

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, May 16, 2024 – 4pm

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5627250899>

Inspiring, Challenging, and Empowering Faith and Justice Communities Across the West

Present: Erin Gilmore, ACM; Sarah B. Linn, Mod.; Brent Gundlah, IMA; Laura Gurney, LLL; Teresa Campbell, AT; Kari Collins, Treas.; MaryEllen Beltracchi, VMod; Marta Fioriti, PVA; Karen Caton, WA; Eleanor Downey, TG; Adam McCoy, Pers.

Absent: Ian Wrisley, RJ; Peter Sawtell, MDA; Mallory Everhart, SEA; Allison Stauffer, CJL

4:02: Welcome / Centering Moment – *take a breath, thanks for how far we've come in the last year at this, our last monthly meeting of the year*

4:07: Approval of April 18, 2024, Minutes

- with Karen Caton in attendance
- p. 3 – motion for the budget – made on behalf of the FC – note motion was approved.
- **Motion to approve minutes as amended. SBL/Karen/Approved**

4:10: ACM Report – Erin

- New website up & running; take a look, give feedback; work in progress but easier to find things and update things.
- Allison doing regular social media posts; be sure to share about those & other ways to share info (beyond newsletter); information flow (in every direction) needs to be broadened/strengthened – [Kari: feedback for the website? – Allison directly; cc Erin]
- proposal was as much as I could write this month – but a helpful image – a teeter-totter, tasks on one side, big picture (theological, deconstruction, balcony) stuff on the other... creating a PRC – a group of people who can help Erin balance it – post annual meeting task (someone from Personnel? NOT from Personnel?)
- [Eleanor: reframe? increasing participation, power sharing...? sharing responsibility; how can we pick up some of the responsibility? – yes, and I'm not going to get the answers to those questions without help/collaboration]
- [Karen: can we solicit sharing of gifts? Erin – post association meetings: where do we go from here? post-it; places where we need help AND gifts I can offer even if I don't know where they fit.]

- Also – naming: Brianna is doing all the bookkeeping, Ellis is doing all the payroll. Recognizing Brianna for all her work/learning (and Teresa working with her) – we’ve come SO far and commend the staff overall.

4:35: Annual Meeting Update – Erin

- 85 registrants (two weeks out)
- Consent agenda – practice on voting
- [Laura: Lola needs to register – needs annual meeting hero code]
- Robert’s Rules
- Treasurer’s report – reports, including general financials are *filed*, but not voted on. The budget is voted on.
- Interviews with RJT, CJL – what have you been doing – what have you been learning – what are you looking forward to?
- Transitional Period Proposal – table conversation before inviting a motion? – written ballot (because it includes calling a Transitional CM) [MEB: too complex to invite that discussion time productive? When ideas don’t fit the big picture – maybe it’s too cumbersome. Laura: I like the openness, feedback, input – and also think that there’s a lot that’s gone into where we’ve landed – let’s not start over. Is there a way we can demonstrate what we’ve been through that brought us here – all the things at play, etc. Maybe do a presentation – invite folks to see their point of view. Answer any last questions people might have?
- Laura, Moderator Group update interview; Lisa Stenmark & Chuck – rural church
- Nominating Slate – COM folks, Personnel, etc.
- Tributary Grants, In the Mud updates – what do we need to do to shape this up?
- Speakouts...? intersperse through the gathering -
- Invitation to 2025 AC
- Is everything covered? yes – and we don’t think we need a Board meeting the day of registration –
- but we are the hosts; **what’s our intention?** How do we help make that happen. How we show up will help guide and set a tone – and build the energy we’re trying to build – meet people you don’t know – live into that welcoming/invitation/generosity of our time – intentions: listen, friendship, deepen relationships, sense of hope, ease of navigation,
- hope, relationships/heart space, generosity, conveying sense of stability, progress, desire for change, generosity of spirit
- **Offering: Lapp Lodge, Global Hope**

