

**NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WHITTEMORE ROOM, CONFERENCE CENTER
November 12, 2016**

Present: Rev. Dawn Berry, Neal Cass, Brian Edwards, John Herbert, Rev. Paula Gile, Kenneth Gould, Rev. Carolyn Keilig, Philip Kimball, Rev. Edward Koonz, Rev. Stacey Kullgren, Rev. Richard Leavitt, Marcie Miller, Rev. Gary Schulte, Laura Sevigny, and Rev. Martell Spagnolo.

Missed: Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, William McIntyre (present for morning worship and orientation)

Rev. Martell Spagnolo led us in a meaningful service of worship with Communion followed by a community building activity. The Rev. Gary Schulte explained aspects of the Conference structure, budget, and resource information for the Board and Ministry members. We broke for lunch with ministries meeting together.

President Neal Cass convened the Board of Director's meeting at 12:45 p.m. Laura Sevigny was welcomed to the BOD, the agenda was accepted, and the minutes of the September 17th BOD meeting were approved.

Annual Meeting Review

Consensus was that Annual meeting was excellent and the BOD responded favorably to the theme, keynote, worship, Conference Minister's address, and the business meeting. The presentation of the mission income and spending plan was recognized for the clarity of the presentation and work with the ministries and webinar prior to Annual Meeting. Lunch time, in regard to the box lunches, cramped spaces, and eating from our laps while meeting in workshops, received the most negative feedback from the evaluations and the BOD. Grappone Center was not easy to work with this year. It is recognized that we are not bringing them the revenue without the meal plans we had in the past. Alternative venues that are accessible, offering whole group meeting with breakout rooms in a certain budget range are not easy to find.

Marcie Miller moved and Martell Spagnolo seconded the motion to accept the Annual Meeting minutes as written. The motion carried.

The formation of a Capital Campaign Committee was fully endorsed by the BOD with names presented at the January meeting.

Conference Minister's Report – Rev. Gary Schulte – full text on BOD page

Referencing his printed report, Gary noted that hiring Ann Desrochers as Office Manager and CE Consultant has been very helpful because of her knowledge of the Conference already as CE Consultant and her technical abilities.

The search for an Acting Director of Outdoor Ministries is underway with the Executive Committee reviewing the profiles received. Acting rather than Interim, means the Acting Director could be considered for the position of Director. A Search Committee for the Director of Outdoor Ministries will be appointed in January by the BOD. Our consulting contract with Maine Conference for \$10,000 will continue, and it will provide a resource for consultation with the Acting Director and Director of Outdoor Ministries. We have an accreditation visit coming up for Horton Center. Gary has considered contracting with Mollie for \$50/hour for not more than 6 months and asked the Board for feedback. The Board endorsed his action.

Mollie's Farewell Gift: *John Herbert moved and Richard Leavitt seconded the motion that the NH Conference make up the difference to bring the total of Mollie's farewell gift to \$500.*

Gary noted that American Tower was offering plans for the lease of the Tower, registered to Verizon on Pine Mtn., from whom we receive compensation. American Tower is the management company the Tower. With the complicities, he will take the American Tower offers to legal counsel.

Mike Palmieri, President and CEO of Havenwood Heritage Heights is inviting the BOD to celebrate the 50th year anniversary of HHH which began with the NH Conference mission. More information will come from HHH.

There was a discussion about the UCC Constitution and By-Law changes. Gary's term on the UCC Board will be ending, but Rev. Emily Heath will continue to be on the Board, and she can be our conduit for any concerns.

Appointment of Director of Outdoor Ministry Search Committee

Concern was raised about having three staff members from Horton Center on the Search Committee. The Executive Committee will come back with 7 names for the Search Committee at the January meeting.

Conference Finances - John Herbert

There is much improvement in 2016 when at this time last year the deficit was at \$122,800, while this year it is \$51,900, with 72% of OCWM offerings received. Investments are doing well, and 90% of rental revenue has been received. He noted that ministries have not spent their budgets. In the budgeting process he suggested that it may helpful to ask why money was not spent, as well as why they need the money. Follow up from Conference Staff with Associations who have not sent in their Fellowship Dues is happening.

As of 11/12, there is \$2129.58 deficit for Annual Meeting. *Gary Schulte moved and Laura Sevigny seconded the motion to take up to \$3000 out of the Pembroke Fund to cover the Annual Meeting deficit. The motion passed.*

Dates for BOD Meetings in 2017

Doodle poll revealed that June 16, September 16, and November 11 are dates confirmed for the majority. Gary will send out a poll for January and April. Please respond promptly so we can get the dates out, especially, January our next meeting.

Ministerial Housing Allowances

John Herbert moved and Marcie Miller seconded a motion that \$38,250 be allocated as housing allowance for the Rev. Richard Slater for the year 2017. The motion passed.

John Herbert moved and Martel Spagnolo seconded the motion that \$44,000 be allocated as housing allowance for the Rev. Gary Schulte for year 2017.

Conflict of Interest Policy

It was moved by John Herbert and seconded by Marcie Miller that the Conflict of Interest Policy reflect the change of language to Board of Directors. The motion carried.

It is necessary to review the Employee Handbook in light of Labor Law changes and the BOD approved the contracting of consultant Marie Davis for \$35/hour to review the handbook.

Ideas for the Weekly News of the BOD meeting were offered.

The meeting ended at 2:10 pm with a prayer offered by the Rev. Paula Gile.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn C. Berry, Secretary