

PRESENT: Craig Miller, Barb Jardine, Natasha Pearen, Diane Janzen, Mária Szabó Bérces, Doug Neufeld, David Howell, Lyn Fefchak, Coral Meggison

REGRETS: Joan Jarvis – attending a Human Rights Conference

The meeting was called to order by Craig Miller at 10:15 am.
It was noted that a quorum was present. (9 of 10, at least 1/3)

Craig Miller led us in a prayer titled Stepping Out from Bruce Sanguin's book "If Darwin Prayed: Prayers for Evolutionary Mystics".

Motion #105: David Howell / Natasha Pearen
AGENDA **That the Agenda be accepted as circulated. CARRIED**

Motion # 106: Doug Neufeld / Heather Sandilands
MINUTES **That the minutes of Assiniboine Presbytery Executive meeting from January 25, 2017 be approved as amended.**
page 16-39: Clarification regarding Joan Jarvis' Conference Staff report:
-Conference Annual Meeting information is now up on the website.
-Joan anticipates attending the "At the Heart of Human Rights is Human Dignity" conference, March 21-22.
-A local group has been approached to coordinate the local arrangements for the United Network for Justice & Peace in Palestine & Israel (UNJPPI) Conference to be held September 8-10, 2017 at St. Benedict's Retreat & Renewal Conference Centre. MNWO conference is supporting this venture.
-Conference staffing: By the end of June, there will be a sense of the response to the "Three Court Model" Remit, and whether it is likely to be phased in; this might impact current conference staffing. **CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT: Coral Meggison
Report attached as **Appendix A.**

Motion # 107: Diane Janzen / Barb Jardine
That the correspondence report be accepted as presented. CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT: Diane Janzen

- A newly Revised Assiniboine Presbytery Committee Work Travel Claim form was presented. See attached as **Appendix B.**
- There are two pastoral charges that still have not paid their 2016 4th quarter assessment payments.
- \$8300 of additional assessment payments was deposited subsequent to the printing of the Treasurer's report.
- Assiniboine Presbytery 2017 first quarter assessment to Conference will be put in the mail today.
- For full report, see **Appendix C.**

Motion # 108: Diane Janzen / David Howell
That the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AFFIRMING MINISTRIES: David Howell

- At the fall Full Court meeting we will be looking at the Living Apology to the LGBT people which was mandated at General Council 42.
- Shoal lake Pastoral Charge and Russell-Silverton Pastoral Charge are in the process of discerning if they will become Affirming Ministries.
- David Howell will draft an email requesting input in order to compile a list of congregations with Equal Marriage Policies, to be a resource for congregations who are reviewing their own policy.

NOMINATIONS: Barb Jardine

Barb Jardine is seeking a candidate for the position of Chair Elect for the year beginning June 2017.

EDUCATION, STUDENTS & CHURCH VOCATIONS: Heather Sandilands

Nothing to report at this time.

PASTORAL CHARGE OVERSIGHT: Lyn Fefchak

DELORAINE MANSE The inspection of Deloraine manse has been completed. The report has been received by Cathie Waldie, and now will be forwarded to the Settlement Commission.

COMMITTEE MEETING The Pastoral Charge Oversight and Support committee will meet March 23, 2017 regarding: 1) the Model the Membership survey, 2) work on creating a helpful resource for congregations who are considering closure, 3) review Rivers' structure document

PASTORAL RELATIONS: Natasha Pearen

SETTLEMENT COMMISSION The Conference Settlement Commission met February 14, 2017.

COMMISSION Settlement Commission Report for February 14, 2017 is attached as **Appendix D.**

The following action was taken on behalf of Assiniboine Presbytery:

- 1) Appoints Mona Denton as the Settlement Commission resource/liaison to the Hamiota Pastoral Charge Search Committee
- 2) Appoints the following persons as Settlement Commission representatives to resource the Ministry Profile Committees:
Elkhorn – Mona Denton
Deloraine-Melita-Tilston – Cathie Waldie
Hartney-Lauder – Cathie Waldie
Viriden – Mona Denton

JOHN NESBITT Natasha Pearen and Judy Hare received an email from John Nesbitt requesting clarification regarding the process for his retention on the Roll of Assiniboine Presbytery. This will be further reviewed and brought to the April Full Court meeting.

Motion # 109: Natasha Pearen / David Howell

SABBATICAL HEATHER SANDILANDS **That Assiniboine Presbytery approve the change of date of Sabbatical of Heather Sandilands to be for the period July 25, 2017 to October 24, 2017.**

CARRIED

DAVID HOWELL David Howell is again planning to serve in a position of Military Chaplaincy at a Summer Cadet Camp.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION Pastoral Relations committee are considering providing a training session in Basic Conflict Resolutions Strategies, for Ministry and Personnel Committee members, Board members, congregational members.

OUTREACH & JUSTICE: Barb Jardine for Cyndi Price

ASYLUM SEEKERS At Conference Executive – the Conference Justice Committee talked about the need for us to distinguish between asylum seekers and refugees...to educate ourselves in the language.

- Those who seek asylum are not yet refugees. They have to be processed just like any other applicant for refugee status. Then it will be determined if they can become refugees or if they have to be returned to wherever they came from.

- Currently, the news media is reporting: 50% of Canadians believe that asylum seekers need to be sent out of Canada.

- THERE ARE WAYS TO HELP:

1. Donations for Welcome Place – look online at Manitoba Interfaith Council Inc.

OUTREACH & JUSTICE: (continued)

2. Sign up for lists – lists are being made of people who could offer transportation, temporary housing, accommodation.
3. Pray.

