

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2016
MARRIOTT CLEVELAND AIRPORT HOTEL

MINUTES

Present: Ms. Sue Artt, Ms. Caroline Belsom, Ms. Lynda Bigler, Mr. Brian Bodager, Mr. Frank Bolden, Ms. Dale Bonds, Mr. Geoffrey Brace, Mr. Dennis Coy, Mr. Edward Davis, Ms. Maritza Angulo de Gonzalez, Mr. Mike Denton, Mr. John C. Dorhauer, Mr. Bob Frieberg, Mr. William Edwards, Mr. David Gaewski, Mr. Gilberto Garcia-Rodriguez, Mr. Darrell Goodwin, Ms. Carla Gregg-Kearns, Mr. Donald Hart, Mr. Dick Harter, Ms. Emily Heath, Ms. Alice Hunt, Mr. Wesley Hurt, Mr. Nesa Joseph, Ms. Julia LeBrell, Mr. Doug McClelland, Mr. James Maki, Ms. Brittni Melius, Ms. Yesenia Menendez-Sanchez, Mr. Keith Mills, Mr. James Moos, Mr. Jorge Morales, Mr. David Nelson, Mr. Kevin Omi, Mr. Kevin Peterson, Ms. Tina Phillips, Ms. Thea Racelis, Mr. Michael Readinger, Ms. Inez Reid, Mr. Ernie Reyes, Mr. Dwayne Royster, Mr. Gary Schulte, Ms. Carol Shipley, Ms. Hannah Snyder-Samuels, Mr. Noah Jensen Tabor, Mr. William Tanner, Mr. Norman Williams, Mr. Frances Wong, Ms. Yvette Wynn.

Staff Present: Mr. Wayne Cherry, Mr. Lee Foley, Ms. Jan Gomoll, Mr. Richard Hilbrich, Mr. Stephen Jones, Ms. Heather Kimmel, Ms. Denise Pittman, Ms. Dianne Roberts, Ms. Valerie Smith, Ms. Cheryl Williams.

BUSINESS SESSION

Mr. Dorhauer provided the opening prayer and expressed gratitude for the extraordinary efforts of all to be present.

Ms. Dale Bonds, Chair of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors (UCCB), acting on the advice of the Registrar, Ms. Pittman, declared a quorum present and called to order the Business Session of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors, the time being 8:37 AM Eastern Time.

Ms. Bonds then asked the Board to read the Declaration of the Behavioral Covenant from BoardMax.

Ms. Bonds called on Vice-chair, Frank Bolden, to remind the gathered of the happenings of the October 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors. She also stated that the task this morning is not to rehash the discussion but rather to ascertain that the language is ready to send on to the Thirty-first General Synod.

Mr. Bonds invited the membership to approve the recommended Agenda. It was moved and seconded, and;

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was VOTED:
16-12-UCCB-01

to approve the recommended Agenda.

Ms. Bond introduced Ms. Kimmel to make a presentation of the major changes.
(See red-lined version of Constitution and By-Laws that Ms. Kimmel highlighted.)

A question regarding gender binary language was lifted up. It was noted that a resolution would need to come before General Synod for that specific change.

A motion was made that where it references “he” or “she” in the Bylaws that more neutral language be used.

NEUTRAL LANGUAGE

It was VOTED
16-12-UCCB-02 to use more neutral language in the by-laws.

A motion from was made by the Governance Committee that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors approve the proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws as it directed the Office of General Counsel to prepare at the October 2016 meeting through actions 16-10-UCCB-22 and 16-10-UCCB-28.

A discussion ensued, and a motion was made to Call the Question.

END DEBATE

It was VOTED
16-12-UCCB-03 to end debate.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

It was VOTED
16-12 UCCB-04 to approve the proposed amendments to the Constitution
(three abstentions) and Bylaws as the Board directed the Office of General Counsel to prepare at its October 2016 meeting through actions 16-10-UCCB-22 and 16-10-UCCB-28.

There was a motion to delete the following language: “The United Church of Christ Board shall assist the Church in all its expressions of injustice and alienation in the Church and society.”

DELETE LANGUAGE

It was VOTED
16-12 UCCB-05 to delete the following language: “The United Church of Christ Board of Directors shall assist the Church in all its expressions of injustice and alienation in the church and Society.”

A motion to add persons with disabilities to this paragraph was lifted up. “The search committee shall include the General Minister and President; one Conference Minister named by the Council of Conference Ministers; and one representative of the Council on Racial and Ethnic Ministries to be selected, in the first instance, from the COREM members on the Board of Directors, each with voice and vote.”

ADD PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

**It was VOTED
16-12 UCCB-06**

to add persons with disabilities to the following paragraph. “The search committee shall include the General Minister and President; one Conference Minister named by the Council of Conference Ministers; and one representative of the Council on Racial and Ethnic Ministries to be selected, in the first instance, from the COREM members on the Board of Directors, of which at least one person must self-identify as having a disability, each with voice and vote.”

It was recommended that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors, in accordance with paragraphs 74 and 75 of the Constitution, advise the General Minister and President of proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and directs the Secretary to submit the amendments in writing to the General Minister and President no later than January 3, 2017. The United Church of Christ Board of Directors further directs the General Minister and President to circulate the proposed amendments as prescribed in paragraphs 74 and 75 no later than April 1, 2017 so that the amendments may be brought before the Thirty-First General synod, June 30 – July 4, 2017.

CIRCULATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

**It was VOTED
16-12 UCCB-07**

in accordance with paragraphs 74 and 75 of the Constitution, to advise the General Minister and President of proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and directs the Secretary to submit the amendments in writing to the General Minister and President no later than January 3, 2017. The United Church of Christ Board of Directors further directs the General Minister and President to circulate the proposed amendments as prescribed in paragraphs 74 and 75 no later than April 1, 2017 so that the amendments may be brought before the Thirty-First General synod, June 30 – July 4, 2017.

Ms. Bonds adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Roberts
Recorder

Office of the Secretary
United Church of Christ Board of Directors