

## MINUTES FROM GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

**September 20, 2011 – 5:00 to 6:30 PM EDT  
(Combination Conference Call & F2F in Sarasota Office)**

### ATTENDEES:

Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, Moderator, Rev. Robert Griffin, Vice-Chair; Bryan Parker, Secretary; Liz Bisordi, Treasurer; Raquel Benitez, Rev. Onetta Brooks, Rev. Tony Freeman, Rev. Candace Shultis, Connie Meadows (Staff support), Barbara Crabtree

Rev. Nancy Wilson opened in prayer

### **Consent Agenda:**

- o Minutes of August Meeting (Candace)
- o Moderator's Report (Nancy)
- o Director of Operations financial reports (Barb)
  - § July P & L
  - § July 31 Balance Sheet
  - § Budget Summary at July 31
- o Bylaw Team Report (Onetta)
- o Tracking sheet from August meeting (Robert)
- o Motion to change Housing Allowance for Rev. Nancy Wilson to \$30,000 for 2012

**MOTION 09.20.01 - Motion by Liz Bisordi, seconded by Onetta Brooks to approve the Consent Agenda.**

**M/S APPROVED**

### **Report on the Review of Applicants for vacancy on Governing Board:**

Onetta reported that seven applications were requested and sent (6 in North America and 1 in the UK) Three applications were returned from those that inquired. Prior to the Governing Board meetings GB members received and reviewed the full applications that were submitted as well as a matrix of the applicant's qualifications. Discussion took place regarding two of the three applicants that ranked highest.

Discussion took place regarding next steps to formalize the appointment which included contacting references from the two applicants and possible further interviews of the applicants.

As straw poll was then conducted to get a sense of which applicant each member was leaning toward. While the Board expressed appreciation and gratitude for the talent and willingness of all three applicants to serve the straw poll clearly viewed Kareem Murphy as the appropriate fit to fill the vacancy. As a result of the straw poll it was agreed that Onetta would contact one of Kareem's references. It was also agreed that once the recommendation was received and reviewed by the Board they would cast votes via e-mail on whether or not to approve Kareem to the vacancy.

Discussion also took place regarding how Robert would spend time with whomever was ultimately appointed to the vacancy to train them on methodologies and operations of the Governing Board based on the training and work the Board has done with Dan Hotchkiss of the Alban Institute.

***(The Board unanimously approved Kareem Murphy's appointment via e-mail vote on Sept. 27, 2011)***

### **Bylaw Team Discussion RE: Tithe Rate:**

Onetta report that GB has the authority to give interpretations of UFMCC bylaws and that the primary role of the Bylaw Team is to manage the process for the bylaw amendment proposals (UFMCC Bylaws Addendum 1). Technically, the bylaws team would interpret, but the UFMCC Bylaws chief/leader can discern when to use the Bylaw team for interpretations. Yes there was an attempt to get the bylaws team in on the discussion – they thought they were making rulings on the GB authority to change rather than sharing an opinion on the interpretation. A couple members of the bylaw team wanted to let the GB know they were upset with the GB for maintaining the tithe rate at 12.5% in 2012. They felt only General Conference (GC) should make that decision. GB maintains that it does have the authority to act on behalf of GC in between GC especially now that GC is every 3 years.

Tony expressed appreciate on the clarification about the Bylaws Team role. He also asked if the only one communication went out about the 12.5% tithe rate.

Nancy stated that there will have to be more follow up regarding the GB's decision to freeze the tithe at 12.5%.

Tony suggested that a letter go out with a strong rationale for local Boards to understand why that action was taken and noted that more communication is needed as some churches maybe planning their budgets based on 12% instead of 12.5%.

### **Finance Committee Report Investment Policy & Tithes Report**

Liz reported that when we met face to face in July the GB asked that Tony Freeman, Barb Crabtree and Liz get together to formulate policy around what the GB would do when we made investments. The Investment Policy that was sent to the GB weeks prior to this meeting for review and asked for feedback on the policy.

Feedback on specific areas for clarification were given and Liz agreed to make the changes and then send the policy to Dan Hotchkiss for his feedback.

Barb reported that we had three churches get caught up in August, one of which was MCC San Francisco. The total cash was over \$142,000 in August which makes August our second highest this year and the best August in four years. July was less than \$100,000 and September is not good either, so the summer months have been see saw. Barb reported that pastors informed her some churches that are behind in tithes are holding events and trying to raise money to get caught up.

Liz and Nancy both reported that pastors shared that the handwritten notes the GB sent out made a huge difference.

Liz also shared that Finance Team wanted to submit an idea to draft a covenant between MCC and the local churches around assessments and tithes. The GB agreed it was a good idea. The Finance Committee will send a proposed covenant to the October Board meeting.

## **Moderator's Evaluation**

Robert gave an update on the Moderator's evaluation process and possible templates to use for the evaluation. Robert asked for volunteers to review the templates and select one to use to evaluate the Moderator. Bryan, Onetta, and Tony agreed to do this. Robert also reported that we will submit survey to the GB and the SLT via Survey Monkey to solicit feedback to include in the Moderator's evaluation.

## **Participation of Young Adults at GB March Meeting**

Robert led a discussion about the goal of having Young Adult participation at our face to face meeting in March. What does this mean in the big picture and how do we involve this person in our work?

Nancy expressed that it is important as one of our responses to the Young Adult – we have a role in mentoring and to participate with voice and no vote and hear another perspective.

Discussion took place regarding how to select young adults to participate in the March GB meeting. GB will work with Jennifer Justice to help advertise getting participation. The GB also thought it would be helpful to have potential attendees write an essay on why they would want to participate.

It was also noted that the second Young Adult Retreat will take place at the end of October and GB members are invited to attend.

## **2012 Budget Review & Approval Plan:**

Tony asked if we could get in an email a brief update about the process for the 2012 Budget Review and Approval as standard operating practice to have an operating plan that goes along with the budget.

Barb confirmed she already has goals which are specific for the core activities of each office and will present in a more planned format.

Tony closed the meeting in prayer

## **Next Meeting Dates:**

- v **TUE 18 OCT 11 5:00 PM EDT**
- v **TUE 15 NOV 11 5:00 PM EST**
- v **TUE 20 DEC 11 5:00 PM EST**
- v **TUE 17 JAN 12 5:00 PM EST**
- v **TUE 21 FEB 12 5:00 PM EST**
- v **TUE 20 MAR 12 5:00 PM EST**
- v **TUE 17 APR 12 5:00 PM EST**
- v **TUE 15 MAY 12 5:00 PM EST**

- ✓ **TUE 19 JUN 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ✓ **TUE 17 JUL 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ✓ **THU 2 AUG – TUE 7 AUG 12 – 3 & 4 AUG WITH SLT**
- ✓ **THU 21 AUG 12 5:00 PM EST (IF NEEDED)**
- ✓ **THU 18 SEP 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ✓ **THU 16 OCT 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ✓ **THU 20 NOV 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ✓ **THU 18 DEC 12 5:00 PM EST**