

**Rocky Mountain Conference Board of Directors meeting**  
**Saturday, September 30, 2017 – Conference Office**

Present: John Rostykus, Matt Huntington, Martha Jones, Grace Ramsey (afternoon session), Mark Dutell, David Bahr, Sue Artt, Judy Baillie, Tracey Dawson, Courtney Dobbins, Carol White, Gage Church (Zoom). Not present: Nate Miller, Jesslynn McDougal, Amber Khederian

Guests: Jody Huntington, Erin Gilmore (Zoom)

Mark Dutell provided our opening reflection, invoking God's presence into our work.

John Rostykus called us to order at 9:05 a.m. Prayers for David Bahr on the recent loss of his mother.

Evote APPROVED BOD meeting minutes of July 29, 2017.

John talked about the new BOD Core Purpose/Values statement and BOD Mentorship Program. Let's keep our Purpose and Values statements in front of us as we do our work.

Sue, and then John led us in thinking about stewardship:

We have been contributing 22% of Conference offering to National. Under the new model, National has asked us to contribute on a 5-yr rolling average. We have already voted on 22% for 2018.

Sue led us in a group exercise on "3 Money Questions"

What terms do we use for financial support: Donors, Givers, Investors?

What is the trend in our local settings in the past 3-5 years?

What does the Board do with this information?

John explained and reviewed our BOD Designated Accounts

Courtney & Matt reviewed with us our P&L and Balance sheet through August 2017.

**Motions from Finance Committee (needs no second):**

1. Move and liquidate "Interest from Building Fund" (\$4266.95) to Unrestricted Net Asset Fund. **APPROVED**

Sue offered a report on the "In the Mud" Grants approved beyond budget

2. Move and liquidate "Just Peace Task Force Fund assets" (\$3466.73) and balance from "7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Church Fund" to fund the overage on the "In the Mud" Grants (\$4725)

**Amendment:** David Bahr, S, and add the "Hunger Action Fund assets" (\$200) so as to liquidate that fund. Take these two funds first and take balance out of 7<sup>th</sup> Ave Church Fund (\$1058.27), for a total of (\$4725.00) Amendment **APPROVED**

Motion with Amendment, **APPROVED**

Sue offered a summary of John Dorhauer's vision for the UCC and call on the Conferences to fund this new vision, "Shaping the Future."

**Tabled to November 2017 for consideration.** Sue will ask Don Clark, Chair, to join us on Zoom.

John led us in a group exercise on "Spending BOD Funds." John and Tracey will work to develop a process for examining these requests for funding (for November meeting.)

Criteria, percentages for New Church Starts, Revitalization of Existing Churches, and Personal Requests.

Erin presented an Internal Funding Request for an Iliff Intern:

**Motion from Finance Committee:** Commit \$5400 (9 months-up to 20 hpw) for stipend and \$600 for travel from Strengthen the Church funds. Candace Woods (in military chaplaincy program at Iliff). She is part of three underrepresented demographic groups supported by the ethos of our Conference. She wants to travel to our churches as a visible presence of the Conference and of the demographic groups she represents (female, person of color, LGBT). She would observe and interact with these 8 Conference churches over a broad diversity. This would fulfill towards her CPE requirement for Iliff, and Erin would be her Supervisor. Important for the UCC-Iliff connection. Erin to develop or oversee an accountability piece for this internship for reporting back to BOD. **APPROVED.**

**John presented the following Outside Funding Requests:**

**First Congregational, Colorado Springs**

Tracey: **Motion to Table** pending process work for these grants, S, **MOTION CARRIES.** John will tell the Church that we will take it up in our November meeting.

**Rev. Karen Howe**

David: Motion to commit \$235.53 from Mad-Care Clergy Restricted Funds, S, with reporting back to RMC after the event, **MOTION CARRIES.**

**Collbran Congregational Church** (no letter-general request for building funding). **NO ACTION TAKEN,** pending actual request.

**OMO House New Church Start**

Tracey: **Motion to Table** pending process work for these grants, S, **MOTION CARRIES.**

Erin will tell Jah about the tabling, with further questions we need for her to answer.

John presented a report about Sue's anticipated 2018 sabbatical and whether ExCom should work on planning for this.

**MOTION:** ExCom will plan for Sue's Sabbatical. **APPROVED**

**Lunch.**

Erin presented an update on the IGNITE Leadership Program and how to assess its operation and effectiveness. October 9-13, 2017, La Foret. 26 participants, across all 5 Associations, 15 churches, 2 Conference staff, one seminary intern, and one UCC National Board Member.

Mark presented a guided discussion of the 2018 Clergy Compensation Guidelines (prep for Nov meeting). Mark will check with other members of the Annual Celebration table discussion on this topic

John and Judy initiated a discussion of the *So That Teams* Formation Process, Proposal Template, and new/ongoing applications:

ExCom: **MOTION** to adopt this process and template. **APPROVED.**

**Outdoor Ministries STT** –Report was received. Sue will draft a thank-you letter.

John: **MOTION:** To accept report, and fund the ½ time position in 2018, S, **APPROVED.**

**Church Technology & Communication** (Cory Kibler). ExCom has approved already.

**Re-visioning Boundaries Training for the RMC** (Tracey Dawson). ExCom recommends that the BOD approve it. Funding recommendation by November by Financial Committee. One of the targeted outcomes would be to make a better funding estimate. ExCom: **MOTION** to approve this STT. **APPROVED.**

Sue presented the “Big Picture of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leadership Across the Conference.”

Proposal for STT-“Excellence for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”

Proposal for “RMC Excellence in Ministry” Team

**Three sub-teams within would centralize the following functions:**

*Continuing Excellence in Ministry-* Boundaries, Ethics, Diversity, Fitness Reviews, Specialized Ministries

*Excellence in Authorizing Ministry-* MID, Clergy Transfers in, Other Denominations’ Clergy Serving Our Churches, Licensing

*Excellence in Local Church Ministry-* Associations, Training Local Leaders, Care for Pastoral Leaders, Renewal of Licensure in Association, and Situational Support for Churches

Sue presented an update on survey results about whether to hold the 2018 Annual Celebration at La Foret. That decision has been made for 2018, Thursday night – Saturday early afternoon. Spiritual Renewal Retreat (optional) starts Saturday to Sunday afternoon. Theme: We need to settle on this in our November meeting. Consider this— “In the Mud”-getting our hands dirty in the world and outside of our safe settings into the mission of Jesus Christ. Where and how will we matter in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

Jody Huntington presented information about an upcoming Fundraiser for Archway Housing on November 14, 2017.

### **John called a Break for Executive Committee Session**

#### Upcoming meeting schedule:

Saturday, November 11, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Conference Office

Saturday, February 10, 2018 Zoom meeting 9:00am - Noon

Saturday, April 28, 2018 Zoom meeting 9:00am – Noon

Thursday, June 7-9, at 2018 Annual Celebration – La Foret

#### For November 11 meeting:

- Opening: Courtney Dobbins
- Closing: Carol White
- Timekeeper: John Rostykus
- Scribe: Nate Miller

John asked for Actions and Need to Share.

Many offered a closing affirmation of our meaningful work.

John declared the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Faithfully submitted, Tracey Dawson, scribe for a day!