

MIDDLESEX PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE

The executive of Middlesex Presbytery met at the call of the chair on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 12 o'clock noon at Rowntree Memorial United Church, London.

ATTENDANCE: Edward Avey, Anne Beattie-Stokes, Susan Cameron, Tracy Crick-Butler, Sheila Duffin, Richard Golden, Marilyn Hart, Art Hiley, Nancy Hind, Heather McLean (London Conference staff person), Joyce Payne, Gail Schnarr, Donald Sutherland, Pam Tolmay, Jim Wilkie.

REGRETS: Gerald Drodge, Dorothy-Ann Foster (excused), Val Hodgins, David McKane, Flora Rath, Trixie Usselman (excused)

OPENING AND CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING: At 12:07 p.m., chairperson Edward Avey called the meeting to order and constituted the meeting with these words: "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."

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be accepted as printed. **Carried**

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the executive meeting of October 4, 2011, with the deletion on page 2011-114, 3rd line from the bottom of "with the noted objection of Pam Tolmay" be adopted as printed and circulated. Another correction was made on page 2011-119, concerning the next executive meeting, which should read November 1st (not the 2nd)

The word "mandatory" (page 2011-120, item 6.) was questioned concerning a workshop for accountable ministry and those retained on the roll. After further discussion the mover and seconder of the motion agreed to change the wording to use "strongly encouraged". The motion came because there have been some real concerns raised, especially as it pertains to new calls or appointments. The intent is to ensure that these persons have this training and they are hoping to be proactive for everyone in ministry. We need to take this very seriously, and non-attendance will be recorded. It was noted that there will also need to be another opportunity to attend a workshop and something put in place for those who are new to the Presbytery.

There being no other corrections, **approval of the minutes as corrected was Carried**

Concerning what to do when a family member of a Presbyter passes, it's up to us to contact the secretary if it hasn't been distributed and then she will notify those on the e-mail list. Anne Beattie-Stokes is working on some protocols for e-mails, etc. If possible the whole obituary should go out.

As noted earlier, in today's London Free Press obituaries was notice of Rev. George Cox, which Nancy Hind will e-mail out later today. The secretary is to forward a copy of ministry personnel obituaries to the London Conference office, which is what she has been doing.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting of October 25, 2011 be received for information. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

Items Received: 188 e-mails (unless otherwise noted) from Oct. 4 to Oct. 31, 2011

Date	From	Concerning	Action
Oct 4/11	Lorenzo Ramirez	Letter for Pastoral Relations	Forwarded to J. Payne, S. Cameron
Oct 4/11	Melodie Mui, U.C.C.	Learning Circles about Lay Worship Leaders and Amalgamations	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 5/11	Art Hiley	Newsletter Deadlines: Oct 19 for Nov. edition & Nov. 11 for Advent/Christmas edition	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 7/11	London Conference	Centre for Clergy Care Survey	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 11/11	Tanya Cameron, Lond. Conference	Betsey Exley's "Smile Box", fall information for youth leaders	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 12	Val Hodgins	Women in Ministry Gathering Oct. 19	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 13/11	Shelia Macgregor	Navigation Social Media – at Siloam Oct. 26	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 13/11	Ed Nichol, Sec. Kent Presb.	Notice of passing of Dawn Marwood, wife of Rev. Curtis Marwood	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 17/11	Pam Tolmay	Letter for Pastoral Relations	Forwarded to J. Payne, S. Cameron
Oct 17/11	London Conference	Notice for a Conference Executive Secretary for Bay of Quinte	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 18/11	Matthew Stevens	Video on the Ottawa presentation of "Roll with the Declaration" Banner	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 18/11	Anne Miller, Clergy Care	Seminar: Making the Most of Retirement, Nov. 1	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 19/11	Tracy Crick-Butler	Notice of the passing of Phil Newman's father	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 19/11	Marilyn Hart	Resource Centre Director's resignation; Open House Nov 8,9,10; Closing for Christmas break Dec 15	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 19/11	Matthew Stevens	Friends Anxiety Group beginning Feb. 2012	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 19/11	Gail Schnarr	Notice of resignation from Rebirthing Committee	To be read at Exec. Mtg. Nov. 1/11 as new business
Oct 19/11	London Conference	Wear purple Thurs., Oct 20 in support of GLBT2Q youth	Forwarded to e-mail list

