

Minutes of Governing Board Meeting – 3rd May 2022

Attendees: Rev. Marie Alford-Harkey (joined at 5:18pm), James Chavis, Clare Coughlin, Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston, Rev. Elder Diane Fisher, Mark Godette, Chad Hobbs and Rev. Alberto Najera, who joined at 6:19pm Eastern.

Staff: Tammy Rabon-Noyce

Apologies:

Establish Quorum: Meeting commenced at 5:04 pm US Eastern / 4:04pm US Central / and 10:04 pm UK BST

Opening Prayer: Rev. Elder Carolyn Mobley

Brief Check In: Check in from all present

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of April Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting.

Moved: Chad Hobbs

Seconded: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

Passed

The Moderator presented her Triennial General Conference Report for review in lieu of a monthly report.

Financial Report: Chad Hobbs

Finance Dashboards from March 2022

Chad Hobbs gave an update of the February finances via the dashboard, which is available on the MCC website after the meeting.

Motion to accept the March Dashboard as presented.

Moved: Rev. Elder Diane Fisher

Seconded: James Chavis

Passed

Human Resources Update - Mark Godette

Mark shared that the payroll services provider (Paychex) negotiated a beneficial rate and offered an incentive to encourage an earlier switch from TriNet.

Discussion Agenda: New Business

General Conference

Business Pack: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston - the goal is to distribute the Business Pack by the end of the first week of June so people have the opportunity to review candidate information, bylaw amendment proposals and any other motions that may be submitted in advance of discussion circles.

Agenda - the proposed General Conference Agenda is being translated and was shared on screen.

Procedures Manual - the draft Procedures Manual for the Business Meeting of the 2022 General Conference was shared for reflection and comments. Rev. Onetta Brooks and Rev. Elder Don Eastman have been reviewing early drafts from the Business Meeting Procedures Team.

Governing Board Triennial Report - Rev. Elder Diane Fisher will draft a report; Clare Coughlin will draft a Governance Report. Once created these will be shared for review prior to translation.

Treasurer's Triennial Report - Chad Hobbs will draft a three year treasurer's report.

Commissions Reports: The Work of the Commissions is ongoing and reports are being received..

- **Commission on Assessments** - Rev. Elder Diane Fisher will write up a status for this as it has been delayed.
- **Commission on Communication:** Received.
- **Commission on General Conference:** Draft report has been shared.
- **Commission on Pathways of Healing and Reconciliation:** Received.
- **Commission on Rites and Sacraments:** Received.

Bylaws Proposals - The GB reviewed addendum 1 (<https://www.mcccchurch.org/bylaws/>). The following Bylaw proposals were reviewed. Clare Coughlin will write a Governing Board Impact Statement for each one.

Bylaw Amendment Proposal 1 - V.E.3 - Expands the definition of professional ministers to include current and former members of the Council of Elders, who have not been removed from the Council of Elders or otherwise disciplined resulting in the removal of the title of "Elder", and authorizes them to perform all of the Rites and Sacraments of the church.

Bylaw Amendment Proposal 2 - VIII.A.2.b. - this language would allow former lay Elders to have voice and vote at General Conference mirroring ordained clergy in the Clergy House.

Bylaw Amendment Proposal 3 - V.E.3.b and d - Government Organization and Officers, Fellowship, Council of Elders, Duties and Vacancies - section b - this amendment would remove the outdated oversight duty from Council of Elders. It would also remove the entire section d (vacancies) as there is no such thing as a vacancy on the Council of Elders since there is no specific number of Elders to serve on the Council of Elders.

Bylaw Amendment Proposal 4 (potentially, COE review is 12 May) - Article V.B.2.e - Disaffiliation - new proposed language significantly alters subsection ii regarding notification to UFMCC, as well as section iii regarding notification to members. The bylaw amendments proposed seek to provide denominational support and guidance to the process and extend time available for comprehensive analysis of options prior to final decisions.

Transformational Weekend - 2-4 July 2022; The Moderator will deliver a keynote address three times “live”

Role of Governing Board - record a welcome, and where possible be active in the chat. etc.

Business Forum - 7th July 2022

Role of Governing Board - present Governing Board Report [Diane as Clerk, Chad as Treasurer] and answer questions.

Business Meeting - 16th July 2022

Role of Governing Board - the Governing Board is responsible for the Business meeting, with the Moderator, and there will need to be a full presence of Governors. Further details will be discussed at June’s meeting.

The committee has begun meeting and will set the procedures for the General Conference 2022 online Business meeting and will bring forward for the GB approval. A draft of the Business Procedures manual was presented for reflection and feedback.

Church Updates, Closures and Disaffiliations: Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston provided an update.

Awards and Appreciation

Thank you to all who served on committees

Translators.

Staff

Commissions -

Other awards will be announced fellowship Sunday in October and video them to share on last Sunday in October

Edith Ellen Perry

Moderator's award

Is Diane willing to draft those as Clerk? Worked at denominational level? TRN is to remind GB about who to thank? - Marie Alford-Harkey said.

Future Agenda Items:

June - Q & A preparation for Business Forum and Meeting
Assigning times for availability

Future Meeting Dates:

Tuesday 7th June 2022
Tuesday 5th July 2022 (feedback from Discussion Circles)
Future dates subject to Elections outcome

Close in Prayer: Marie Alford-Harkey closed the meeting in prayer at 7:08pm US Eastern / 6:08pm Central / and 12:08 am UK BST.