

Board of Directors PNMC August 20, 2011 – Portland Mennonite Church

Board Members Present: Jerry Barkman, Linda Dibble, Jeryl Hollinger, Harold Nussbaum, Jennifer Sottolano, Jack Swaim

Staff Present: Barb Buxman, Iris de León-Hartshorn, Dave Stutzman

Absent: Mario Bautista, Charlotte Derksen, Isaac Hooley, Joseph Penner

Welcome – Linda

1. Dwelling in the Word – Iris led the group focusing on Phil 1:12-18
--Time of Prayer for: Isaac & Emily, Charlotte, Jim & Mary Wenger, Board discussions for the day.
2. Consent agenda and Minutes – Financial reports added to agenda, minutes approved
3. Iris reviewed her written report- discussion followed about Teams and their function
 - a. Pastoral Leadership Team – Credentialing/ordination is for life and is for the denomination not just for the local church. Iris encouraged the board to be in touch with credentialing process and support from the board for the ECM if issues arise.
 - b. Theological Education Team – still is not functioning. Leadership is needed to get moving. Their task is to provide credentialing classes and also to help with Training Courses at Annual Meeting
 - c. Communications Team – This is basically a non-functioning team. It needs to include people other than staff who know how to access and distribute media coverage.
 - d. Policy states that Teams are accountable to the ECM

Iris expressed bittersweet emotions with this change. She has enjoyed being ECM for PNMC.

Board members expressed appreciation for Iris' work these last two years and the term "miracle worker" came up. Iris has helped PNMC get to the place we wanted to be.

The Board members participated in a prayer time for Iris and her new role. One of her next challenging tasks will be to come up with different scenarios for MC USA and the Phoenix convention. A gift certificate was given to Iris for 2 nights at the Coast in appreciation for her contributions to PNMC.

BREAK

4. Lucy & Simon Muange joined the board for a discussion about International Bethel City Church (Bethel) and the Sanctuary property
 - a. Simon shared a part of his history and vision
 - b. The working relationship between Anawim and Bethel was discussed and some clarification of previous miscommunications.
 - c. Board is still working with the original proposal from Anawim and Bethel that they jointly work toward purchase of the property. The board has just now appointed a Property Management Leader in Jim Wenger. Hopefully the Property Management Team (PMT) can begin to work at the task given to them from the Task Force.
 - d. Details were clarified as to what the board expects
 - i. The PMT guides Anawim and Bethel to 501 c 3 status.
 - ii. Establish a Board of Directors
 - iii. Work on a common vision for the property--how does the plan become sustainable 10 – 15 years from now
 - e. Options
 - i. Corporation of both groups – purchase the property together
 - ii. Bethel purchase – rents to Anawim OR Anawim purchase and rent to Bethel
 - iii. PNMC sells the property and gives some money to Bethel and Anawim. (Neither group is interested in this option)
 - iv. PNMC can continue owning the property and rent to the two churches. (This is the default option)
 - f. The board agreed that if Bethel does any fund raising, PNMC name can be used in advertising
 - g. Linda thanked Simon and Lucy for coming and sharing their vision with the board.

5. Board Processing what we heard:
 - a. The board agreed that selling the property at market value to Anawim and Bethel is unrealistic
 - b. Conflicting vision for the property with the two groups will bring challenges.
 - c. The board is interested in nurturing both groups in their journeys.
 - d. Generally a shared vision brings groups together to purchase property. The shared Mennonite connection and the history of shared possession of the property seems to be what holds these two groups together.
 - e. Perhaps letting the PMT manage the property for a year will give clarity for future direction.
 - f. Jim Wenger has been appointed leader of the PMT.

LUNCH

6. Parsonage sale – has sold for \$155,000. Will close in Sept. What to do with proceeds:

- a. Loan will need to be paid – Balance \$30,000 plus interest.
 - b. Reimburse PNMC for expenses incurred
 - c. Will set up property reserve account/revolving fund
7. Annual Meeting – June 21-23, 2012
- a. Pastor spouse dinner June 21. In the past the board in part sponsors the dinner – board members help pay for it.
 - b. Delegate meetings – June 22-23 – probably Moses Lake
 - i. Menno and Warden will work together
 - ii. Need a program chair – Evergreen was suggested. Iris will talk with Jeanne Rempel
 - iii. Shawna Yoder will lead local arrangements committee
 - iv. Ervin Stutzman (speaker) is working with Linda on his theme and will send a scripture
8. Finance Report – Harold
- a. Guideline for giving - MC USA – suggests 18% of local church budget should be toward missions, PNMC, MC USA
 - b. The last couple of years the Treasurer has asked congregations what they plan to give the next year.
 - c. Next year budget consideration – our biggest ongoing expense is hiring of ECM. Our goal is to find a responsible budget that balances.
9. By-Laws/Articles of Incorporation Discussion
- a. In preparation for application for 501 c 3 we need to update our existing by-laws
 - b. Jerry will review both documents and come to Nov. meeting with suggestions for updates
 - c. Linda suggests that these documents be before the board yearly. She will bring the discussion to the Annual Retreat.
10. Board retreat – Nancy Kauffman will be facilitator for our retreat Sept. 16-17, 2011. Arrangements have been made at Hyatt Place at Cascade Station in Portland. Please read chapters 1 and 2 of the book “Strengthening the Soul of your Leadership”.
- a. Agenda items:
 - i. By-laws/Articles of Incorporation
 - ii. brainstorming
 - iii. looking to the future
 - b. Jerry will be unable to attend due to a planned surgery
11. Future meeting dates were adjusted to consider other conflicts: Barb will check with Portland Mennonite for availability.
- a. Sept. 16-17, 2011 – Hyatt Place, Cascade Station – Retreat
 - b. Nov. 12, 2011 – Portland Mennonite Church

- c. January 14, 2012 – Portland Mennonite Church
- d. March 17, 2012 – Portland Mennonite Church
- e. April 14, 2012 – Portland Mennonite Church
- f. June 2, 2012 – Portland Mennonite Church

12. Communications Coordinator – Brenda Kauffman – began August 15.
Seems like it will be a smooth transition.

13. Search Committee update – met by phone with Nancy Kauffman (via phone) Jeryl, Linda, Charlotte, Jeanne, Don Bacher, Lynn Miller – Barb took minutes.

- a. Finalized the job description, posted in the Mennonite, Mennonite Weekly and electronically
- b. Anyone having names to suggest, send names to Jeryl, he will compile them before sending list to Nancy
- c. Dave Hockman-Wert may have suggestions. Duncan Smith may also have some ideas as he is on the Gifts Discernment Team for MC USA.

14. Dave's report:

- a. Main work is with District Pastors – had planned a trip to Idaho previously – so met with DP's in WA and ID.
- b. Preparation for Pastor/spouse retreat – Oct. 3-5 working with Wendell Amstutz to find a way to include Hispanic pastors and spouses.
- c. Steep learning curve.
- d. How would you gauge the DP role? Most have questions and wonderings, yet feeling like they are making connections. Do need to keep finding ways to develop the position. I've encouraged including spouses. Spouses are often in difficult position in the church. Urging DP's to meet with Pastor and Spouse.
- e. Last two years DP's met in January. The plan is to continue this annual meeting
- f. Safe Sanctuaries – Avoiding Sexual Misconduct – another training time for Pastors. February 17-18, 2012. At Zion

In closing Jerry read Ephesians 3:20 as a prayer.

Minutes Documented by:
Barb Buxman