Oct 20/11	Paul Browning	Revised Motion for Nov. 22 Presbytery mtg. re guidelines on sale of surplus property	Forwarded to e-mail list Oct 26, & surface mail mid-November
Oct 20/11	Matthew Stevens	Green Audit offer for United Churches	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 21/11	Matthew Stevens	CIDA update for KAIROS supporters	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 21/11	Patti Rodgers, Living Waters Presbytery	Request for transfer for The Reverend Gervis Black from Middlesex Presb. To Living Waters Presb., Toronto Conference	Forwarded to Joyce Payne, Copy filed
Oct 22/11	Curtis Marwood	Nicaragua update	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 24/11	Art Hiley	Copy of letter to Sheila Duffin re: Lay School of Theology – Lay Worship Leaders course	Filed
Oct 25/11	Verbal, from Marilyn Arthur	Notice of the passing of Phil Newman's sister in Vancouver	In prayer at Presb. & e-mailed out Oct 26
Oct 25/11	Colborne St. U.C.	Electronic Waste Recycling Nov. 12 & 13	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 26/11	General Council Via surface mail	General Council Youth Forum publicity and process	For Nov exec agenda
Oct 26/11	General Council	Moderator's news release re: the Occupy movement	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 28/11	Don Keenlside	Notice of Presbytery Representative for Mt. Brydges	Records updated
Oct 31/11	Marjorie Smith	Women in Ministry date changed to Nov. 9	Forwarded to e-mail list
Oct 31/11	London Conference	Notice of the new Executive Secretary of London Conference, effective Feb. 1/12 Rev. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa	Forwarded to e-mail list

Items Sent and not included as actions above:

Date	To	Concerning	Action
Oct 6/11	Susan O'Hara, Riverside U.C.	Acceptance of invitation to host the Feb. 28/12 meeting of Presbytery	Surface mail
Oct 17/11	Tanya Cameron London Conf.	Presbytery approval Mary Dillon's authority re sacraments and weddings	Surface mail, cc'd to Janet Fradette
Oct 17/11	52 Presbyters w/o e-mail addresses	Minutes of Sept 19 (exec), Sept 27, Oct 4 (exec) and the agenda for Oct 25/11	Surface mail
Oct 26/11	Gloria Rolph of Westminster Foundation	Advising of appointment by Presbytery of Rev. Karen Low as UWO Chaplain	Phone call, followed by e-mails to and fro, cc'd V. Hodgins
Oct 27/11	UWO President c/o Rev. M Wagenman, Chaplain	Requesting the University approve the appointment of Rev. Karen Low as UWO Chaplain	Surface mail
Oct 27/11	London Conf.	Record of Appointment re: Karen Low	Surface mail

Oct 27/11	General Council	Presbytery's response forms for Remits 4, 5A & 5B	Surface mail
Oct 31/11	All Presbyters & Tanya @ Lon. Conf.	Obituary notice for Rev. George Cox	Sent out via e-mail

CONFERENCE MINISTER'S REPORT:

Heather McLean was pleased to draw our attention to the just-announced approval of the new Executive Secretary for London Conference, as being Rev. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, effective February 1, 2012.

Heather filled us in on the proposal that Pastoral Relations will move from Presbytery to Conference, and about a new report that will be coming to General Council executive on how that will impact us. General Council will also consult with wider church on this. Some of the broader issues will be coming out a meeting Heather will attend tomorrow. This will change the relationship in how London Conference and Presbytery deal with each other. There will be human resources staff assigned regionally to look after Pastoral Relations. It will definitely change the current configuration of the Conference's paid, accountable staff.

It will be very important to have some careful consideration on who to send to General Council this year. A lot of this would replace volunteers on Pastoral Relations with a paid knowledgeable, profession person. Pastoral Care and Oversight would have some of their work rolled into it as well. There is to be 1 staff person for every 75 paid accountable ministry person. The good part is that ministry people will know that they matter because there's one staff person offering effective leadership, which will bring healthier congregations.

