

MIDDLESEX PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE

The executive of Middlesex Presbytery met at the call of the chair on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, 1:00 p.m. at Rowntree Memorial United Church, London.

ATTENDANCE: Edward Avey, Gerald Drodge, Sheila Duffin, Richard Golden, Marilyn Hart, Nancy Hind, Val Hodgins, Jannie Law, Bill McAuslan, Heather McLean (London Conference staff person), Joyce Payne, Flora Rath, Gail Schnarr, Don Sutherland, Pam Tolmay, Jim Wilkie

Guest: Tracy Crick Butler, who entered the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

REGRETS: Hugh John Cook, Art Hiley, Tom Hiscock, David McKane, Trixie Usselman (excused)

OPENING AND CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING: At 1:07 p.m., acting chairperson Bill McAuslan 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."

WORSHIP led by Bill McAuslan.

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 April 5, 2011 be adopted as printed and circulated. Carried**

Concerning the March 1, 2011 minutes, Division of Finance and Administration, item 5, Val Hodgins reported that someone had thought she was questioning the amount of money allotted Rowntree from the sale of Robinson. To clarify, Val's questioning was about the Presbytery assessment allocation.

The incomplete, preliminary draft minutes of the Presbytery meeting of April 26, 2011 were received for information.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Received

- Mission and Service Fund 2012 Bulletin Sample Book – *Filed*
- From Trixie Usselman, for information from Ailsa Craig Pastoral Charge re: Pastoral Support Minister – *Read for information, Filed*

- From Tom Broadhurst, Information & Statistic Coordinator re: 2nd call for Pastoral Charges that haven't turned in the 2010 Statistical Forms as at May 2, 2011.
–*Secretary will follow up with those Pastoral Charges concerned.*

Sent: Nothing

ACTING CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Bill McAuslan suggested that there be an extra meeting of Presbytery in March because we haven't time to do the regular business with Camp Kee Mo Kee and the Corporation of the United Church Council annual meetings in February and April. Alternately, if we continue with the current process then we need to take a look at those particular Presbytery meetings and request that no reports be given just for information. We need to make some sort of policy around that, so we'd then have a chance to address items that come up from the floor.

During general discussion it was noted that there have been two attempts made in the last few years to have more meetings, and both have been defeated. We need to go back to the court again in June and say this is what we're missing by only meeting five times a year. Also pointed out that it is already hard enough to get Lay people to commit to the number of meetings we have now plus the expected committee work.

Suggested actions included that at Presbytery meetings, action items and motions which promote discussion have priority. Reports for information only are to be given only if there is time, but that they could table a written report to be available for information and distributed with the minutes. Committees within Division are to advise Division Chairs if they wish to be included in the Division's report.

This is an important issue that we need to deal with. Pam Tolmay will bring it up at Presbytery in September, and recruit people to help develop guidelines.

DIVISION REPORTS:

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATION: Art Hiley absent. No report.

RESOURCE CENTRE:

Marilyn Hart reported that they had \$600 in sales from the April Presbytery meeting, including donations received from "sales" of clearance items.

DIVISION OF MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND EDUCATION

Pastoral Relations:

Sheila Duffin reported: **Moved and seconded that Middlesex Presbytery appoint Val Hodgins and Elmore Hill as Pastoral Charge Supervisors of the Dundas Street Centre Pastoral Charge effective immediately, their duties being as outlined in Section 341 (b) 1. - v. of The United Church Manual (2010).**

Joyce Payne and Edward Avey were invited to leave the meeting during discussion because of conflicts of interest.

1:40 pm **Moved and seconded that we move in camera.**

1:54 pm **Moved and seconded to come out of camera.**

The motion was re-read and **Carried.**

Joyce Payne and Edward Avey returned to the meeting.

Moved and seconded that Rev. Sung Shim be retained on the roll of Middlesex Presbytery as available for call or appointment. Carried.

DIVISION OF MISSION IN CANADA:

Jannie Law had nothing new to report. Thanks were expressed to Jannie for her faithful service over the last 18 ½ yrs.

U.C.W. Flora Rath reported the Summer Event will be held July 16 at Siloam, with the theme "Go Make a Difference". The theme speaker is Rev. Heather Scott of Victoria Avenue in Chatham. The music workshop on "More Voices" will be led by Wendy Kempster and Rose Lester. Camp Kee Mo Kee day will be held on June 13, 2011 and the Fall Event is on October 29th at White Oaks United Church.

DIVISION OF WORLD OUTREACH: Pam Tolmay had nothing new to report.

STEWARDSHIP: Gail Schnarr had nothing new to report.

