

**Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Lakewood UCC, Denver  
November 19, 2016**

Present: John Rostykus, Carol White, Sue Artt, Karen Winkel, Matt Huntington, Rachel Oliver, Courtney Dobbins, David Bahr, Martha Jones, Judy Baillie, Nathan Miller

Absent: Erin Gilmore, Gage Church

John called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Rachel Oliver opened our time with a prayer of Thanksgiving.

Larry McCulloch offered an update of Camp La Foret.  
He reviewed for us the Purpose, Vision and Mission of La Foret.

MSP (Matt/Judy) approve Hal Chorpensing (Plymouth Cong. UCC, Ft. Collins) and Terri Schultz (Plymouth Cong. UCC Ft. Collins) to BOD of La Foret.

We had two e-votes that passed since last BOD meeting:

9/27/16 - Approval of minutes of 9/17/16 BOD meeting

9/30/16 - Appointment of the Associate Conference Minister Search Committee:

<b>Person</b>	<b>Role/Representation</b>
Judy Baillie	Chair
Rev. Sue Artt	Conference Minister
Rev. Carol White	Intermountain Association
Andrew Henkart	Metro Denver Association
Rev. Ben Konecny	Platte Valley Association
Dave Bristow	Southeastern Association
Rev. Karen Winkel	Western Association

John led us in a brainstorming exercise restating our Mission/Norms - we will further refine these in future BOD meetings.

Matt Huntington presented the financial report.

Courtney Dobbins moved that the BOD approve: (MP - Finance Committee)

1. \$15,700 from the Conference Minister Search/Moving Expense BOD Designated fund on the Balance Sheet for Associate Minister Search Committee.
2. The Travel Policy change to include up to \$100 per night reimbursement for members to make their own accommodations when doing RMCUCC business. The Conference Minister may increase this amount for extenuating circumstances as necessary.
3. That the Clergy Housing Allowance under Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code during the calendar year 2017 for each ordained minister who is in the employ of the Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC shall be a sum equal to such employee's good faith

estimate of the amount that will be excludible under Section 107 with respect to providing a home by such employee for such year; however, unless and until such employee shall provide in writing the estimate described above, the amount of said Clergy Housing Allowance shall be a sum equal to one-third of such employee's gross salary.

4. A sum not to exceed \$5,000 from the "Capital Reserve Fund" on the Balance Sheet under the BOD Designated Funds be used to separate the double office in the southwest corner of the Conference office into two discrete offices.
5. Taking \$1,410.30 from the Unrestricted net Assets and apply it to the Disaster Relief Fund under "Transfer" on the Balance Sheet. This will zero out this fund.
6. Taking \$1,425 from the Unrestricted net Assets and apply it to the RMC Scholarship Fund under the BOD Designated on the Balance Sheet. This will zero out this fund.

John reviewed the financial implications of filling the two new positions of Faith Nurture Associate and Executive Administrator (a total increase in expenses of \$38,478.83 for 2017.)

MSP (Sue Artt/Matt Huntington) The Finance Committee return to the February 2017 meeting of the BOD a plan for fully funding the 21st Century Leadership model. The Ministry Plan 3 group will develop benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of execution of the 21st Century Leadership model.

John outlined a mechanism for appointing our first "So That" team addressing Spiritual Nurture/Outdoor Ministry.

*Team Leader:* a BOD member (current or recent)

*Team members:*

5 additional members one from each Association

Optionally add members from partner organizations as the team decides.

Optionally 1 more member at large to augment experience/history

Aligned with Vision, understand camping, retreats and needs of Association (or how to get)

*Desired outcome:*

Develop a long term model for camping/retreat experiences across the Conference that answers the following questions:

- Do we partner/share/combine resources with DOC, LaForet, etc.? (consult with leaders of those organizations)
- What are the specific needs/desires for camps/retreats for RMC and partners across the Conference? (refer to 2016 AM Needs list)
- Where, beyond LaForet, will we facilitate camps/retreats?
- What changes are needed to the Conference leadership model to sustain camping/retreat experiences across the Conference?
- Who will lead and implement when this team is done?
- What resources will be needed? (tools, staff, training, etc.)
- By September 2017, answer: What is the next step for the 2017 Faith Nurture Program Associate position?

