

MEETING MINUTES
United Church of Christ Board
March 27, 2020
Via Videoconference
Cleveland, Ohio

Members Present: Yvette Wynn, Chair, Cameron Barr, Vice-Chair, Kearstin Bailey, Traci Blackmon, Brian Bodager, Emma Brewer-Wallin, Charles Buck, Carolyne Call, Rachel Chapman, Eleanore Chong, Michael Cich-Jones, Dennis Coy, John Dorhauer, Shernell Edney-Stilley, Derrick Elliott, Thaddaeus Elliott, Gabriela Everett, John Folk, Julia Gaughan, Darrell Goodwin, Kevin Graham, Carla Gregg-Kearns, Tim Hachfeld, Richard Harter, Penny Lowes, Gloria-Ann Muraki, David Nelson, Shari Prestemon, Michael Readinger, Inez Reid, Franz Rigert, Bob Sandman, D'Angelo Smith, Kylie Steever, Paul S. Tch , John Vertigan, Harriet Ward, Diane Weible, Marsha Williams, Bill Worley, Lewis Zeidner

Members Excused: Faufau Alaelua, Hannah Cranbury, Yesenia Menendez-Sanchez, Jeanette Zaragoza De Leon, Karen Georgia Thompson.

Member Absent: Eric Jackson

Non-Director Committee Members Present with Special Expertise: Ron Patterson

Staff: Cindy Bailie, Donyale Copeland, Chris Davies, Cynthia Gaffney, Hans Holznagel, Nick Katzakis, Heather Kimmel, Dianne Roberts, Cheryl Williams.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

BUSINESS SESSION

The Chair called the meeting to order and a quorum was declared.

Donyale Copeland provided information regarding Zoom.

Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer conducted an opening devotional.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-01 to approve the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-02 to approve Consent Agenda Items UCCB-20-10-02a-e which includes the following items of business:

- UCCB-20-03-02a:** grant voice without vote to the following staff: Cindy Bailie, Wayne Cherry, Donyale Copeland, Cynthia Gaffney, Nick Katzakis, Heather Kimmel, Alisa Lewis, Dianne Roberts, Cheryl Williams
- UCCB-20-03-02b:** grant voice without vote to Non-Director Committee Members with Special Expertise: Ron Patterson
- UCCB-20-03-02c:** grant voice without vote to the following special guest: Jennifer Givens, Compensation Consultant, Findley Davies, Inc. (The contribution of Jennifer Givens was determined not to be needed therefore she did not attend the meeting.)
- UCCB-20-03-02d:** to adopt the Group Exemption Compliance Report
- UCCB-20-03-02e:** to receive the reports and agendas from the following task forces and committees as their reports to the United Church of Christ Board of their ongoing work: Audit Committee, Church Building & Loan Fund Task Force, Development Committee, Development Committee Implementation Task Force, Development Committee Legacy Giving Task Force, Finance & Budget Committee, Investment & Endowment Committee, Marketing Committee, UCCB Evaluation Committee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2019 UCCB MEETING

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-03 to approve the minutes of the October 2019 UCCB Meeting.

Opening Remarks by Yvette Wynn, Chair and Cameron Barr, Vice-Chair

Greetings from John Dorhauer and Traci Blackmon

Report of General Minister and President

Conversation with John Dorhauer on collaboration between the Pension Board and the UCC; brief reflections on Tenure, commitment to Strategic Priorities, and COVID-19.

The Chair made the following appointments: Tim Hachfeld as UCCB Investment & Endowment Committee liaison to United Church Funds Investment & Endowment Committee; Emma Brewer-Wallin as liaison to Manual on Church Working Group; Darrell Goodwin to Strategic Priorities Task Force; Cameron Barr to Associate General Minister Re-nomination Committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Yvette Wynn

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-04 to adopt the recommendation that the United Church of Christ Board, as the board of directors for Local Church Ministries (a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ), successor to the American Missionary Association, approve the request of Fisk University, a historically related university, to release the use restriction on a parcel of property donated to the University by the American Missionary Association in 1908, as further described in the Supporting Documents, and to authorize Heather Kimmel, General Counsel and Secretary to Local Church Ministries, to take all steps necessary to effectuate the release.

MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

Oral report by Emma Brewer-Wallin

Member discussion regarding General Synod Resolution 8 (Stewardship of Exhibit Space and Wider Church Response).

Members agreed that further discussion was needed.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Carla Gregg-Kearns

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-05 to table the proposed amendments to the Standing Rules of the United Church of Christ Thirty-third General Synod.

Concerns were raised about the logistics of the Implementation Conversations required by the amendments to the General Synod Standing Rules. The Chair agreed to call a Special Meeting in May to allow time for logistics to be determined.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

By Darrell Goodwin

John Dorhauer, Traci Blackmon, and all staff were recused from the meeting, except for Heather Kimmel, Alisa Lewis, and Dianne Roberts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(see separate minutes)

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-06 to move into Executive Session.

Heather Kimmel, Alisa Lewis and Dianne Roberts were invited to remain.

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-07 to return to Regular Session.

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-08 to adopt the Executive Compensation Policy effective August 31, 2020.

John Dorhauer and Traci Blackmon recused themselves from the vote adopting the Executive Compensation Policy.

GENERAL SYNOD PROGRAM & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

By Penny Lowes

Presentation of General Synod Thirty-three logo and discussion regarding Agenda at a Glance.

Conversation with the Officers

Discussion of five-year financial projections.

Consideration of Hawaii Conference Resolution

By Elly Chong

It was VOTED:

UCCB-20-03-09 to adopt the resolution submitted by the Hawaii Conference on commemorating the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Hawaiian Islands and celebrating the ongoing relationship between the United Church of Christ and the Hawaiian host culture.

Concerns were raised by members regarding the resolution language including “Christian nation,” as well as precedent-setting by the UCCB passing a resolution and the perception of what a UCCB resolution means to others versus what effect it has in practice.

Discussion: Length of General Synod

Discussion regarding reduction of the days of General Synod and timing issues and the need for a task force to look into the issues.

Council of Conference Ministers Update

Discussion of Conferences as the front line for Local Churches in the COVID-19 pandemic.

Discussion: Strategic Priorities Task Force

By Cheryl Williams and Chris Davies

Strategic Priorities Taskforce UCCB 3-26-20.pptx

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1USB-_wrvs--CopeoSCJdgU5CkyT8CB5k/view

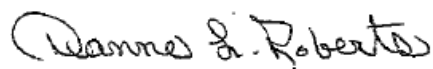
Q&A with CHHSM, Pension Boards and United Church Funds

Mike Readinger, Brian Bodager, and Charles Buck provided brief updates on their respective ministries and noted that reports are available on BoardMax.

Closing Prayer: Emma Brewer-Wallin and Derrick Elliott

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted



Dianne Roberts - Recorder