

**PNMC Board Meeting  
Peace Mennonite Church  
Saturday, November 03, 2007  
8:30 am – 3:30 pm**

**Present:** Charlotte Hardt, Dave Hockman-Wert, Duncan Smith, Sheldon Burkhalter, Don Bacher, Diane Isaak, Mary Stutzman, Simon Rendon, Terry Rediger, Angela Nissly, Linda Dibble, Jeanne Rempel, Wendell Amstutz and Pedro Olvera

The meeting was opened with singing led by Don Bacher, and devotions led by Charlotte Hardt.

Current Board members and new Operations Team members were introduced.

**Agenda review and Approval**

The agenda was reviewed and one item, review/approval of September Board Minutes, was added.

**Review of September Board Minutes**

Two items were pointed out in the minutes that needed clarification and/or correction. These items will be corrected. (Health insurance on page 3; PLC committee report/Anabaptist, Mennonite history and theology.)

**2008 Annual Conference in Idaho**

The dates for the 2008 annual conference are June 27-29, 2008 with the pastor and spouse dinner on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The speaker, Nelson Kraybill, has been confirmed.

Sheldon Burkhalter reported that the Idaho pastor cluster has met and discussed hosting the 2008 annual conference. Current plans are to meet at the Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) campus. We will be able to use the dorms, dining hall, and meeting rooms. NNU is offering their facilities at a very reasonable price. The pastor cluster is encouraging the Board to get the local arrangements chair elected. The Board then discussed possibilities of people to ask. Those suggested included Russ and Janet Buschert, Jim and Karen Shelley, Leonard Nolt. Diane Isaak has offered to serve as co-chair of the local arrangements committee.

Since the 3 churches in the Treasure Valley will be the hosts, it was decided that the name of the annual meeting would be "Treasure Valley 08." The theme was then discussed and it was suggested we use II Corinthians 4:7 which talks about treasures in clay vessels.

Program Committee Chair – After discussion and suggestions of people to ask, it was the consensus of the Board to ask Audrey Lowen (has SVTF, Operations Team connection) and Angela Nissly to co-chair the Program Planning Committee. Simon Rendon will go to CIHAN with a request for representation on the committee. Discussion followed on the program (worship, seminars, youth, children). It was suggested that the children and youth activities be under the Local Arrangements Committee.

**Financial Report**

Don Bacher presented the budget report and balance sheet. There is continued concern on the income side – the amount received from churches so far is 28% and should be 33% at this point in the year. (The difference is due to individual churches giving cycle). The bottom line total income is at 25%. Sheldon

reported that The River church would like to be added and are prepared for giving. Simon reported that Cristo Tu Unica Esperanza should be removed from the list, as they are no longer a church. One item was pointed out on the Balance Sheet – Portland Mennonite has given \$2,500 to the insurance sharing fund.

Finance Team – A Finance Team is now in place with members Don Bacher, Lynn Rush (Portland), and Randy Friesen (Eugene).

Insurance Committee Update – The committee has not met for a while. Don has been working with the West Coast MMA representative. There are significant medical expenses from Victor Vargas and Samuel Moran. It was determined that we should provide them with \$1,000 each towards their medical expenses. Checks have been sent to them (thru their churches) and have been working with the West Coast MMA representative on matching. They are still working on additional funding for each – both could receive an additional \$1,000 for a total of \$2,500 (includes \$500 match from MMA). The Board requested that the Insurance Committee establish policies/guidelines on insurance sharing fund and report at the next Operations Team meeting.

Proceeds from Annual Conference – Proceeds totaled \$10,429 (\$2,531 from offerings – most people expect offerings to go towards operations of conference). So the question remains of what to do with the approximately \$8,000 left over. Should it go towards the deficit balance or the assistance fund? After discussion, the following motion was made: ***Give \$1,000 towards the annual conference assistance fund, and remaining balance to go towards the general operations budget.*** Motion was seconded and passed.

### **Website Update**

The website is up and operational. John Gingerich has done an exceptional job of redesigning and updating. The PNMC office recently received a request from BC to post job announcements on our website. Do we want to have an announcements link? And how far afield do we go with announcements?

Translation for website – would be very helpful and beneficial to have a link to CIHAN. Charlotte requested that Wendell and/or Pedro take the request back to CIHAN for suggestions of how translation of the website could be done.

### **Conference Minister Reports**

Sheldon Burkhalter distributed his written report and briefly reviewed some of the items, highlighting that Filer has a new interim pastor; there is a pastoral change at Logsdon and the church has called an interim pastor and is in the process of calling a long-term pastor; The River had to move to a new location, and now is in the old stone church.

Sheldon also shared that he talked to the Executive Committee about his sabbatical plans – possibly late January for 4 months, or split the time.