*Nomination process:*

Create a form - John & review with MP-III before 11/19

Open nominations from early Dec 2016 to 1/9/17  
Selections by Nominating Committee + Team Leader by 1/16/17

MSP (Matt/Carol) The BOD create the Spiritual Nurture/Outdoor Ministry "So That" team as presented.

John offered a virtual tour (courtesy of Cory and Lisa) of the Laramie Community College campus in CHEYENNE, WY who will host our 2017 RMC Annual Meeting.

Sue presented details of the 2017 RMC Annual Meeting in CHEYENNE, WY.

The BOD accepted volunteers for Annual Meeting Design team: Martha Jones, Rachel Oliver, Carol White (until sabbatical), Nate Miller (after sabbatical). Erin Gilmore will be invited to join.

Judy reported on the first meeting of the Associate Conference Minister Search Committee. Schedule for the next few meetings is set. There are 16 candidates and the cutoff date is past. They ask to be held in prayer and had a few procedural questions for the BOD. Search Committee will present candidate and negotiate the terms of the Call. Exact location of ministry is flexible but must be west of the Continental Divide. It was suggested that a small transition team be appointed to help settle the called candidate.

Erin presented (via written report, in absentia) the work of the Leadership Initiative Mission Seed team.

MSP (Matt/Miller) \$2,000 will be made available from "Strengthen the Church" funds for the Leadership Initiative to host a retreat event with guest Tenneson Woolf at La Foret.

Sue Artt reported on the "state of the Conference." She also discussed renting out office space in our RMC office. We have an open spot for General Synod in 2017 for a youth representative.

Matt reported on the warehouse next to the Denver office. They share a wall with the RMC office. Warehouse owners will pay to segregate currently entangled water and electrical systems as they remodel their facilities.

Sue will propose a time for some of us to gather and say "good-bye" and best wishes to those leaving our service. Monday, December 19th was suggested. Gift(s) have been arranged. Christmas gifts were discussed.

MSP (Matt/Karen) Appoint Board members to Archway Housing and Services, Inc.  
Mary Anderies (President), Jake Joseph, Yvette Craddock (Vice President), Lynda Junker, Sandra Abel, Robinson Lapp, Amber Hills (Secretary), April Lopez, Paul Herskowitz (Treasurer), David Nestor, Kirk Huggins, Melinda Townsend

Carol presented a report on her experience at the Third Consultation on Multiple Religious Participation.

Sue presented the new statement of the Purpose, Mission and Vision of the United Church

of Christ (October 2016).

MSP (Carol/Martha) the BOD adopts the statement of Purpose, Mission and Vision of the United Church of Christ as an over-arching umbrella.

MSP (David/Matt) the BOD signs the Interfaith Force for Good pledge and commend the pledge to our faith communities.

John called us to Executive Session as Sue was excused.

We discussed year end gifts

MSP (Miller/Carol) An amount was designated for Christmas and departure gifts for staff. Martha will arrange and Matt will find funding.

John released us from Executive Session and Sue joined us again.

Sue updated us on the progress of the Spiritual Nurture/Outdoor Ministry search.

Martha updated us on the progress of the Executive Administer search.

A tentative date and time was set for conference call regarding ACM search update:  
Thursday, January 19 at 5:00 p.m.

Karen closed our time with prayer.

Adjourned at 3:01.

Next Meetings:

Thursday, January 19, 5:00 - 6:00pm Conf Call (if needed)

Saturday, February 11, 9:00am - 3:00pm at the Conference Office

Saturday, April 29, 9:00am - 3:00pm at the Conference Office