Coming to Conference executive in mid-November, where they will hear more details of what is being considered. We'll get some more information in the Conference newsletter, in mid-to-late-November. Heather suggests that we will receive some guidance on how we wish to respond.

DIVISION REPORTS:

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: Jim Wilkie had nothing new to report.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATION:

Art Hiley had nothing new to report except that he has had computer problems, so the E-link isn't out yet.

RESOURCE CENTRE:

Marilyn Hart reported that they haven't met since her last report. They are hoping that without a Director, volunteer Barb Cartwright can look after the open hours with help from Joyce Payne and Marilyn herself. They will be closing for their usual Christmas break on December 15th, and are not sure what will happen in January.

It was moved and seconded that the balance of the Director's salary for the end of the year be transferred to the Resource Centre to provide for an honorarium for volunteers who are assuming Resource Centre responsibilities, and any unused remainder would be returned to Middlesex Presbytery. Carried.

In response to a question, Marilyn responded that yes, statistics are kept on how many people are using the Resource Centre and those statistics are submitted yearly. Marilyn offered to bring those figures to the next executive meeting, which would be very close to their year-end.

Joyce Payne commented that they talked about this last fall at the floor of Presbytery and the UCW was very supportive that there be at least a half-time ministry at the Resource Centre. The Resource Centre see themselves more as a ministry than a book room or book store. They could also bring it to the floor of Presbytery in November. Tracy Crick-Butler suggested that they survey clergy and paid accountable ministry to see what they would like to see offered by the Resource Centre. Challenge them: as to what would make them want to shop there.

Marilyn will take these comments back to our November meeting. Gail Schnarr noted that the Resource Centre will bring in any book that you'd like them to order for you, something that she's had done several times.

DIVISION OF MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND EDUCATION

Pastoral Relations: Joyce Payne presented the following:

Moved and seconded we approve the request of Rev. Pam Tolmay for a change in pastoral relations effective January 31, 2012 for the purpose of accepting a call from Palmerston United Church in Bruce Presbytery. Carried, with the noted abstention of Pam Tolmay. In response to a question from Pam Tolmay, Joyce confirmed that the receiving Presbytery requests the transfer.

Moved and seconded we approve the request of Rev. Lorenzo Ramirez for a change in pastoral relations effective June 30, 2012 for the purpose of retirement. Carried

Moved and seconded we approve that Rev. Catherine Tovell be retained on the Roll of Conference from November 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 while she is in search of a call or appointment. Carried

Moved and seconded we approve the appointment of Rev. David McKane, full-time retired supply to Wesley Knox Pastoral Charge from January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012. This appointment will terminate should a call be approved with a start date prior to June 30, 2012. All conditions of the manual have been met once a police record check arrives. Carried

Moved and seconded the words of the motion from "additionally to the end of the motion should be removed from the Presbytery record. (page 2011-106)

This motion was declared out of order because it will need to come to the floor of Presbytery, since that is where the motion was passed. Pastoral Relations is invited to bring that motion to the floor of Presbytery on November 22, 2011.

Sheila Duffin reported as Chair of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. She had reported last time that they were not getting very many people out to their meetings, but found that when they met just before the last Presbytery meeting lots of people were able to attend. From that meeting, Sheila had the following to report:

1. Internship: Catherine Moore reported that an inspection of an internship site will take place at Trinity United Church.
2. Education and Students: Janet Fradette reported that several inquirers were being set up with Discernment Committees.
3. Pensions: Maurice Bell offered to chair this committee
4. Lay School of Theology have had no reports and no members present at Ministry Personnel and Education meetings. A letter has been sent to all committee members with questions. Committee members are expected to be present at the next Ministry Personnel and Education meeting with replies to the questions received. These are to be forwarded to Ministry Personnel and Education members before the next meeting.
5. Pastoral Support Minister Committee is still functioning. Since Presbytery voted down the idea of a pastoral support minister last June, the need for pastoral support for those in paid accountable ministry has not changed. Ways to support them are being investigated.
6. Revitalization of Ministry Personnel and Education or the demise of same was discussed.

1:14 p.m. Request to move into camera was heard, moved, seconded and Carried.