Duncan Smith highlighted several items from his submitted report, including Jack Knox and Jeryl Hollinger have returned from their sabbaticals; the Bethel Congolese congregation is really growing and Steve Kimes and Duncan have been working with that pastor and is on route for credentialing; Iglesia Menonita Pentecostes congregation is in process with their “huge” vision of building a new building; Gary Clelland has been called as permanent pastor at Peace; Gary Jewell is serving as interim pastor at Spring Valley.

Victor Vargas was not present to report but did have a written report submitted.

Terry Rediger offered a prayer of blessing for our Conference Ministers.

### **Committee Reports**

Simon Rendon returned from Northwest Mexico on November 1 and distributed and reviewed his written report. It was an energizing month filled with visits of NW Mexico conference leaders and many services full of healing and praising God.

#### Pastoral Leadership Committee

Terry Rediger reviewed the submitted report, highlighting the ongoing challenge and interview process of non-Mennonite candidates. The committee recently interviewed Rose Barber (Eugene) for credentialing.

Changes on committee – losing Wendell Amstutz to the Operations Team; gaining Linda Nafziger-Meiser as a member.

The PLC is concerned that with Duncan leaving in June, will his churches have a Conference Minister to look after them? PLC would like the new Operations Team to make this a priority to have someone cover those responsibilities. Another concern is that Wendell was the Hispanic churches representative on the PLC. With him now leaving, they would like to encourage the OT to work with the Hispanic churches to bring someone new on to PLC. Simon will talk to CIHAN to see what they have in mind for PLC representation.

PLC has been trying to promote and develop further dialog with Weldon Nisly. Nothing much has happened lately. PLC will take responsibility of implementing dialog with Weldon and it was recommended Duncan and Wendell lead this process.

#### Peace and Justice Committee

No written report. Angela reported that a meeting is scheduled for the first week of December.

#### Congregational Nurture Committee

Sheldon reported that this committee has not had contact since the last meeting. He continues to be in touch with and support Judy and Jill.

#### CIHAN

Simon reviewed Samuel's report. Wendell shared further on the immigration workshop/weekend. There was good participation at each site with many questions.

#### Western Mennonite School

Linda Dibble reported that WMS had their fall spiritual life week this last week and they have also decided to have a disciple week. The Board is meeting with J. David Yoder on how to set goals, visioning. They request prayer for selling the house that was built and are in construction on a new Academic Center.

### **Commissioning of Operations Team**

Duncan led the group in a commissioning service of the new Operations Team.

## **Transition Team Update**

Dave Hockman-Wert reported that since their last meeting in September, the main task has been to appoint the Operations Team (new Board). This has happened, but there is still one position to be filled, plus the Secretary (which will be a non-Board position in the new Board). The Operations Team Board member should be from Idaho to have equal representation, but the Secretary position could be from anywhere.

Current members include Charlotte Hardt (Moderator), Dave Hockman-Wert (Moderator-Elect), Linda Dibble (incoming Moderator-Elect), Wendell Amstutz, Pedro Olvera, Jeanne Rempel, Audrey Lowen, and Brad Roth (TBD). The Treasurer and Secretary are not Board positions but will continue to serve. Don Bacher will continue as Treasurer, but the Secretary position will need to be filled as of June 2008. The Transition Team has been developing working teams. The Personnel Team will be chaired by Linda Dibble with members Audrey Lowen, Don Bacher, Duncan Smith, Pedro Olvera, Charlotte Derksen, Gilberto Flores, and Rod Stafford. They are working on a job description for the Conference Executive and setting up a hiring process (all being reviewed by Operations Team and Board).

The Bylaws Team is led by Harold Nussbaum and includes Cleon Claassen, Patricia Senner, and Ed Miller.

The Passion-Based Ministries sub-committee has not met yet. They need to clarify the leadership. Members include Ed Miller, Duncan Smith, Simon Rendon, and Angela Nissly. They are working at fleshing out what the structure and connection of passion-based ministries to conference will be.

Capacity Building – this is moving slowly. Cleon has contacted Cecil Miller, who is considering our invitation.

Faith and Practice Group – met a couple times this fall. Things are moving slowly but they are planning events for spring 2008.

The transition document was reviewed. The Transition Team is a working group that will be generating documents, forming working groups and supplying information to the Operations Team.

Where is CIHAN in all of the new structure? Possibly a team within PNMC? It should not just be Hispanic but all ethnic groups in PNMC. CIHAN doesn't want to be seen as a passion-based ministry but part of the core of PNMC.

Future Operations Team Meetings

Dates identified for future meetings are January 5, 2008 and April 12, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Isaak  
PNMC Secretary