

Presbytery Coordinating Commission Minutes 22 October 2015

Presbytery of East Iowa ■ ■ ■ ■ Presbytery Office ■ ■ ■ ■ 22 October 2015

Present: Rebecca Blair (Stated Clerk), Anita Burnett (CPM), Kevin Cullum (Camp Wyoming), Ann Luedtka (COM), Richard Miller (Personnel), Kyle Otterbein (Moderator), Al Polito (Nominating),

Moderator Kyle Otterbein called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. with the lighting of the Christ Candle and prayer. The Moderator called upon Stated Clerk Rebecca Blair, who affirmed that a quorum was present. **A motion to approve the minutes of the 24 September 2015 meeting was seconded and APPROVED unanimously.**

Moderator's Report

Moderator Otterbein noted that the November stated meeting would feature "Funshops," workshops similar to those offered at Synod School. He reviewed some of the offerings and facilitators.

Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk Rebecca Blair distributed a draft docket for the November stated meeting and requested any changes from members of the PCC. She noted that the finalized docket with reports must be distributed no later than November 1, 2015.

She shared draft copies of the Disaffiliation Policy and requested response. A motion to amend the draft docket was follows was seconded and APPROVED:

- Line 74—rephrase sentence to remove Romans 9:1 citation
- Line 86—Change to read "In some situations, the Presbytery Coordinating Commission in consultation with the Commission on Ministry and the Stated Clerk. . ."
- Line 103—Add "not affiliated with the church requesting disaffiliation" after "moderator."
- Line 178—Change to read "Decide at the outset if the congregation's advisory vote constitutes a sufficient percentage of members who consent. . ."

The Stated Clerk presented a brief update on the Brighton Church request, noting that she had been in conversation with the Reverend Lillian Seagren, District Superintendent of the Southeastern Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church, concerning the determination of denominational ownership of the Brighton church building and manse. Documents on file in the Presbytery office indicate that these buildings are owned by the UMC. The UMC lawyer will be researching this issue and will consult with Jim Claypool, PEIA attorney.

Lastly, Stated Clerk Blair reported on the PCUSA Polity Conference in Portland, OR. Moderator Heath Rada presented his Top 10 List for the PCUSA. He observed that

10. There is a spirit of renewal taking shape across the denomination
9. There is a large influx of young adults (21-35 years old) in our churches.
8. There is increasing diversity of all sorts within our church communities.
7. Folks in the denomination as a whole are more open to change and calling for it.
6. We don't know exactly who we are—we need to define our core purpose
5. An expressed need to share the truth of what folks feel about the PCUSA and why—we have been defined by others rather than defining ourselves
4. Folks are increasingly less cynical—there is an emergent spirit of growth and love, a new attitude
3. We need greater transparency in our processes
2. Change is inevitable—those in leadership need to be equipped as change agents
1. This is Christ's church—not ours—we need to always be mindful of this

She also noted that Gordon Raynal of Foothills Presbytery presented a rather disjointed explication of the nine overtures that presbytery has sent to the 222nd General Assembly.

Commission on Ministry Report

Ruling Elder Ann Luedtka, committee moderator, reported that COM will bring a series of motions on pastoral succession to the November stated meeting. These motions together will constitute the PEIA Policy on Pastoral Succession. The motion on Associate Pastor succession, which has garnered the most discussion, has been amended taking account of language proposed by colleagues in the Presbytery.

Trustees Report

Stated Clerk Blair reported on behalf of the Trustees that the proposed 2016 Budget will be sent forward as an action item at the November stated meeting.

Treasurer's Report

A printed report from Treasurer Karen Bartel was distributed. **A motion to receive the report was seconded and APPROVED.**

Personnel Committee Report

Committee moderator Richard Miller announced that the committee is nearing the completion of hiring staff specified in the new Presbytery model. The committee will be running an ad in *Out and About* for the financial management position (10 hours). In the next week, the committee will be meeting with each continuing officer and staff person to review annual goals.

Stated Clerk Blair left the room and the Moderator appoint Teaching Elder Al Polito as clerk pro tempore for the next portion of the report.

Teaching Elder Miller requested PCC guidance concerning increases in compensation for COM Associate Harry Hoyt and Stated Clerk Rebecca Blair. The PCC advised a cost of living adjustment of 1.6% in keeping with PEIA Compensation policy, a merit raise of

3.4% and a one-time bonus of \$1500 in recognition of extra administrative responsibilities assumed from January through September 2015. The Personnel Committee will present a specific proposal and Moderator Otterbein will field questions. **A motion to affirm this compensation proposal was seconded and APPROVED.**

Stated Clerk Blair resumed the clerk chair.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report

Committee member Anita Burnett reported that members of the committee had a good conversation with Dean Bradley Longfield and others at Dubuque Theological Seminary on September 29. The group discussed the case conference model. The committee also conducted a Skype interview with a potential CRE candidate. Teaching Elder Dottie Halverson has joined the CRE Coordinating Team. Shortly, the committee will begin the annual consultation cycle.

Camp Wyoming

Executive Director Kevin Cullum reported that the Camp has just completed a busy, successful camping season. He is working with the Trustees and Treasurer to arrange the timely disbursement of Presbytery funding in the Camp's financial cycle.

Nominating Committee Report

Al Polito, committee moderator, announced that the committee will be presenting nominations for Presbytery Moderator and Vice-Moderator, G.A. Commissioner and various commission and committee vacancies at the November stated meeting.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and APPROVED. Moderator Saturnia adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m. **THE NEXT PCC MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 10 AT 10 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,
Ruling Elder Dr. Rebecca Blair
Stated Clerk