DIVISION OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Jim Wilkie reported on the following items for information:

1. Invoices from Doug Scott were \$2,357.35 for legal fees. This was approved for payment from budgeted funds.
2. Draft D of Wellington/Rowntree Amalgamation agreement was received and discussed. The Division hopes to have a final draft by the June executive.
3. Due to Conference's proposed change in assessment allocations to Presbyteries they discussed whether or not Middlesex Presbytery should change our method of allocating our assessments to the Pastoral Charges. Don Sutherland and Dorothy-Ann Foster are to report on this matter at their May 24th Division meeting and the Division hopes to make recommendations pertaining to this matter at the June meetings.

CHAIR-ELECT: Edward Avey reported that one of his hopes for the next year is that we include some French hymns at Presbytery meetings, as mandated by General Council.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Don Sutherland guided us through the financial reports as at April 30, 2011 (*attached Pages 2010-196 through 2010-199*) It was noted that Covenanting service offerings may have been higher than usual because a specific cause was inadvertently mentioned. This may have contributed to people giving more generously. It was **moved and seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.**

ORDER OF THE DAY at 2:22 P.M.

On behalf of the 75 Blackfriars Visioning Committee, Tracy Crick-Butler brought concerns about the Notice of Motion made at April 26, 2011 Presbytery meeting. Because of some requests for clarification raised at the workshop, there had been changes made to the original proposals. The wording displayed on the screen for the Notice of Motion at the meeting reflected these changes. While the *intent* of the Notice of Motion and the proposals within was unchanged, the actual wording was lost due to a computer glitch.

After lengthy discussion, offered wisdom on Bourinot's Rules of Order and a multitude of suggestions, it was decided that Tracy Crick-Butler will consult with the 75 Blackfriars Visioning Committee and with Heather McLean as to the Notice of Motion and the wording of the motion. Time will be made available for the committee on the June 14th agenda.

CARE AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Val Hodgins reported that they have received a request from Richards Memorial for application for National funding for supply while Janet Fradette is on sabbatical, so Care and Oversight Committee will look into that.

Wellington Street United is having their last service at 1:00 pm on Sunday, May 8 and needs a Presbytery representative to be present. Edward Avey will check if he can be available and advise Val Hodgins. Any others from Presbytery would be welcome to attend.

For information, Val asked what is the status or rationale or naming a Minister Emeritus? She has looked into the Manual but can't find anything so if anyone has or finds any wisdom on that, please let Val know.

LONDON CONFERENCE:

Heather McLean reminded us of the Ken Callahan Event, Unlocking Your Church's Future, "Engaging the Twelve Keys" on June 10th through 12th at the Best Western Stoneridge Inn in London. Details and registration can be found on the Conference web site.

A Discussion Paper has been distributed throughout London Conference and presbyteries and pastoral charges are encouraged to discuss these items so that delegates are prepared for discussion at the Annual Meeting of Conference. Time has been set aside for the whole court to discuss and make a decisions on several items. One item is whether to meet annually in the same place and another is the proposed new method for calculating the Conference assessments to presbyteries.

REPORT FROM CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE:

Bill McAuslan presented a review summary of Chaplaincy on the campus of the University of Western Ontario.

Areas of Concern:

- i. Isolation faced by incumbent UC Chaplain due to the mitigating factors
 1. Fractured nature of on Campus Chaplaincy Programs in General
 - a. Majority of Chaplains are housed in Denominational related situations in Affiliate colleges that are housed off campus, and due to the nature of their denominational linkage they relate to the on Campus programming in a very limited manner.
 - b. The other on campus chaplains are either part time or they are from groups who do not support developing a sense of collegiality from those who serve as chaplains on the campus
 - c. The chaplains as a group meet only once or twice a year to socialize and only meet in other configurations with other programming and support groups when there is mutual involvement
 - d. The nature of Chaplaincy training in general tends to attract and support introverts
 2. Isolation from other United Church Ministry Personnel
 - a. Ministry Personnel in general view themselves as a servant people and so they tend to not put a high value on their own need for personal and peer support initiatives which is necessary for someone working in a situation like that as United Church chaplain at UWO
 - b. We have not been able to establish an ongoing linkage with on campus United Church members who could potentially provide a more hands on and active support for the Chaplain and the Program
 - c. We have not been able to establish an ongoing congregational link that would be directly supportive of the UWO United Church Chaplain.
 - d. There is a natural disconnect between those involved in Campus related ministry and those involved in congregational based ministry.
 3. Isolation of the Chaplaincy committee from the actual working area and realities of the person doing the programming.

We looked at:

The Need for the Chaplaincy Program

- Need to have leadership and programming for young adults
- But what do we do about the lack of uptake by the United Churches and United Church Students
- Is that a project killer??

