

**MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF EASTERN VIRGINIA
CALLED MEETING
3 PM, FEBRUARY 2, 2016
ROYSTER MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

CALL TO ORDER/PRAYER At 3:00 p.m., Moderator Kenneth Wheeler called the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia to order and led those assembled in a call to worship and offered an opening prayer.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS The moderator then welcomed everyone and thanked Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church for their hospitality and willingness to host the called meeting. There followed the introduction of special visitors: Father Lazar of the St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church that meets at Lafayette Presbyterian Church, and Mrs. Lazar.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM Stated Clerk and ruling elder Q. John Tamm reported that a quorum was present and business may proceed. He then proceeded to read the published call and purpose of the meeting:

The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia, at the request of the Vision Implementation Team, calls a special meeting as defined by the Book of Order, G-3.0304. The special meeting will occur on February 2, 2016 at 3:00 pm at the Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church, 6901 Newport Avenue, Norfolk, VA. The three teaching elders requesting the meeting are the Reverends Jeffrey S. Bell, Elizabeth G. Hendricks, and Addie Naomi Peterson. The ruling elders requesting the meeting are William Espich, (Hidenwood, Newport News), Q. John Tamm, (First Church, Virginia Beach), and Kenneth M. Wheeler, (Green Acres, Portsmouth).

The purpose of the special meeting is to consider the following business:

1. Approve the report of the Nominations Committee as published, including the election of the Moderator and Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery.
2. Approve the narrative report of the Vision Implementation Team, and the motion on the budget for calendar year 2016.
3. Install on election the Moderator and Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery.

VISION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM The Moderator called the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey S. Bell forward to present the following motion on behalf of the VIT. The moderator called for discussion, but there was none. The motion was then approved by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: That the Presbytery adopt a "not to exceed" 2016 budget total of \$964,715.00 with an anticipated goal of receiving \$650,000.00 from its congregations.

Motion Made √ Approved √ Disapproved

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE The Rev. Veronica Thomas was then called upon to present two motions on behalf of the committee. She proceeded to share rationale for the first motion. Upon its approval, voting proceeded to the slate presented. Both motions were approved by unanimous voice vote.

1. **MOTION:** The Nominations Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Presbytery that the order of rotation for years 2016 and 2017 be adjusted for the nomination of Vice Moderator as follows:

For year 2016, male clergy; for year 2017 female ruling elder. Thereafter, starting in year 2018 the rotation as published in the Manual of Administrative Operations and cited above will control.

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

2. **MOTION:** The Nominations Committee places the following name in nomination as indicated:

Moderator of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
The Reverend **Addie Naomi Peterson**

Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
The Reverend **William G. Lamont**

Treasurer of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia and the Presbyterian League
Ruling Elder **Marc T. Steiner**, (Green Acres)

Vision Implementation Team Member at Large
The Reverend Dr. **Jeffrey S. Bell**
Ruling Elder **Diane P. Griffin**, (First Church, Portsmouth)

Commission on Ministry
Class of 2019
Ruling Elder **Richard L. Bainbridge**, (Grace Covenant)

Motion Made **Approved** **Disapproved**

INSTALLATION SERVICE OF MODERATOR AND VICE MODERATOR The meeting then proceeded to the installation of the Rev. Addie Naomi Peterson as Moderator and William G. Lamont as Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia. The Rev. Elizabeth G. Hendricks shared reflections on the text of John 12:20-26, after which Moderator Ken Wheeler led the installation portion of the service, which included the constitutional questions, prayer and charge. The installation concluded with Ken Wheeler passing the gavel to Moderator Addie Peterson.

BLESSING Moderator Addie Peterson then offered the closing blessing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS She called upon Stated Clerk John Tamm for the following announcements:

The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia will be held on Tuesday, April 26 at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, Yorktown, at 1:00 p.m.

ENROLLMENT REPORT

33 Teaching Elders

41 Ruling Elders

74 Voting Members

11 Visitors

85 Total

ADJOURNMENT/PRAYER The stated purpose of the meeting having been accomplished, Moderator Peterson adjourned the meeting with prayer.

REPORTS

VISION IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Report to the Presbytery

February 2, 2016

Rev. Jeffrey S. Bell, Moderator

Members of the Vision Implementation Team (VIT) are TE Jeff Bell who serves as the Moderator of the VIT, RE Ken Wheeler (PEVA Moderator), TE Addie Peterson (PEVA Vice Moderator), RE Bill Espich, TE Kate Rascoe, and RE Roxie Holder. General Presbyter Liza Hendricks, Administrator Linda Smith, and Stated Clerk John Tamm staff the VIT.

Jeff Bell moved the motion below on behalf of the VIT, noting that not all pledges from all churches have been received. The moderator called for discussion. There was none. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: That the Presbytery adopt a "not to exceed" 2016 budget total of \$964,715.00 with an anticipated goal of receiving \$650,000.00 from its congregations.

Approved at the time of the report.