4:50: Treasurer / Finance Committee – Kari, Teresa

- Financial Report – no narrative report – income lower than expenses, OCWM lower than hoped; ITM Grants – come from operating budget – est'd with understanding that OCWM funds that were given to mission, but would be given to local churches to carry out their mission (so not restricted net assets, but OCWM). Looking to apply money from board retreat), p. 3: TG applying/allocating some small amount in addition to the \$100K – total of \$259,636 deficit (or change in net assets).
- Balance sheet: present and vote on changes to Donor Designated and Board Designated Funds: the culminating aspect of our consultation with CapinCrouse, esp. since we couldn't do a proper audit (as that would involve our related entities).
- depreciation – 23, 26 –
- small parcel of land (1/3 acre in WY): \$10 – needs to be appraised? sold? It came to RMC through mergers, etc.
- Line 71 – legacy fund – not designated for any particular purpose
- Line 78 – COVID recovery grant – could be used for expenses – recommend attributing to technology – zoom
- Lines 82 & 83 – Make A Difference Fund – from the '90's – 25% stayed in conference – 90% of what it earned went into an endowment – care for churches, community, - recommend putting toward ITM, and to Board retreat,
- Line 85 – distributions made to operating budget – take that amount (\$28,000) and attribute to TG that were given last year (without funding) –
- Line 86 – 7th Ave church building/parsonage sale – transfers were made from what was sent to the conference though the proceeds were to be put into a 'restricted' fund on the balance sheet (not a 'board' designated fund).
a loan to ourselves: \$81,148.20 needs to go to the 7th Ave fund upon the sale of the RMC office building.
- Line 55 – the original ignite funds came from 7th Ave fund – the balance (\$25,983) and need to be returned
- Line 67 - \$18K designated to UCC – let's return it to the 7th Ave fund
- Requirements are broad but need to be in compliance with the by laws of the 7th ave church.
- **MOTION: approve the transfer of \$137,408 from unrestricted net access to the donor restricted (7th ave).... - listed on p. 3 of Teresa's document; Kari/Laura – motion approved.**
- MEB – moral/ethical standpoint, rather than legal; examples in letter (8/11/2016), by laws quoted; Brent: the RMC sought guidance in that letter, but we don't have documented response, other than a list of non-profits and ministries in the Denver area they wanted to support by the sale of the parsonage – which received \$199K from the

parsonage after it went into escrow. ERIN – how do we fund a beautiful vision? TC: Have clarity WITH the motion

- **MOTION: Board has reviewed fund transferred and approve/agree with amounts as outlined – and accept these balances as baseline – for Kari/Laura – approved.**
- **MOTION: donate the balance of \$9,634.27 in La Foret scholarship fund; provide it to LF on their balance sheet (and off of ours) – Kari/MEB – Any children/youth? only UCC – attending camp at La Foret –**
- **MOTION: \$1,000 for MID's to go to general synod – transfer to unrestricted net assets to Board designated funds for that purpose.** [how many MID's? a bunch; Brent: who makes the decision about distribution and returning unused funds/redistributing. Laura: could we follow the pattern of providing 3 scholarships in the amount of \$500 for 3 MID's] **AMEND: move \$1,460 to Board Designated fund to provide up to 3 scholarships for MID's to attend General Synod in the amount of up to \$500 each. Laura/Karen – APPROVED.**
- TC will put all the documentation into a usable format – two areas to follow up on Make a Difference money – the endowment piece might have gone to the endowment fund. And we'll determine how those monies may be used.
- ***Learnings: motions need to include where money is coming from and designated for – and votes made clear.***
- \$883K in unrestricted net assets – let's consider creating a reserve fund in the future.

5:44: Discontinuing Global Partners – Sarah – NEVER MIND! Recent indicators of activity and potential renewed partnership/ministry.

5:45: Association & Ministry Reports

- IMA - Keep Japanese congregation in prayer – they're doing a pastor search; one of the oldest churches in SLC – the city is looking to revamp downtown with the arrival of a NHL team.
- WA – two churches – one deciding whether they're able to continue or not; and Community Spirit in transition – lots of work to do.
- How many churches in transition do we have? Erin: Active and elements of transition: 6 or 7 in or heading out of transition
- board retreat dates – watch for those options – we'll do a doodle poll as soon as we have them.

5:55: Final announcements - None

5:56: Adjournment