The Issue of Presbytery Uptake:

The lack of volunteer support for the committee makes its continued functioning problematic

The Issue of Funding Stability

One year of guaranteed funding makes it difficult to offer the position appointment in good faith

Is Presbytery the best place to House Program?

Already youth and young adult work going on
Already has Ministry and Personnel function
Already has Organizational function ADP
Already has Worship and congregational basis

Offers to fill in some of the weaknesses of its current model if we move it to a congregational based program

Revamp the Program to Include Presbytery –Youth Team

It would make this a very different program and we would have to worry about the lack of collegiality in the programming partnerships that are already going on

Conclusion:

Looking to explore the possibility of Partnership with congregations on this portfolio.
Letters to go to Riverside, Siloam, Metropolitan to gauge:

- Willingness to cooperate
- Be a part of the setting up, oversight,
- No particular personnel commitment

Letters sent out, and awaiting reply.

At 4:00 p.m. it was **moved and seconded to extend the meeting time. Carried.**

Because Bill McAuslan had to leave for an appointment, Val Hodgins assumed the Chair for the balance of the meeting. Pam Tolmay and Flora Rath also excused themselves.

WEB-SITE COMMITTEE

Edward Avey reported on progress to date. They have looked at various web-sites and decided what they thought would be good and/or useful for our site. A written report and a mock-up of what is being thought of as a home page, were handed out for discussion.

Moved and seconded that the Secretary send a letter on behalf of executive to Art Hiley, to retrieve the key access for the web site as soon as possible. Carried

Moved and seconded that we give our blessing to Edward Avey and Nancy Hind to proceed as outlined in their report as they continue their work and bring a further proposal to Presbytery in June. Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Moved and seconded that the Staff Support Committee be appointed for a one year term with Rev. Colin Zavitz as Chair, and members Rev. Charles Scott and Rev. Phil Newman. The Nominating Committee is directed to try to find a female member to serve. Carried**
2. Nominations were opened for a Middlesex Presbytery Representative to London Conference Executive (a three year term). Marilyn Hart nominated Joyce Payne,

seconded by Sheila Duffin. Concerns were raised about the work-load and the amount of time Joyce already gives to Presbytery, however it was also expressed that Joyce would do a good job. Joyce had already given this long, prayerful consideration and agreed to stand for nomination. There being no other nominations, it was **moved and seconded that nominations be closed and the vote was taken to elect Joyce Payne as Middlesex Presbytery's Representative to London Conference Executive. Carried.**

3. Concerning the Moderator's Visit to London (Middlesex & Elgin Presbyteries) on Thursday, October 20th, arrangements need to be made. Possibilities include a welcoming breakfast, presentation on greening projects, etc. Matthew Penny would like to interview Mardi for "Life and Faith" TV show. Val Hodgins volunteered to talk with Elgin Presbytery to co-ordinate plans and then talk to Conference about what plans are in mind.
4. Concerning the "Discussion Paper on Conference Ministry, Annual Meetings and Ministry Funding (May 2011)" (*attached Page 2010-200 through 2010-204*), it was decided that in the interest of time, we'll discuss it on the bus on the way to Sault Ste. Marie.
5. Concerning the secretary's questioning about the need for Expense Vouchers for direct-to-Presbytery invoices already approved by Presbytery, Don Sutherland suggested that we talk with Tom Hiscock, as he was the person who brought this process into place. It was explained that this procedure takes the pressure off the treasurer to ensure that expenses have been approved. The secretary was satisfied with this explanation.
6. The secretary is seeking permission to include phone numbers, addresses and/or e-mail addresses of executive members in an Information Booklet of Executive, Divisions, Committees, etc. Contact information of members would not be included. It was decided to invite those on executive to indicate to Nancy Hind whether their contact information may be included in the booklet. Nancy will follow up with those that were not in attendance at this point in the meeting.
7. Concerning Archives, Edward Avey presented the following motion, which was seconded **that the records of Middlesex Presbytery older than five years are to be transferred to the Central Conference Archives in accordance with the Archives Policies as outline in "Archives and Record Kepping, A How-to Guide for Congregations and Conferences" and/or in consultation with the Central Conference Archivist, and that a sum of.\$400 be allocated for supplies and shipping and such other expenses as may be encountered. Carried** For information, Edward gave us a listing of what records should be transferred to the Archives and what should not.

8. Don Sutherland presented as an FYI, a memo and rough calculations on what presbytery assessments might be if we used the same formula as being considered by Conference. The Division of Finance and Administration will be reporting further on this at June's Executive Presbytery meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 4:56 p.m.

Acting Chairperson, prior to 4:00 p.m.
Bill McAuslan

Secretary
Nancy Hind

Acting Chairperson, after 4:00 p.m.
Val Hodgins