

The executive of Middlesex Presbytery met at the call of the chair on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at 1p.m. at Rowntree United Church.

ATTENDANCE: Hugh John Cook, Marilyn Hart, Pam Tolmay, David McKane, Heather McLean, Joyce Payne, Sheila Duffin, Jannie Law, Richard Golden, Gerald Drodge, Susan Eagle, Paul Volick, Donald Sutherland, Gail Schnarr, Val Hodgins

REGRETS: Tom Hiscock, Lois Peters, Frank Meadows

OPENING AND CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING: At 1p.m., Hugh John Cook called the meeting to order and constituted the meeting: "In the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the church, and by the authority vested in me as chair of Middlesex Presbytery, I now declare this meeting constituted for the transaction of such business that shall properly come before it." Richard Golden led in prayer.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: It was moved and seconded that the agenda be adopted as printed.
Carried

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of April 6, 2010 be approved as printed and circulated. **Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence was received for information with the following exceptions:

1. It was moved and seconded that the chair of Presbytery respond to LHSC re the decision to terminate the Hospital Visitors Program. **Carried**
2. It was moved and seconded that Middlesex Presbytery Executive approve the continuation of the TAP contract with London Conference from November 1, 2010 until December 31, 2010. **Carried**
3. It was moved and seconded that Middlesex Presbytery support the proposal from Waterloo Presbytery re funding for Kairos and that notice of this support be sent to both London Conference and the General Council Office. **Carried**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Hugh John Cook commented on what a lot of things were happening in the presbytery and he thanked the executive for all the support that had been given to him over the past year and au revoir.

A vote of thanks was given to Hugh John for his leadership over the past year.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: In the absence of chairperson Tom Hiscock, Paul Vollick presented the report. A letter from Byron United Church expressed concern re the upcoming Conference budget and the increase in assessment proposed. Discussion followed re budget increases at both conference and presbytery.

A request has been received for a 334 meeting for Cairngorm United Church,

It was moved and seconded that the narrative income statement with congregational assessments be printed quarterly rather than every month. **Carried**

It was moved and seconded that a letter be sent to London Conference requesting the transfer of the Empress and Gethsemane properties to the Middlesex Presbytery United Church Council.

Carried

It was moved and seconded that Middlesex Presbytery United Church Council be requested to assume the transfer of assets from Gethsemane and Empress United Churches. **Carried**

MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND EDUCATION: Chairperson Sheila Duffin raised the question about how do we recognize people who are completing Presbytery ministries. Discussion followed and it was suggested that the new Staff Committee look at this.

It was moved and seconded that the chair of Presbytery write letters to the hospital visitors and the UWO Chaplain. This motion was amended to add that a \$50. gift certificate for the Resource Centre be included. The amendment which was moved and seconded, was carried. The motion as amended was **Carried**

It was moved and seconded that Rev. Michelle Down be retained on the roll of Middlesex Presbytery effective May 1, 2010 awaiting call or appointment. **Carried**

MISSION IN CANADA/UCW: Jannie Law reported.

It was moved and seconded that the YAT delegate from Middlesex Presbytery to the Annual Meeting of London Conference be given \$100. to cover expenses. **Carried**

It was moved and seconded that the eight Youth Forum Delegates to London Conference from Middlesex Presbytery be given \$35. towards expenses (meal package). **Carried**

It was moved and seconded that Conference give clarification re more effective use of Youth Forum delegates and the need for these to be named as Presbytery delegates. **Carried**

It was moved and seconded that \$193.19 be paid for the Youth Basketball event. **Carried**

UCW: The UCW report was submitted by Lois Peters. Although the past months have been busy for all UCW members in their home churches, a large gathering of members enjoyed being entertained, encouraged and spiritually enriched by excellent speakers, musical leaders and entertainers at the 48th Gathering of London Conference UCW on April 18 and 19th at Parkview United Church in Stratford. Middlesex Presbyterial will host the Gathering of London Conference UCW in 2011 on April 10th and 11th. A host church will be chosen in London in a few days. I am enjoying attending several Regional Rallies. These rallies are carefully and

prayerfully planned and are most rewarding to the organizing committees when they are well attended. Upcoming events which have been planned are Camp KeeMoKee Day on June 14; One Day Event on July 24; and Fall Event in October. Each church should have posters and registrations forms, so do seek them out and make plans to be at these very special UCW events.

WORLD OUTREACH: Pam Tolmay reported that the concert for Haiti was very good and raised \$2490.47 for Haiti.

It was moved and seconded that the bill for \$150. for tuning the piano at 75 Blackfriars for the concert for Haiti be paid. **Carried**

NOMINATING: Susan Eagle reported that Bill McAuslan has resigned as chair of the chaplaincy committee.

It was moved and seconded that Marilyn Arthur be added to the Chaplaincy committee. **Carried**
It was noted that there is a need for clarification of new committees and the mandates for them.

TREASURER'S RPORT: Donald Sutherland presented the financial report for information. It was moved and seconded that expenses be submitted at least quarterly. **Carried**

MISSION AND SERVICE: no report

CARE AND OVERSIGHT: no report

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be extended until 4:30p.m. **Carried**

CONFERENCE MINISTER: Heather McLean reported that 2.8 million dollars had been collected for relief to Haiti.

From the General Council Executive: questions to General Secretary Nora Sanders re where we are as the United Church of Canada can be found on the United Church website.

Other information:

1. General Council will meet every four years.
2. Pastoral Relations responsibilities will move from presbyteries to conferences.
3. 2011-2012 grants to conferences will remain unchanged.
4. There will be a major emphasis on congregational ministry and \$1 million to fund this(New Ministries Fund).
5. The Manual will be reduced to half its size. It will be streamlined and user-friendly. This will be a radical reworking.
6. There will be \$9 million in reductions over the next three years.
7. There will be 3 new streams of designated givings.
8. There will be fewer meetings and the use of new technologies will enable this to happen.
9. How do we invigorate the entire church around connections and congregations?

Concerns were raised about where the money is going to come from to forward these new initiatives.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was moved and seconded that the Executive of Middlesex Presbytery request the Empress trustees to authorize necessary contracts for renovations for the relocation of the London Conference Offices and the Presbytery Resource Centre and that Middlesex Presbytery reimburse them. **Carried**

It was moved and seconded that Members-at-large of the Middlesex Presbytery be reimbursed by presbytery for expenses for the Annual Meeting of London Conference. **Carried**

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:25p.m. and Pam Tolmay gave the benediction.

Hugh John Cook offered to bring refreshments for the June executive meeting.