Edward Avey and Joyce Payne were asked to leave the room and Marilyn Hart assumed the chair.

2:02 p.m. it was moved and seconded to come out of camera. Carried. Joyce Payne and Edward Avey were invited back into the room. Marilyn Hart stepped down and Edward Avey resumed the chair.

A break was called and taken, with thanks to Sheila Duffin for providing refreshments.

DIVISION OF MISSION IN CANADA:

2:17 p.m. Request to move into camera was heard, moved, seconded and Carried.

2:32 p.m. it was moved and seconded to come out of camera. Carried.

Tracy Crick-Butler reported that Presbytery will not be putting a float in the London Santa Clause parade, as we can be turned down for anything that the parade committee doesn't agree with. They won't refund money, and won't allow a float if they disagree with its message. There are lots of rules that we can clearly follow, but we don't have enough time to pull something together now. The intent is to do something for next year and to also have the float available for other local Santa Clause parades.

UCW: Flora Rath had sent her regrets, so there was no report

DIVISION OF WORLD OUTREACH:

Pam Tolmay reported that she is concerned about who will replace her as chair of the Division. She is proposing that they have their meetings on the same day as Presbytery, prior to the Presbytery meeting. Pam encourages us to look at Conference's Book of Hope and also Kare for Kids as alternative gift giving this Christmas.

STEWARDSHIP: Gail Schnarr had nothing to report

CHAIR-ELECT:

Anne Beattie-Stokes reported that she is in conversation with Fairmont, Dundas St. Centre, Littlewood & St. Andrews Westminster about covenanting services for their appointments. She will have information at our next meeting about proposals for Presbytery meeting host churches and also for e-mail protocols.

TREASURER'S REPORT: *(attached as pages 2011-145 through 2011-148)*

Don Sutherland reported that as of October 31, 2011 there was \$10,000 in the bank, and the Accounts Receivables are the assessments still outstanding. The \$15,000 Loan for Cairngorm is in the works from United Church Council. Concerning the Hyatt Ave. assessment, that payment should come out of Hyatt Ave. Trustee funds. The United Church Council will ask their connection with the Hyatt Ave Trustees to talk to Don about this. Concerning Trinity's non-payment, Don stated that it generally appears at the end of the year. We are still waiting on a bill for legal fees from September and October.

It was moved and seconded that the Treasurer's Report be received for information. Carried.

In response to a question about what are our reserves, Don answered \$279,000, which is our Retained Earnings. This figure includes money from Gethsemane and Robinson. Finance and Administration was asked by Chair, Edward Avey to be very clear in what is presented to Presbytery in November.

CARE AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE Val Hodgins was on vacation, so no report.

CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

Val Hodgins was on vacation, so there was no report. Nancy Hind informed us that paperwork has been sent, as requested to the University President, in care of one of the chaplains. She has also informed Gloria Rolph of Westminster College of Karen Low's appointment, pending approval by the university.

PRESBYTERY REP TO CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE

Joyce Payne reported that Conference executive meets in another three weeks and referred us to the earlier report from Heather McLean. (*page 2011-138 of these minutes*)

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Joyce Payne reported that she has been in conversation with the Hellenic Centre around meals. We have a committee of 7 and will need a few more volunteers, which Joyce will recruit as needed. A meeting of the committee will be called soon.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE: David McKane was absent. There was no report.

WEB-SITE COMMITTEE

Nancy Hind reported that the website is hopefully just about ready to be launched. Once it's up, there will be lots of updating of documents for her to do so we are asked to be patient, as first she has to be trained. There were some site-snaps of a few of the pages passed around for viewing. Suggestions for replacing the candle graphic on the home page are welcome for consideration.

Heather McLean was asked about getting authorization to use the United Church Crest. Heather informed us that the General Secretary needs to sign off on that, so we should contact Pretima at the Conference office on how to go about getting that approval. It was noted by a few attending the meeting that their churches would have to get that done too.

