

Minutes of Governing Board Meeting – 5th October 2021

Attendees:

Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey, James Chavis, Clare Coughlin, Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston, Mark Godette, Rev. Alberto Najera, Rev. Paul Whiting,

Apologies: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Chad Hobbs

Opening Prayer – Rev. Elder Miller Hoffman

Brief Check in from all present

Consent agenda:

- Minutes of September meeting
- Moderator's report

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

Moved: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

Seconded: Mark Godette

Passed

Work done between meetings

Email vote – to approve appointment of members of the Board of Pensions – to be included at end of minutes

Discussion Agenda

COVID update – none

Affiliation of Church Criteria

Previous Council of Elders approved the Criteria of Church Affiliation; it came to the Governing Board. There was concern over language about compensating Pastors. New Council of Elders proposed new wording. (attached as addendum)

Move to accept the revised Criteria of Church Affiliation

Moved: James Chavis

Seconded: Rev. Paul Whiting

Passed

Rev. Paul Whiting (As Governance Chair) to confirm next steps for publicising and updating the Bylaws addendum to reflect new criteria.

General Conference update: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston: We are close to finalizing some of the sites, not close in others. Lauren and Mike were in Houston to visit Resurrection MCC, the site for the Houston General Conference, at the time of this meeting.

The plan is to release a save the date notice with estimated prices. With desire is to open registration for all sites at the same time, with the goal of releasing rates, and opening registration in January 2022.

Online access will be available to all but people can go to any conference site they wish. The event in Africa will be by invitation only for security reasons.

The overall goal is to encourage/allow for more accessibility to more people

It may be difficult to have translators present at all locations. We will want to encourage use of the Microsoft translator.

Financial report: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey gave an update on the August Financials, which will be available on the MCC website after the meeting.

Move to accept the August financial report.

Moved: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

Seconded: Rev. Alberto Najera

Passed

Budget 2022: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey

Budget subcommittee has been formed. Cecilia and Doug Berger are working on the first draft to present to the October Finance Committee. The goal is to have the budget to the GB by the February 2022 GB meeting.

Henderson Financial Group: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey Having monthly meetings regarding the endowment fund to develop fund policies.

Accounting manual update - work is ongoing

Staffing –Tammy Rabon-Noyce has been hired as the new Confidential Executive Assistant to the Moderator, working 15 hours per week.

HR Manual Update

Huge thanks to Mark and James for their work on this manual. Staff have been operating on a 2008 version up to now.

GB – have until Oct 24 to make any edits/comments

Final manual will be presented to the November Governing Board meeting

Paid Time Off Policy

Motion to approve new staff PTO policy, which replaces all previous iterations of the PTO/Vacation policies.

Moved: Mark Godette

Seconded: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey.

Passed

Rev. Elder Cecilia left the meeting while this discussion took place and the vote was held.

Governance: Rev. Paul Whiting

The Governing Board approved the members of the Governing Board Nominating Committee at its September 2021 meeting. Stuart Sutherland, Jo-Anne Ludy and Janet Fizsimmons will receive training this month from members of the Governance Committee and then start their work. Cecilia is also participating in the training.

Commissions

Communications: Rev. Alberto Najera -nothing to report. Hoping to have meeting this month to get done work missed last month

General Conference Commission: Things are moving along; there is a lot of crossover from 2022 Conference to future plans. Business meeting online process in 2022 will be a trial run.

Rites and Sacraments Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey Setting up first meeting. Will get with Colleen to announce the commission.

Judiciary Process Update: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston Work is ongoing

Racial Equity Diversity and Inclusion: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston Senior Leadership Team have now received all the recommendations from these reports. Next step will be to assign tasks within the staff team.

Governing Board Policy Manual: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston.

No further progress

Meeting closed at 6:58 p.m.

(Addenda: Criteria for the Affiliation of Churches, vote on Board of Pensions)

Criteria for the Affiliation of Churches - approved 5th October 2021

Current wording	Proposed wording
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstration of willingness to ascribe to the UFMCC core values, vision, and mission. 2. Demonstration of willingness to embrace UFMCC Bylaws as a covenantal relationship. 3. Pastoral leadership that meets the standards established by the UFMCC Bylaws. 4. Sustain a sufficient average worship attendance to make the church viable in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Meeting all other criteria, and b. Demonstrating a process of outreach and growth appropriate to the unique demographic and cultural context of the area where the church would be located, as determined by an Elder. 5. Be able to compensate a pastor, consistent with equitable local standards. 6. Achieve incorporation/registration status, as applicable by national and/or local law. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate willingness to ascribe to the UFMCC core values, vision, and mission. 2. Demonstrate willingness to embrace UFMCC Bylaws as a covenantal relationship. 3. Provide identifiable Pastoral leadership authorized by UFMCC. 4. Gather for worship, engage in spiritual practices, and partake in rites and sacraments. In gatherings and ministry reflect UFMCC's Statement of Faith and the context of which the church is located. 5. Demonstrate generosity through sharing of treasures and talents to ensure viability of the church. 6. Have a plan and make every good faith effort to compensate their pastor in some way, always moving toward a sustainable level of regular compensation. 7. Organize and register as applicable by national and/or local law.

<p>7. Governance structure that assures accountability to the congregation and to the UFMCC Bylaws.</p> <p>8. Submission of an annual report to UFMCC.</p> <p>9. Submission of local church Bylaws/Standard Operating Procedures to the UFMCC, following their approval by an Elder.</p> <p>10. Maintain minimum standards for risk management, as established by an Elder.</p>	<p>Exceptions to this include where incorporation or registration of churches would not be granted to an MCC church or where an attempt to register the church with the government could put the members of the church at risk of personal injury or harm.</p> <p>8. Establish governance structure that assures minimum standards for risk management, accountability to the congregation and to the UFMCC Bylaws.</p> <p>9. Submit monthly assessment and an annual report to UFMCC.</p> <p>10. Submit local church Bylaws/Standard Operating Procedures to the UFMCC offices for review and approval.</p>
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Tom Emmet from BOP contacted Chad Hobbs at the end of day 10th September 2021 to ask that the GB approve these three new candidates for the BOP. These candidates have already been unanimously approved by the BOP.

Motion to approve Ronald Moore to Board of Pensions

Moved: Chad Hobbs

Seconded: Mark Godette

Passed Unanimously

Motion to approve Tim Perry to Board of Pensions

Moved: Chad Hobbs

Seconded: Mark Godette

Passed Unanimously

Motion to approve Lillie Brock to Board of Pensions

Moved: Chad Hobbs

Seconded: Mark Godette

Passed Unanimously

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Ronald Moore to Board of Pensions

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Tim Perry to Board of Pensions

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Lillie Brock to Board of Pensions

Marie Alford-Harkey

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Ronald Moore to Board of Pensions

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Tim Perry to Board of Pensions

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Lillie Brock to Board of Pensions

Rev. Alberto Nájera

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Ronald Moore to the Board of Pensions.

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Tim Perry to the Board of Pensions.

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Lillie Brock to the Board of Pensions.

Clare Coughlin

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Ronald Moore to Board of Pensions

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Tim Perry to Board of Pensions

I vote yes for the motion to appoint Lillie Brock to Board of Pensions

James Chavis

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Ronald Moore to the Board of Pensions.

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Tim Perry to the Board of Pensions.

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Lillie Brock to the Board of Pensions.

Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Clerk

I vote YES on all three candidates

Paul Whiting

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Ronald Moore to the Board of Pensions.

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Tim Perry to the Board of Pensions.

I vote yes to the motion to appoint Lillie Brock to the Board of Pensions.

Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston