

Ohio Conference Board of Directors

October 6, 2017

Minutes

Present: Mindy Quellhorst, Bob Tussing, Nicole Havelka, Jeff Roeger, Sam Buehrer (Online), Cathy Green, Dan Busch, Bobby Burt, John Gantt, Donna Overholt, Pam Linderson, Adrian Sunday, David Plant, Rita Root(Online), Cynthia Tyson(Online)

Opening

Official Greetings from Ken Daniel and Beth Long-Higgins of United Church Homes

- *Call to Order* Cathy Green
- *Devotions* Nicole Havelka
- *Community Building - Introductions*
- *Consensus Items (Agenda, Previous Minutes 8/25/17... 9/16/17) To be Moved by & seconded at the December 2017 meeting .* **Accepted by Consensus.**

Finances

Sam Buehrer

Treasurer's Report

August Financials

- OCWM Income: As of the end of August, the OCWM income was \$250,420 compared with 2016 income of \$298,151. This is a 16% drop over last year. Given what we have seen for income for the first eight months of 2017, we are on target for a double-digit percentage drop in OCWM at the end of the year over last year. We will continue to watch the income very closely. (Very Serious Concern)
- OCUCC Expenses: Through August, the expenses were \$401,519 compared to \$318,502 in 2016. Compared to last year, we are ahead in our OCWM payments to national and our program grants. Once these adjustments are made, our expenses are running 6.1% below that of last year. This is a good sign but it does not make up for the large drop in income. (Very Serious Concern)
- Outdoor Ministries: Through August, our revenue was \$191,344 compared to \$181,646 for last year. This is a 5.34% growth. Expenses are \$274,519 compared to \$240,172 in 2016. The disparity here is driven by the cost of adding the depreciation at Temple Hills in the expenses this year.
- Reserves & Cash Flow: We currently have cash on hand to cover approximately 2.6 months of expenses. This is a fair cash position. (No Concern)
- Other:
 - Pilgrim Hills Sales: The sales team is currently contracting with an auctioneer. The auctioneer suggests a sale date for some time in November. Also, an offer to buy the camp has been received and the sales team is following up on it as directed by the Board of Directors.

There are estimates of exactly what costs and sales will give us. There will probably be about \$800,000 net from the sale... after paying debts and after setting \$1,000,000 in an endowment. We will wait for a couple months to see just where that \$800,000 goes. This fits in with our August Board plans. The closing date is around November 23, 2017 and we will at that time know exact figures. Sam does not anticipate any major roadblocks to this sale. The buyer does live just near the camp.

Templed Hills: Major improvements to Heritage have been completed and more are currently in process. A workgroup will be on site to build a deck. Another workgroup will be arriving shortly to remove carpeting in Memorial so that renovations there can continue. Dangerous trees in close proximity to cabins continue to be removed (mostly Ash trees killed by the Ash Borer). A mobile home has been purchased to replace the current one that is no longer in usable condition.

Henrietta UCC: The final distribution of the proceeds of the sale are in process.

SARA: These monies have been transferred to the SARA organization in September.

Fund Report: We are in the process of making the changes that the Board approved at the last meeting.

Vision Reports (Structure of the Ohio Conference) Mindy mentioned that there is no place for a Conference Minister but Carl pointed out that the working group still has such a position as a possibility but that we are still in the process of discussion. David asked about the Function and Form of the Vision. Much of this is based on Best Practices.

“The Ohio Conference” “One nimble and responsive judicatory level that is faithful in mission and responsible in stewardship.” It was generally agreed that this is a direction in which the Board wishes to proceed. This whole process may be three years or more. It is a concept for a Conference and not a final product.

Motion: (by Mindy Quellhorst and seconded by Jeff Roeger) Move that the Ohio Conference Board of Directors affirms the directions of the Vision Team to become “one nimble and responsive judicatory level that is faithful in mission and responsible in stewardship,” and offer it to the Associations for their consideration.

Motion Passes: 6-2

Outdoor Ministry Business Plan

This is the same document distributed at the Annual Gathering in September. The business team of 12 people worked on this. It now comes to the Ohio Conference BOD for approval. It was noted that the camp may need re-naming. There may need to be some additional income (from the Endowment) to reach the yearly budget goals when a Director is named.

Motion: (by Mindy Quellhorst, seconded by David Plant) To approve the Ohio Conference Outdoor Ministries Business plan as presented. **Motion Passes.** Unanimously

04-Dec-2017

There is also the hope that Outdoor Ministries continue as constituted and put transitional teams into place. Cathy will work with this.

Interim Conference Minister Report

John Gantt

1. Request from St. Peter's UCC Millbury, Ohio for a fee but that will be waived. Since that cannot be done. So, the request is to draw on one of the Ohio Conference Funds?

Motion: To spend \$550 for St. Peter's UCC to attend Holy Cow...from appropriate Conference Funds. (Motion by Mindy and second by Adrian Sunday)

Motion Carries.

2. Skipper, Memorial and Heritage will be available come January 1, 2018. Recommended a small monetary gift for all the considerable work which Jim Ditzler has given.

Motion: Thanksgiving Gift to Jim Ditzler for \$4,000 for all the work he has done to ready Temples Hills (and not submitted his own costs). (Motion by Mindy and seconded by Bob Tussing)

Motion Carries

John also expressed his thanks for the work of transition team and visioning team. Most on these teams will stay with the process in the coming months and year or so.

Nicole Havelka Report

The long term progression that the Ohio Conference will decline by half in the next 30 years. Camps attract about 30% of the churches. There is a need to see that Faith Formation is more than just outdoor camps. The Heidelberg-UCC Youth Leadership Initiative pilot project is moving forward.

Other Business

Next meetings:

December 8....Dublin Community Church

February 23.....Location to be determined

May 4....Location to be determined.

(Executive Session as mandated)

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Tussing, Secretary, Ohio Conference UCC Board of Directors