NEW / OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Rebirthing Committee: Nancy Hind read a letter dated October 19, 2011 from Gail Schnarr asking that we accept her resignation from the Rebirthing Committee, citing loss of committee members, the work involved and the lack of interest this past year in workshops offered. **It was moved and seconded to accept Gail Schnarr's resignation as chair of the Rebirthing Committee. Carried**

It was moved and seconded to disband the Rebirthing Committee, with thanks to Gail Schnarr and the Committee for the worth-while work they did. Carried

It was moved and seconded that the balance of the funds reserved for Rebirthing be returned to the United Church Council. Jim Wilkie informed us that according to the Treasurer's statements, we have already paid out some of those funds this year. Don Sutherland, Treasurer said that Art Hiley had signed the voucher for funds and it was for the Second Cup workshops in Toronto. \$1,536 remains, which should be returned to the United Church Council. **The Motion Carried** The Division of Mission

in Canada is to look at carrying on some of the Rebirthing Committee's work for workshops.

2. Remits 6A, 6B, 6C Edward noted that these remits are concerning the Doctrine Section of the Basis of Union. There are about three pages of changes in what they're doing, and then the other fifteen pages are changes in re-numbering the sections.

Susan Cameron suggested that someone from Presbytery function as Parliamentarian, who can speak to the Remits and explain them to the Court. The question was raised as to do we need discussion ahead of meeting, during the meeting and do we want to deal with this at the November meeting? Consensus was that most congregations still haven't dealt with it, but hopefully they will be better educated in the spring. Some congregations may want their Presbytery representative to take their vote to Presbytery. Tracy Crick-Butler suggested that Presbytery host an educational night on these remits. It could be made into sort of a fun night, with a workshop/party sometime in January and then put the remits on the February agenda, or April if necessary. By consensus it was decided that we pass this over to the Division of Mission in Canada to come up with a plan.

There was concern with the volume of paper needed to print off the remits because as a presbytery we have a responsibility to have print copies available. Nancy Hind noted that for the last remit in October they had been e-mailed or surface mailed to everyone, but unfortunately people didn't seem to bring them. The viewing from the screens was not very satisfactory since they couldn't project much at a time and still have them readable.

It was suggested and agreed by consensus that Chair Elect, Anne Beattie-Stokes be the parliamentarian for the remits, to which Anne graciously agreed.

3. 41st General Council Youth Forum will be held August 11th through 18th, 2012. Nancy Hind had received the information package from General Council and sought executive's direction, which was to forward this item to the Division of Mission in Canada.

CHAIR PERSON'S REPORT:

Since we had time, Edward Avey gave a report, first thanking everyone for attending the October meeting. Referring to the projection and screens, we certainly learned some wisdom on how not to present remits. The GLBTT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Two Spirited regional consultation was held October 22nd at 75 Blackfriars. They had a good conversation with persons from London and area, although Edward had concerns about the organization process from General Council's end. Nancy Hind, who acted as scribe at the consultation has conveyed some of those concerns to the General Council organizing staff person and the moderator for the event.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS continued

Since we were still running ahead of schedule, a few more items were brought forth.

4. Joyce Payne recommended to Finance and Administration that we have printed copies of budget available at future budget meetings. The budget could have been presented in a more transparent way. Jim Wilkie explained that they were scrambling at the last minute because of the budget chair, Dorothy Ann Foster's illness. He has noted the request and doesn't know how printing off of the budget got missed this year.
5. Tracy Crick-Butler raised a concern about Presbytery not having an office. With Nancy Hind currently working at 75 Blackfriars, it has been good to have access to a place for meetings and to meet with the secretary. With the building being listed for sale, is there wisdom in our Presbytery in trying to find a home? She is thinking of space such as a storefront for Resource Centre, meeting space in back, and an office for the Presbytery secretary. A number of our committees have been meeting at 75 Blackfriars and they all need to find a place to go. **It was moved and seconded that we set up an Ad Hoc Committee to look into possibilities of a permanent home for Middlesex Presbytery. Carried**

There was some discussion about possible sites and ideas. Nancy Hind offered to be part of getting this ad hoc committee going, with power to add. It was suggested that executive members already have enough on their plates, so executive members are to contact Nancy with suggestions of who should serve, encouraging Presbytery Lay Representatives. It was suggested that we bring this to the Court.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. In closing, Edward read from "Paradox of Common Sense" and offered the closing prayer.

Chairperson
Edward Avey

Secretary
Nancy Hind