

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference
PNMC Board Meeting Minutes
February 1 – 2, 2020, Portland

SATURDAY

Saturday, February 1:
(9 am – 5 pm)

The board attended the PNMC Conference
Communications Council (CCC) meeting at Portland
Mennonite Church

Saturday, February 1
(6 pm – 8 pm)

The PNMC Board met at Elmer's for supper and a
meeting. This is the restaurant next door to the Pony
Soldier

Present: Jeryl Hollinger, Dianna Eshleman, Twila Lehman, Dave Hockman-Wert, Gary Martin, Janet Szabo, Jan Yoder, Leonard Nolt, Barb Buxman

Absent: Nellie Moran-Ascencio, Katherine Jameson Pitts

SATURDAY EVENING

Jeryl opened in prayer at 6:10 p.m.

The minutes of the December 12, 2019, Board phone meeting were approved.

CCC debriefing

- May be a need for clarification (to the congregations) of the purpose of the investment funds and that PNMC continues to review the thought and purpose of the funds.
- Need for better bilingual conversation among table groups. Considering our intercultural training and awareness, how are we doing? Conversation needs to be ongoing.

Reports

1. Executive Conference Minister Report (Katherine sent previously)

Feedback for Katherine regarding the annual meeting in Seattle in June 2020:

Let's support Seattle and share the planning and details. We realize that it will be more expensive for many. The Board supports subsidizing cost of registration up to \$5,000. Recommending that we have a budget line item for this added to the 20-21 budget.

Janet moved and Gary seconded this motion.

MOTION: The Board supports Katherine and Seattle Mennonite with planning and details and gives Katherine latitude with financial assistance and planning to make it easier for people to attend Conference. We support Katherine's recommendation for a Friday morning start. **MOTION PASSED.**

2. Treasurer's Report (Dave)

Handed out Budget vs. Actuals FY2020 and Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2020

Balance sheet: Money Market accounts are larger due to Stock Market

Healthy Congregations Grant Fund balance is \$37,362.61

Seed Northwest balance is \$80,500.83 and is not being used.

Total Liability and Equity is \$1,188,082.52

Budget vs. Actuals: Member church contributions are declining but are still overbudget for this year by \$2,000.

Investment funds did well \$39,668.

Travel costs are below budget this year.

Net Operating Income still positive \$8,472.26.

3. CIHAN Report (Nelly)

Nelly was unable to attend and sent a report. (See written report).

Iglesia Menonita Roca De Salvación has concluded that they will no longer have their own services on Sunday Afternoons nor Sunday School. They will join with Calvary in worship. However, they will continue to have their services on Friday nights.

4. Moderator Report (Jeryl)

CLC: Will be discussing the *Membership Guidelines* at the next CLC meeting.

Board member slot: Contact Seattle and ask them to suggest someone to be on the PNMC Board. Jennifer Delanty was suggested as the contact person for Seattle Mennonite.

Gift Discernment Team: Finance Team and positions to fill for Annual meeting slate. We need to have a moderator-elect this year. Please give suggestions to Dianna, Jeryl, or Katherine.

The Gift Discernment Team is offering these names for the Finance Team (in this order):

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|----|----------|
| 1 | Brett Tieszen | 2. | Jack |
| 3 | Ron Hershey | 4. | Lin Rush |

(Janet Szabo has agreed to be the board member on the team and lead it. David Hockman-Wert, our treasurer, will also be on the finance team. The policy calls for the board naming 1 or 2 others to the team upon recommendation from the Gift Discernment Team.)

MOTION: Dianna moved, and Jan seconded to approve the names for the Finance Team.
MOTION PASSED.

SUNDAY BOARD MEETING

The board convened at Dianna Eshleman's home

1. Gathering/Opening (Jeryl)

Jeryl opened the meeting with prayer at 10:15 a.m.

2. 2020-2021 Budget - Dave

Dave handed out the proposed 20-21 budget. Congregational giving budget adjusted based on previous giving and suggested 6% of church budget to be given to PNMC.

Interest/Dividend/Investment budget is increased due to stock market gains projected.

Slight increase in district pastor stipends. Increased translation services. Adjusted budget items slightly () based on actuals from last year.

Add Annual Meeting Travel Line of \$5,000 for total Annual Conference Expense of \$12,000.

The proposed overall net income would be \$5,170.

MOTION: Dianna moved, and Janet seconded to pass the proposed 20-21 Budget as presented. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. ECM sabbatical planning

Katherine is due a sabbatical and is scheduling it beginning in July and continuing into the first part of September (2020.) How do we address covering ECM work during that time? We will suggest district pastors cover during her absence which is nothing new; however, communicating that will be important. We appreciate that Katherine is taking her sabbatical during what is "usually" a slower time in the life of the church.

4. MC USA Membership guidelines

"Report from the Advisory Group on Mennonite Church USA Membership Guidelines" was recently released. It will probably be on the agenda at the CLC meeting. Katherine, Jeryl & Dianna will attend in March. This will go to the MCUSA Executive Board for their review.

5. Thriving Congregations Initiative (Lilly Endowment)

Is this something we want to promote to congregations or PNMC? How do we address the needs of "Mennonite Refugees"? There is a lengthy RFP and a short turnaround time. It does help us brainstorm ideas but seems larger than what we can do as a Board.

Working Lunch at Dianna's home.

Policies

- A. **Update board books (Barb)** Barb passed out updated sheets to put into our notebooks.
- B. **Board process and performance (Dianna)**
Self-evaluation policy and form were discussed. Dianna is presenting a proposed **Policy** for PNMC Board of Directors' Self-Evaluation Procedure. She also submitted a **Self-Evaluation Form** to use. Diana will work with input from Jeryl to revise the form to reflect the Proposed Policy. She will bring the revised Self-Evaluation Form to the next Board meeting.
- C. **Inter-Congregational Relationships Procedure Draft (Jeryl)**
Jeryl brought a **Draft document** for discussion. There is support for this document. It creates a positive role for PNMC and inter-congregational relationships. PNMC is there for supporting, not disciplining or taking "sides." This would fall under "Executive Conference Minister Limitations 4.1." We will discuss and take action at the next Board meeting.
- D. **Ethics & confidentiality (Leonard)**
Leonard will look over current policy and see if there is anything else to add and create a procedure for annual review of the policy and signing conflict of interest and confidentiality statements and will bring it back to the next Board meeting
- E. **Digital communications and security (Katherine)**
Need to look at a policy for keeping digital communication secure in public spaces. Options were talked about. Katherine and Barb will keep working on this.
- F. **Record retention (Katherine)** – Did not discuss.

Other

Next meeting: May 16, 2020, in Kalispell for an all-day Saturday meeting.

Evaluation discussion & forms of our board meeting were filled out and returned to Jeryl.

Jeryl adjourned the meeting with prayer at 2:20 p.m.

Submitted by Twila Lehman
PNMC Secretary