tuesday 7th December 2021

Close in Prayer: The Governing Board closed the meeting in prayer at 6:44 pm US Eastern/ 11:44pm UK time