

MINUTES OF THE COORDINATING COUNCIL
PRESBYTERY OF PENNSYLVANIA
November 10, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Council Chair Pamela Rucker. Mrs. Rucker shared a devotional parable with the council; members reflected the discernment of God's work in our presence, sharing a variety of experiences, after which the meeting was opened with prayer.

Members Present: Pamela Rucker, Jon Martin, Mike Ward, David Duggan, Mary Weber, Jerry Utt, Make Vetter, Winn Hutchcraft, Bill Owens, Catesby Woodford, Beau Weston, Richard T. Smith, David A Renwick, Richard Eads, Sioux Finney, and Nancy Williams-Berry. Also Present: Robin Culton, substituting for Tyler Ward, Susan Alley as a visitor, David McKee, Interim General Presbyter, Linda Crawford, Associate General Presbyter, and Jim Rucker, Stated Clerk.

The minutes of the August 18, 2005 meeting of the Council were presented and on motion adopted as presented.

Council Chair Pamela Rucker announced the need for the Council to nominate to the Presbytery members to serve on the Presbytery's Nominating Committee. Several suggestions were received and on motion the Chair and General Presbyter were authorized to complete the slate that will be presented. Motion carried.

Richard Eads, Chair of the Presbytery Nominating Committee reported that a majority of the vacancies that need to be filled by the Presbytery have nominees who will be presented by the Committee to the Presbytery. However, Mr. Eads noted there are still some vacancies and any recommendations would be very much appreciated.

General Presbyter David McKee reported that he is continuing to work on the Stewardship Initiative and is in the process of securing the services of fifteen people who will serve after comprehensive training as advisors for three or four churches each. David noted that to attend the major training event elders must be accompanied by the Pastor of the church. David also reported that the "Purpose" committee that he hopes to rename with a name more accurately reflecting the task of the group, continues to meet.

Associate General Presbyter Linda Crawford reported on attending a Mission Conference in Atlanta and that she continues to conduct Educational Workshops.

Treasurer Winn Hutchcraft shared the current financial situation of the Presbytery noting that income is slightly behind income for the same period last year but that the financial situation of the Presbytery is considerably stronger than it would have been had it not been for the splendid work of the Burnamwood committee in raising over \$90,000 which had they not done would have resulted in a deficit of that amount in the Presbytery budget. The council joined in thanking the Burnamwood Committee for their diligence and success in their endeavor.

Catesby Woodford, chair of the Administration and Finance committee shared with the council the committee's intention to present an increased per capita request to the Presbytery for action. The committee has shared the pertinent information with churches, treasurers and pastors. Mr. Woodford encouraged members of the council to express their support of this change.

Beau Weston, Chair of the Judicial Business committee reported that the committee received a referral from the Session of Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington, requesting the Presbytery to overture the General Assembly concerning the action of the last General Assembly in voting for divestment in Israel. Mr. Weston reported the committee will be prepared to bring an overture to the Presbytery for its vote.

Mike Ward, Chair of the Staff Services committee reported that as requested the committee has met with Interim General Presbyter David McKee and that appropriate recommendations will be presented to the Presbytery to extend the contract with Mr. McKee and to begin the process of selecting a Search Committee to secure the services of an installed General Presbyter.

Jon Martin, Chair of the Social Witness and Mission committee reported the need to change the Presbytery Guidelines to comply with the current needs of the Self Development of People program. On motion the council voted to recommend to the Presbytery that the guidelines be changed. (See Recommendations #2 and #3 below.)

Sioux Finney, Chair of the Burnamwood Board reported the results of the financial campaign undertaken by the Board. It is expected that the final total for the year will be in excess of \$90,000. Ms. Finney moved that the Burnamwood board be given permission to conduct a Financial Campaign for support of the Camp and Conference center during 2006, with the 4th Sunday in January being the date for the receipt of gifts. Motion carried.

The Stated Clerk shared with the council the report that will be made to the Presbytery by the Committee on Representation. The report will request exemption from compliance with G-9.0105.

Jerry Utt reported for the Christian Formation and Discipleship Committee. The Calvin Event is being planned; the committee will plan an appropriate way for the Presbytery to dialog as requested by the Peace, Unity and Purity Task Force. On motion the council approved the expenditure of \$1,000 from Leadership Development funds to help fund the Celtic Spirituality Conference being planned by Chapel Hill Church and Lexington Theological Seminary.

The Presbytery Docket was reviewed and the Clerk will complete the docket incorporating the suggestions offered by the council. Council Chair Pamela Rucker will complete the plans for Worship including arrangements for the Moderator of the General Assembly to preach.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted
James H Rucker, Stated Clerk

Recommendations:

1. That the following persons be elected to the Nominating Committee:

(A handout will be provided at the meeting.)

2. That the Presbytery Guidelines be changed as follows: Deletions struck, new material underlined.)

“The members of the Committee shall be nominated by the Social Witness and Mission Committee and elected by the Presbytery. The Committee shall be composed of ~~nine~~ five (5) members. At least ~~seven~~ four (4) of the members shall be members of the Presbyterian Church (USA); a majority of the members shall be racial/ethnic minority persons. Members shall serve for a three-year term, with eligibility to serve another consecutive three-year term. The Committee shall elect its own chairperson.”

3. If recommendation #2 is approved the committee places in nomination the following five people to serve as the Self Development of People Committee: Gary Brooks, Juanita Callahan, In Soon Chi, Lou Anna Red Corn and Mohammed Nasser (the only non-Presbyterian) A handout with biographical information is available.