

# RCC Meeting Minutes

(via ZOOM)

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**14 August 2021 / 10:00 AM**

## ATTENDEES

Rev. Allen Harris, Bruce Bowerman-Jett, Cory King, Dr. Alecia Hayes, Thomas Barnes, Gladys Davis, Rev. Alan Dicken, Kevin Kaufman, Philip Hunt, Jeff Gill, Rev. Dr. Pamela Barnes-Jackson, Candis Wilson (joined during the 'Business Items from the Floor' discussion)

## MINUTES

### Devotion

- Presented by Bruce

### Minutes from previous meeting

- Motion to accept by Alecia, Second by Thomas.
  - Motion passed

### Committee Reports

- Vision
  - Committee met with Rev. Harris
  - 2 new members
  - Plan to start meeting regularly, beginning in September
- Membership
  - Plan to use Denomination curriculum for whole RCC
    - Led by Candis and Faith
- Elders
  - Next meeting is in September
  - 2East: New member Rev. Kris Eggert
- Regional Staff
  - Rev. Harris: Had a conversation on What's Expected of Regional Staff

- Previously would provide a detailed report at the fall and spring meetings, but smaller reports as needed at other meetings.
    - Will bring anything needed to RCC, as required.
  - Rev. Dicken: Report
    - (Included in reports emailed pre-meeting)
    - 2 COVID scares during camp season
      - Had to follow some of the protocols
        - All otherwise went well and no one was hurt
    - ChiRho Counselor Issue
      - Rev. Harris was able to handle the situation
    - Rev. Dicken's role completes in September.
    - Question from Gladys
      - We didn't get full numbers we expected, Can we return to full capacity? Or will this the reduced capacity be the normal going forward?
        - A: Plan to work on the plan for next year, to hopefully get closer to full capacity. Camp Christian Committee is meeting later this month, and will be involved in this as well.
  - Tom's Report:
    - Post Camp cleanup in progress
    - Finishing the Lodge Project
      - Majority is done, just a few pieces left
    - Working on a plan for long term projects
- Camp Christian
  - Meeting 8/27-28th for weekend retreat
    - Discern how the committee functions, and looking at the long term vision/plan for the camp
  - Rev. Harris:
    - We do camp well, but need to do it better.
      - Needs to be for more/all of our region
        - Need more people at the table for the discussion
        - Need more kinds of voices that are not typically involved, discussing and helping make decisions
        - Needs to represent everyone in the region
        - Plan to have a 2nd meeting for those who are already involved to listen to those who have not been involved

- Free Store is Continuing
  - Planning for more regular hours to ramp up

### Treasurer's Report

- The region is on track with original budget
  - DMF is down a bit more than forecasted
    - Additional giving has helped
  - Estimating a surplus
- Camp
  - Registration fees were lower than hoped
  - Forecasting a deficit of \$114,889
    - Expected a deficit of \$60,773
    - Includes Depreciation
      - Cash flow deficit will be ~21,955
  - Question and discussion on gifts and named funds
  - FCC of Athens
    - Promised \$5,000 to Camp Operating and \$10,000 Matching Gift
      - As of earlier this month, we've hit ~\$7,000
      - Other Churches are still working on a special offering
      - Neither of these gifts have been received, on the current report, yet
  - Cash and the Deficit
    - Regarding cash = \$242,724 (Regional Checking)
      - Camp and Region Checkbooks are in this number
      - All across board, -\$10,864
        - But we have CCF funds, these cover the Various Restricted Camp and Region Funds
        - We also have \$333,235 in other investments
        - After all of this, comparing investments and various funds, we have \$448,247 to operate with through 2022
  - Question: Where do we sit on fulfilling the campsite manager salary, outside of the investments and such?
    - We will need to lean on some of these. We are in a better position now, because we took the step of taking the manager to a part time position a year or so ago.

- Rev. Harris: The upcoming camp christian committee conversation is looking at how we can use the camp facility beyond just the camp season, But how can we use it for the larger church and general communities.