BRANDON The Learning Centre went to Harrow UC last week.
INDIAN Learnings - working out the kinks in the logistics.
RESIDENTIAL 91 people came through the exhibit; workshop in the evening went well.
SCHOOL Teresa Moysey took a couple of the pictures to Winnipeg Presbytery on
LEARNING Saturday, March 18.
CENTRE Comments were shared from Harrow United Church event.

RENDEZ- Is there a will to help a student to go to Rendez-vous?
VOUS If every church in our Presbytery gave \$20 x 40 churches = \$800.00 (would get
NATIONAL one youth to Rendez-vous)....
YOUTH Registration is \$325– includes meals and accommodation
GATHERING Flight to Montreal – about \$500 if you can get on lowest fares.
YAAY – providing 13 scholarships of \$300 for applicants.
Is there someone in our presbytery who wants to go and needs financial assistance?

Should we offer a scholarship?

Motion #110: Barb Jardine / David Howell

That Assiniboine Presbytery offer Rendez-vous 2017 Scholarship funding up to \$975 to cover the Rendez-vous registration fee for three youth, or if we have more than three who apply, for the funding to be split evenly.

CARRIED

HOMELESS Is there any interest at Presbytery around the issue of Homelessness in our
BROTHERS area?
& SISTERS Deepening our awareness – signs of homelessness...why people end up on the street.....what helps...what doesn't.
Perhaps our committee could organize a program from Presbytery?
working together to meet the needs in our community....becoming the Community of Faith where we are.
Just ideas.....

SOCIAL MEDIA Dr. Richard Manley-Tanis

RESOURCE See brochure that came out regarding Social Media and Evangelism.

PRESBYTERY PLANNING: Doug Neufeld

APRIL In Killarney. The Photographic Learning Centre Exhibit will be on display.

SEPTEMBER Minnedosa congregation has offered to host the September meeting.
Meeting date: September 23, 2017.
Theme to partner with the Mini Youth Retreat theme of "Creation".

NOVEMBER Theme: Living the Apology to LGBT people.

THEME IDEAS Medical Assistance in Dying; Dying with Dignity.

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE: Barb Jardine

MEETING Conference Executive met on March 9, 2017. Joan Jarvis and Barb Jardine attended.

BUDGET Some choices are being made by our staff.
Erin Acland has opted to not attend the Conf. Executive meetings and the Annual Meeting so she can use her limited hours for the Archives.
Twila MacNair, our new YAAY staff is not attending executive meetings either, for the same reasons. She sent a report that Zeebu Retreat went well.
The budget for 2018 was approved with a 1% increase in Assessments.

- REMITTS All Category 2 Remits passed with overwhelming support.
We are encouraged to get our votes in...and they can be emailed by scanning. We will know if our structure will change by June.
- PASTORAL RELATIONS CHANGES The resources we are using came to us from BC & Toronto Conferences.
New languages needs to be noted:
JNAC is now MINISTRY PROFILE
JSC is now SC (no J's)
Pastoral Charges are now LOCAL MINISTRY UNIT
All committees are resourced by SETTLEMENT COMMISSION
NOTE: Job Description to go with the Profile. It needs to be done well, with percentages of time expected, for CRA.
If you are in a Visioning Process, you have to do this first, before you begin a Ministry Profile.
- RETIREES We have about 13 people retiring so far, on our list.
- CHANGES IN PASTORAL RELATIONS Cole Grambo
Jim Hatherly - to Vancouver
Terry Hidichuk was voted to the DSL, Voluntary. He is working toward becoming an Anglican priest.
- CHANGES IN SEXUAL ABUSE POLICY The policy has been reviewed - Marc Whitehead went from our Conference.
New documents are expected July 1, 2017.
New language....removed "abuse" and have separated Sexual Harassment & Sexual Misconduct. No longer use the word "suspension", use administrative leave.
The Consultants will be National....only one from Manitoba has applied and there will be interviews to ascertain who in the country will be our consultants.
GC will select a pool of 12.
There will be a hotline that you can call at General Council and a Consultant will be assigned to you.
There are other changes that are smaller in nature as well, but our Conference will no longer be doing the education pieces for Consultants.
Not all conferences have Officers of the Court, so we are unsure what will be required of them in the future.
- PRESBYTERY TOPICS Cambrian just did a program at their meeting around **Transition and Changes**.
Lesley Harrison attended from Edge to lead them.
If we think about it, we only have 2 years left to share together as a Presbytery and it would be good to think about what we will do when/if the presbytery no longer exists.
Sharing of Resources? Connections? Inspiration? Support?
Winnipeg Presbytery hosted **Dr. Niigaan Sinclair, Professor of Native Studies at U of M**. Very excellent speaker.
Agassiz checked with every pastoral charge to see if there was a **plan to vote on the Remits**. Then figured out how to help those who weren't started.
- ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING Register online
Sign up for workshops in April, at a second registration date. Anyone can come to the workshops. You have to sign up for them separately from Conference registration.
Meeting is being held in Portage.....not far to drive!

Motion # 111: Diane Janzen / Barb Jardine
That the reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Craig Miller led us in prayer to close the meeting.

Craig Miller declared the meeting adjourned at 2:14 pm.

MEETING DATES

FULL COURT: April 29, 2017

September 23, 2017

at Killarney United

at Minnedosa United

EXECUTIVE: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 10 am Central United Brandon

Coral Meggison
Secretary
Assiniboine Presbytery

Craig Miller
Chair
Assiniboine Presbytery