

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

December 13, 2011 – 5:00 to 6:30 PM EST

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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, Kareem Murphy, Bryan Parker, Rev. Candace Shultis, Connie Meadows and Linda Beckstead (Staff support), Barbara Crabtree

**MINUTES**

Nancy Wilson opened the meeting and welcomed Linda Beckstead in her new role as the Moderator's Assistant. Nancy then opened the meeting in prayer.

**GB MOTION 121311.01** Motion to approve everything on the Consent Agenda by Onetta; seconded Liz  
M/S Approved

**Financial Reports and Budget:**

Barb: Hopefully you have all had time to talk to Barb about the budget. The Finance Committee met and are happy to bring the budget forward and recommend its approval.

Nancy: I hope you got a chance to see the 2012 SLT operational plan. We took your cue and worked it for the goals you saw earlier in August and made it operational and hoped it was useful to show what we mean to spend the money on.

Tony: That is good. I appreciate what you did. I noticed that due dates were missing. Would evaluations be based on that?

Nancy: Yes. We are working on assigning due dates.

Tony: I appreciate all the hard work. It looks like a very realistic budget and I imagine it was not easy to put it together. It is clear we need to work on building a new business model. I know the staff reductions were a very painful process but it is a very realistic budget.

Tony: I think we should work on the appropriate narrative that accompanies the budget. The second item is the income and that would be a big piece of our discussion in March.

Raquel: I am going to request we cover income in our March meeting and discuss the investment we have and I would love to work with other to formulate how we present this budget.

**GB MOTION 121311.02** Tony: Move to approve the 2012 Budget, seconded by Robert  
M/S Approved

We will note that an agenda item for the March meeting will be on income. The narrative around that can be worked out with Finance Committee with Barb and Nancy and input from Raquel, and other members of the Governing Board.

## **Governing Board Nominating Committee/Moderator's Nominating Committee Report**

Onetta: As you point out the message to constituents, I think what is important over the next 5 years. As we begin to forecast if we continue with this model for the next five years we need to communicate the expected consequences. How are we thinking outside of the box as we know this model won't take us far into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Onetta: You received the one page covering the work for next year preparing for work for 2012 for General Conference 2013. There will be 5 seats up for election and a team working on getting a slate. The Moderator's Nominating Committee it is important that although we are talking about 2016, we need to have some conversation about this in 2013. A goal would be to have the Moderator's Nominating Committee named to have a listening post.

### **Update on Judiciary Process**

Onetta: Next month in January you will start to see the Judiciary Process for Clergy. I have just received the new version from OFLD which replaces Addendum 4 in the ByLaws. You will have a potential list of persons to affirm at our January meeting.

Nancy: Our attorney is reviewing that as well.

Onetta: You will see it that the final comments from the attorney have not been included. I will make this available within the next week. I'll wait a week and hopefully will have it ready. You'll get a draft and I'll highlight anything differences from the attorney.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION Moderator's Review:** Barb, Connie & Linda left the meeting. The Governing Board members stayed in Executive Session to discuss the results of Moderator's review.

The Governing Board exited Executive Session to unanimously pass the following resolution:

### **A RESOLUTION OF APPERICATION FOR CONNIE MEADOWS**

**WHEREAS,** At the end of 2011 Connie Meadows will retire from the staff of the Metropolitan Community Churches; and

**WHEREAS,** Connie Meadows has served as an Assistant to the Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson since 2002 first as a volunteer assistant while Rev. Wilson was pastor of Church of the Trinity MCC, and then as member of the denominational staff as the Moderator's Assistant; and

**WHEREAS,** as part of Connie's service to MCC with her exceptional professional organizational skills that she developed as a corporate planner in Brussels, Belgium and later when she ran her own successful business services company and later served as Chief Financial Officer of a Petroleum Distributor in the U.S.;

**WHEREAS,** Connie Meadows's appreciation and gift for communication is evident in the five languages that she speaks and her amazing ability to transcribe real time spoken dialogue into type written notes; and

**WHEREAS**, Connie Meadows has travelled to many MCC meetings and conferences, often at her own expense, to offer her assistance not only to the Moderator but to the all the denominational leadership, and therefore has contributed enormously to MCC's Global efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, Connie Meadows obtained a Master of Arts in Theological Studies while serving as the Moderator's Assistant in order to contribute more deeply to and better serve in her role; and

**WHEREAS**, Connie Meadows has shared her talents and professional skills with the Governing Board by collecting and disseminating reports, scheduling meetings, and being an ever present and proficient stenographer of meetings in order to allow all members to the Governing Board to be fully engaged in meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, Moderator of MCC says, "Connie has been the 'detail person' who helped me be prepared to travel and work in many challenging contexts. I have always appreciated her clarity, honesty, work ethic, devotion to the cause.";

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan Community Church's Governing Board, does hereby express its greatest appreciation to Connie Meadows for her service to Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, Moderator, the Governing Board and the entire Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.

**Meeting Adjured in Prayer at 6:45 PM**

**Next Meeting Dates:**

- ❖ **TUE 24 JAN 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ❖ **TUE 21 FEB 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ❖ **MON 7 – 11 MAR FACE TO FACE**
- ❖ **TUE 20 MAR 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ❖ **TUE 17 APR 12 5:00 PM EST**
- ❖ **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**