A summary of our monthly meetings follows:

The VIT met on November 11, 2015 during which the following business was conducted:

- Approved the **VIT Minutes** for October 14 meeting.
- Approved the **PEVA October 25, 2015 Stated Meeting Minutes**, and received a printed copy of delegate comments submitted regarding the meeting.
- Reviewed the **2015 Budget**.
- Continued to put closure on the **Roots & Wings** campaign.
- Discussed the **January 2016 PEVA meeting** (Calvin PC).
- Discussed the **membership on the VIT** and will request that the Nominations Committee recommend to Presbytery a VIT member-at-large annually.

The VIT met on December 9, 2015 during which the following business was conducted:

- Approved the **VIT Minutes** of November 11 meeting.
- Heard the report of GP Liza Hendricks who discussed the transition process of the Business Manager from Dave Carney to Regan Knutson, Business Administrator.
- The **Makemie Woods Management Team** reported on their actions following the October Presbytery meeting vote. A deposit in the amount of \$1,500.00 will be made to Run River Consultants (for a feasibility study). The 2015 budget will anticipate revenue of \$198,000.00, expenses of \$219,000.00 with a deficit of \$21,000.00. The MWMT are developing a plan to repay the \$8000.00 loan from the MW Endowment Fund
- Considered requests from donors to the **Root & Wings** campaign who are not satisfied with the options made available to them by Presbytery vote on the response sheet.
- Plans for the **January PEVA meeting** continued to be discussed. Time on the docket was approved, and the concept of allowing for "open space" conversations during the meeting was approved. The "open space" time will allow for break-out gatherings on topics to be announced.
- The **Oakdale** Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission was approved at the October Presbytery meeting. The PEVA Moderator will appoint members to the commission.
- Heard a report regarding the **ODU United Presbyterian Ministry**. A steering committee continues to oversee the ministry. The steering committee will

recommend to VIT that the lease arrangements for housing students be modified from a 10 month lease to a 12 month lease.

- Discussed how VIT can and should respond when Sessions or PEVA members request that PEVA concur with **Overtures** sent to the GA. It was decided that when such requests come to the VIT, the VIT will allow the Session or PEVA member to make a motion for concurrence to the Presbytery and if a second to the motion is received, then a presentation and debate may follow.
- Made time available in the January Docket for a TE to present a motion for PEVA to concur with the Overture of the Cascades to have the PCUSA endorse The Clergy Letter Project and the Christian Clergy Letter.
- Began plans to have a **PEVA open house** at the Presbytery office on April 18 to give people an opportunity to see the renovated office space and meet the GA Moderator

The VIT met on January 6, 2016 during which the following business was conducted:

- Approved the **VIT Minutes** of the December 9 meeting.
- Approved the **PEVA January 23 2016 Stated Meeting docket**.
- Approved the **2016 Budget** for the Presbytery.
- Heard reports on the **Administrative Commissions** currently active at Gloucester, Oakdale, and Belle Haven Presbyterian Churches.
- Voted to have the VIT Moderator and SMT change the terms of the Student Lease for the **ODU UPM** from 10 months to 12 months.
- Received and concurred with the request from the **Makemie Presbyterian Church** to approach the Presbytery and change the name of the church from its current name to Francis Makemie Presbyterian Church.
- Received a report that responses to the **Roots & Wings** abandonment process are being received.
- It was reported that members of the **Oakdale** Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission are TE Susan Haugh, RE Marvin Brangan (CRE at Lafayette), and RE Roger Gravatt.
- Received the report that the MWMT and SMT representatives have worked out a plan for repayment of the approved loan, that the Run River contract has been signed, and that work on the feasibility study can begin.
- With regret acknowledged the departure of VIT members Roxie Holder and Bill Espich, both of whom have served the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia with dignity, integrity, energy, and humor. Their presence and wisdom on the VIT will be missed.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Report to Presbytery

The Rev. Veronica Martin Thomas, Moderator

February 2, 2016

On the behalf of the Nominations Committee it is moved that a provision of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia (PEVA) Manual of Administrative Operations be adjusted as follows for the election of the Vice Moderator:

In the PEVA Manual of Administrative Operations at Roman numeral VI, section 1, paragraph C it states that...**ordinarily the Vice Moderator is elected as the next Moderator...**

In the Manual of Administrative Operations for the PEVA at Roman numeral VI, section 1, paragraph A the nomination of the Moderator is described in part as following the procedure that...**the order of rotation for PEVA Moderator is female clergy, female elder, male clergy, and male elder.**

Rev. Veronica Thomas moved the motion below. She spoke to the motion, explaining context. The moderator called for discussion. There was none, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

1. **MOTION:** The Nominations Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Presbytery that the order of rotation for years 2016 and 2017 be adjusted for the nomination of Vice Moderator as follows:

Approved at the time of the report.

2. **MOTION:** The Nominations Committee places the following name in nomination as indicated:

Moderator of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
The Reverend **Addie Naomi Peterson**

Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
The Reverend **William G. Lamont**

Treasurer of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia and the Presbyterian League
Ruling Elder **Marc T. Steiner**, (Green Acres)

Vision Implementation Team Member at Large
The Reverend Dr. **Jeffrey S. Bell**
Ruling Elder **Diane P. Griffin**, (First Church, Portsmouth)

Commission on Ministry
Class of 2019
Ruling Elder **Richard L. Bainbridge**, (Grace Covenant)

Approved at the time of the report.

Attested by:

Q. John Tamm

Stated Clerk