

MINUTES

Standing Committee on Mission Coordination and Administration

Friday, April 23, 2010

ATTENDANCE

Millie Hankla	MaryMarg Karty	Harriet Wilkins
Julio Pena	Nate Rush	Marta Kramer
Cindy Bean, SC Pro Tem	Eddie Knox, Synod Moderator	
Dave Crittenden, staff	Jan Wilkerson, moderator	Judy Lucas, secretary

Jan asked Harriet Wilkins to open the meeting with prayer at 1:10 pm.

INTRODUCTIONS

Jan asked each person to say who they are and what they do.

Jan asked for a motion to approve the Agenda as distributed. **M/S/P**

Jan asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the January 23, 2010 meeting as distributed.
M/S/P

NEW BUSINESS

July Synod Meeting Theme - Rejoicing our Togetherness with our Presbyteries.

Susan McGhee, OHV; Jeff Hutcheson, SEI; and Alan Thames, WWV; the newbys, as Carol and David call them, will be leading worship. Dave and Carol will handle the invitations to all the Executive/General Presbyters. Learning time will include how we are working together and what do the presbyteries want from the Synod and staff. Dave will encourage their involvement with the Standing Committees.

REPORTS

Budget 2010 and appointing 2011 Budget Work Group – Dave Crittenden

The committee looked over and discussed the Statement of Financial Position and the Detailed Statement of Activities and they will be included as attachments to the minutes of the Synod. MaryMarg Karty, Jack Wilson, and Laurie Williams have volunteered to be on the 2011 Budget Work Group.

Communications and Subcommittee for Communications – Marta Kramer

Marta and Nate Rush comprise the subcommittee on communications at the present time. They are looking for additional members with news writing, design and marketing skills. The ideal subcommittee would be six (6) to eight (8) members strong. The subcommittee would like to provide learning opportunities for people who work in the communications field for their church or presbytery. The subcommittee hopes to formulate a network of these folks where we could build a community of communicators. One way build this community is to hook our communicators in with the denominations network – two (2) opportunities are available: Presbyterian Communicators Network regional conferences will be held in October and our Standing Committee could provide scholarships for those wanting to attend.

Matt Carlisle, retired Methodist, is providing workshops for communicators to improve networks and social networking (twitter, facebook). He is looking for co-sponsors to hold a workshop in the Chicago area. He would provide leaders for hands on training. Dave Crittenden and Eddie Knox will check with Chicago Presbytery for interest and possibilities. This event would not only be for

Presbyterians, but would include all denominations. Marta would like for the Standing Committee to earmark some of the Communications budget for this event.

ACTION: Nate moves to give Marta authorization to explore venues and to set up this workshop event using the Communications budget. **M/S/P**

ACTION: Harriet Wilkins moves that we authorize Marta Kramer to use up to \$3,000 from the Communicators budget for half scholarships for people from Lincoln Trails to attend one of the regional Presbyterian Communicators Network Conferences in October. **M/S/P**

Covenant Meeting – Nate Rush

Nate reported on a meeting he hosted regarding Blackburn College and its covenant with the Synod of Lincoln Trails. Blackburn is very intent to have a working covenant. Covenant would look different for each level: congregation, presbytery, and synod. Great Rivers has three Presbyterian Colleges within their bounds. A more ecumenical approach is needed, only 2% of college campus is Presbyterian – over half are Catholic. The church needs to help the colleges communicate with that population comprised of 18 – 25 years of age. Dave and Nick Shargo represented the Synod at this meeting.

Jan asked Moderator Knox for any comments to the Committee. Eddie thanked the committee for its work and asks for prayers for Midwest Hanmi Presbytery and for continued good work for all in the Synod.

Report to the Standing Committee on Mission Coordination and Administration from the Congregational Development Subcommittee

The subcommittee met on February 11, 2010 at Christ Church in Winfield, Indiana, a recipient of funds from Wabash Valley Presbytery, the Synod of Lincoln Trails and the General Assembly Mission Council under the old grant system. There was a good representation present.

The focus of our meeting was on the **NEW APPLICATION PROCESS**. Of course with new items/processes come questions regarding efficacy. Therefore, it is of the essence that the subcommittee will establish clarity and then make the acquired information available for our Presbyteries (to be communicated and disseminated accordingly).

The committee determined some immediate things to do that will assist in establishing clarity. The list of common concerns follows: **1)** What will be considered an attractive project and what are recommendations for reporting?; **2)** What is the time frame for submitting the project proposals?; **3)** To what extent will Racial Ethnic Ministries/Projects be considered specialized ministries, requiring pairing of predetermined specifications for the project. Will there be other grant monies set aside for support?; and **4)** How can the subcommittee assist new projects to the extent of helping them remain alive and healthy?

The subcommittee embraced the common concern regarding sustainability (of new projects) and building a support system within the Synod that would be filtered to leaders within the churches.

Our next meeting will be April 29, 2010.

Report to the Standing Committee on Mission Coordination and Administration from the Leadership Development Fund Subcommittee

The subcommittee met at Eastland Suites Hotel & Conference Center in Urbana, IL on April 22, 2010.

Present: Jack Wilson, Standing Committee on Mission Coordination member (Moderator); Jennifer Burns Lewis, Board of Directors member; Jan Wilkerson, member at large; Gene Miller, member at large; Laura Johnston, Standing Committee on Leadership Development member; Dave Crittenden, staff.

Jack opened with prayer. The subcommittee introduced themselves to each other. We claim our purpose as developing guidelines and setting criteria for the application and awarding of grants funded by the endowment as outlined in the Synod Minutes July 21, 2006.

The subcommittee affirms the goal of the fund from the Synod minutes of April 28, 2006: to support the priorities of pastoral support and nurture, training of key presbytery leaders, synodwide leadership events, and youth development.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The subcommittee recommends that the Leadership Development Fund to administered by the Standing Committee on Leadership Development using the priorities of their Standing Committee for new or emerging initiatives or the enhancement of existing initiatives.
2. The subcommittee further recommends that with the approval of first recommendation the Leadership Development Fund Subcommittee be dissolved.

Jennifer Burns Lewis closed the meeting with prayer.

ACTION: Nate Rush moved to accept the report and the recommendations and to send the recommendations to the Synod. **M/S/P**

OTHER BUSINESS AND CONCERNS

Marta asked Jan to request the Synod in her report for any volunteers with expertise and interest in communications to be in touch with the Synod for inclusion on the Communications subcommittee.

The synopsis of the Synod meeting will be sent directly to the presbyteries for inclusion in any paperwork or packets for their Presbytery meetings.

Jan adjourned the meeting with prayer led by Nate Rush at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Lucas
Executive Assistant/Secretary to the Standing Committee on Mission Coordination & Administration