

Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference
PNMC Board Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2020, via ZOOM
8:30-10 a.m. PST

Present:, Dianna Eshleman (Moderator), Kevin Chupp (Moderator-Elect), Katherine Jameson Pitts (ECM), Twila Lehman (Secretary), Dave Hockman-Wert (Treasurer), Jan Yoder (At-Large), Leonard Nolt (At-Large), Barb Buxman (Administrative Assistant), Deren Kellogg (Appointed), Megan Ramer (At Large), Kiara Yoder (At Large), Jeryl Hollinger (Past Moderator), Nellie Moran-Ascencio, (CIHAN Moderator)

Welcome and Opening

Dianna opened in prayer at 8:35 a.m. PST. This meeting is a short meeting between our regularly scheduled meetings to give an update on the following items:

1. Executive Conference Minister Evaluation - Dianna

Katherine's evaluation is complete. Survey results unanimously recommended that she continue in her role as Executive Conference Minister. The summary of survey information will be shared by Dianna with Katherine on October 26, along with discussion of her Self-Evaluation. After this, the Board will receive both documents for review and acceptance by email. The Board will be asked to affirm a motion **to accept the two reports and direct the Finance Team to process a renewed Covenant of Agreement recommendation that integrates Katherine's stated desires, budget considerations and the current MC USA salary guidelines, as appropriate.** Leonard Nolt is working on updating Board policy to clarify the ability to do electronic voting on actionable motions.

2. PNMC Board Antiracism Work Timeline Proposal for 2020-2021 – Katherine

The Board discussed the proposal sent out earlier. **MOTION:** Megan moved and Deren seconded that we accept the Antiracism Work Proposal. **MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION: Megan moved and Deren seconded that we make the **Widerstand Training** (video modules) available to the congregations and that PNMC help financially support the cost of the videos. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. Reporting on the recent CLC meeting discussion on the resolution of "Retirement of the Membership Guidelines of Mennonite Church USA."

Kevin Chupp shared a summary of the two-day CLC meeting. The final resolution (we discussed the draft) is to be brought before the MC USA delegate body at the 2021 Convention in Cincinnati. The draft Resolution acknowledges current practices do not align with the existing MC USA Membership Guidelines, adopted in 2001 and updated in 2013, and recommends retiring this MC USA Membership Guideline. The Board had a lengthy discussion of this and the impact it may have on area conferences. Basically, the Resolution changes the hierarchy of power discussion for Membership guidelines by moving it from MC USA to the individual conferences and congregations. The decision-making authority as outlined in the Bylaws of Mennonite church USA is unchanged. All were in agreement that whatever the outcome, it will be painful for many congregations. We affirm the direction, lament the division it may cause, and celebrate the direction forward.

Katherine closed the meeting with a sending prayer at 10 a.m.

Next Meeting: Saturday, November 21, 2020 – PNMC regularly scheduled Board meeting (8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) via ZOOM.

Meeting adjourned 10 a.m.

Submitted by Twila Lehman
PNMC Secretary