### **Committee Reports (Continued)**

- Personnel
  - Campsite Manager Position
    - We now have 3 resumes
    - Will begin to interview in the next few weeks
      - Job posting has to be up for another week or so, first
      - Will interview all at camp
      - Want Alan Dicken to be involved
      - The personnel committee (Terry Williams, Francis Dudley), including Alan D. and Alecia, will conduct the interviews.
        - They will decide who to recommend to the council
        - Rev Dr Barnes-Jackson will present to the council
  - Discussion and vote on the Personnel Handbook
    - Language updated to be more inclusive
      - Motions to accept new handbook by Cory King, Second by Alecia, Motion passed unanimously

### **10 min Break**

### **Business Items**

- Confirmation of New Regional Elder
  - Kris Eggert for 2E district
  - Looking for a consensus,
    - Kris is confirmed
- Appointment of Chair of the Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Commission
  - Rev. Chris Vaughn
  - Vote to affirm Rev. Chris
    - Rev. Chris Vaughn is Affirmed
- Regional Assembly 2022
  - Planning to host at Camp
    - More of a time of fellowship,

- Time of mostly getting to know each other in fellowship
  - 17 September 2022
    - Adults and Children
      - All are invited
      - Casual dress
  - “Family Reunion” potential theme
    - A bit less structured, as far as a meeting goes
  - Looking for volunteers and help
- Appointment of the Pastoral Relations Committee
  - Presented by Candis
    - Haven’t heard back from the representatives,
      - Will send out the list via email, and we can approve via email

### **Business Items from the floor**

- Proposed ‘Conflict of Interest Policy’
  - From the Finance Committee
  - Document will be sent out after meeting
  - Discussed an addition to the policy regarding complaints of potential Conflicts of interest. (Section 3, item H)
  - Vote to approve the policy
    - Policy is approved

### **Regional Pastor and President Report**

- Communications are a top priority
- Has been in communication with many churches and church leaders
- Want Sept. and Oct. to be a big region campaign.
  - Aim for undesignated gifts to be auto 50/50 between camp and region operating funds
  - Want to have the whole RCC give a gift (of any size) to this campaign
    - Would like to be able to say that 100% commitment/participation of the RCC
  - Trying to build trust within the region
  - Having strong region funding for staff directly affects the ability for Camp to operate
- Christmas Offering

- Asking each RCC member to make sure each of our Churches are going to take the Christmas Offering.
  - See if you can promote a moment for mission regarding this offering in your church

### **Discernment and Vision for Regional Operations**

- Vision Committee
  - Presentation by Rev. Harris
    - Looking at a different model for regional ministry
    - Tried to figure out how to keep Rev. Dicken
      - 3 concerns
        - No major decision should be crafted without significant involvement from the larger region
        - Have done no planning and work on finance
          - The sustainability was in question from not planning on how to finance this
          - If we push this too quickly, it might cause more distrust in the region
        - This should be part of the visioning process, and should start/come from that process
  - Looking at ways of becoming creative on hiring and staff, as well as the future vision
    - Possibly looking into providing an internship
    - Being intentional about how we proceed, as opposed to reacting to issues
  - Discussion on possible new models of regional ministry
    - There are quite a few different models on regional ministry across the country
      - Lily grant?
    - Effects of COVID on church giving
  - Discussed the Visioning documents that were included with the meeting agenda
  - Each of us are asked to work through and think about the information presented here, working towards identifying our vision.

### **Disclosure of Conflict Policy**

- Since we approved the conflict of interest policy, Bruce brought up the potential conflict of interest, with him and Tom being married.
  - We (RCC Members) need to fill out the disclosure form and return by the end of September.

### **Calendar Dates**

- See agenda for dates listed
- Planning to meet (RCC) in-person this coming Fall.
  - All teams/committees should plan to be present at this meeting.

### **Closing Worship**

- Worship Video presented by Bruce and Camp Christian Committee
- Remember our former interim regional minister, Suzanne Webb, who passed away last night