

**Presbytery of Transylvania
Coordinating Council Minutes
February 23, 2006**

Opening

The meeting of the Coordinating Council was held in the conference room of the Presbytery Office on Thursday, February 23, 2006. The meeting was opened with prayer by Council Moderator Bill Owens at 4:30 p.m.

Roll

Those present included members Bill Owens, Tyler Ward, Hanna McIntyre, Rob Blumer, Jon Martin, Jerry Utt, Susan Alley, Richard Smith, Mary Reed, Susan Warren, Marilyn Daniel, Catesby Woodford, Winn Hutchcraft, David Renwick. Also present: David McKee, Interim General Presbyter, Linda Crawford, Associate General Presbyter and Jim Rucker, Stated Clerk. Members Mike Ward and David Duggan requested excused absences which were, on motion, granted.

Minutes

The Stated Clerk presented the minutes of the November 11, 2005 meeting of the council and announced that they had been approved by the Presbytery. The minutes were received.

Report of the Stated Clerk

1. A letter from the Session of the New Providence Presbyterian Church requesting action in regard to Per Capita that is paid by the Presbytery even when a particular church refuses or withholds per capita payments was shared with the Council. Following lengthy discussion of this matter the clerk was instructed to reply to the church's enquiry and to include a copy of the letter written to this church by Administration and Finance Chairman Catesby Woodford dated December 19, 2003.

2. A request to consider increasing the amount for mileage reimbursement paid to volunteers for Presbytery business was considered. Following discussion the matter was referred to the Administration and Finance Committee for consideration and budget implications; also, David McKee was requested to poll other presbyteries to ascertain their practice in this matter. Both will report their findings to the next meeting of the Council.

3. A request to include commissioning of Transylvania's Living Waters for the World Mission Teams *was on motion approved* and the clerk was instructed to include the commissioning in the docket for the March meeting of the Presbytery.

Report of the Interim General Presbyter

David McKee reported that at the request of the meeting of the new chairs of Presbytery committees a Council Retreat has been planned for March 10, 11 at Shakertown. Betty Meadows, General Presbyter of Mid Kentucky Presbytery will lead the council in an exploration of the role and function of the council.

Report of Associate General Presbyter

Linda Crawford, Associate General Presbyter shared a written report with the council, calling attention to various activities in which she is involved at the present time.

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer Winn Hutchcraft reported verbally, noting that 2005 had ended about where anticipated, with a smaller deficit than had been expected. Winn also noted it is too early in 2006 to create a meaningful financial report.

Burnamwood

The report for the Burnamwood Board was made by the Rev. Susan Warren who noted that the financial campaign for the center is underway. The board presented a request for permission to serve communion at Burnamwood for *Presbytery sponsored* events (retreats and summer camps) for 2006. ***On motion this permission was granted.***

Major Mission Funding

The report of the Task Force was presented by The Rev. Rob Blumer, chair. Rob noted that the Task Force is continuing its work and progress is being made. Rob distributed a draft copy of a survey which is in development to ascertain what uses might be made of a conference center and what facilities would be required for such uses to become a reality. Rob will present the survey to the Presbytery.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee Chair, The Rev. Mary Reed, reported that the committee is continuing to fill vacancies remaining on committees, etc., and as new vacancies occur. A written report including nominations to fill vacancies was presented and will be forwarded to the Presbytery.

Mary asked the Council to clarify the action taken at the last meeting of the Presbytery directing that a committee to nominate a Permanent General Presbyter be formed. Mary noted that the directions of the Presbytery did not make explicit who was to nominate such a committee and asked if the Nominating Committee was charged with this responsibility. She also noted that since the meeting of the Presbytery is only a little less than three weeks away it would not be wise to try to rush to name such a committee. On motion, which passed, the council instructed the Nominating committee to propose a slate for forming a search committee at a future meeting of the Presbytery. (It was agreed by consensus that it would not be wise to rush this process to comply with the action naming the March meeting as the time for this action and that a report and nominations at the June meeting would be satisfactory.) Further discussion by the council in response to questions raised by Mary indicated that a slate of seven members, duly representative of the Presbytery would be ideal and that six to eight members would be satisfactory at the discretion of the Nominating Committee.

Dinner

At 5:45 p.m. the Council took a recess to eat dinner, with business being resumed at 6:20 p.m.

Judicial Business

The Rev. Susan Alley, chair, reported that the Judicial Business Committee had received from the Stated Clerk overtures forwarded for consideration by the Presbytery from the Sessions of the Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church and Richmond First Presbyterian Church. Susan noted that the overtures were virtually identical and that both overtures were nearly identical with what is being called The Salem Overture – an overture by the Presbytery of Salem – which requests action by the General Assembly to rescind the action taken by the Office of the General Assembly to close the Montreat Historical facility. Susan reported that after due consideration by the Judicial Business committee, it would be the committee's recommendation to the Presbytery that the Presbytery of Transylvania concur in the Salem Presbytery overture. ***On motion the council voted to endorse the recommendation of the Judicial Business Committee.***

Church Development and Evangelism Committee

The written report of the committee was presented by Interim General Presbyter David McKee. The report consisted of a resolution concerning the Glen Eagles property. After lengthy discussion the recommendation and the resolution were, ***on motion which passed***, deferred to the March 10, 11 retreat meeting of the Council.

Christian Formation and Discipleship Committee

The report of the Christian Formation and Discipleship Committee was presented by The Rev. Jerry Utt, chairman. The committee, at the request of the Council, has planned for a study of the *Report of the Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church*. This study will be conducted in conjunction with the March meeting of the Presbytery and at the request of the committee the Docket for the meeting will be prepared to allow for a full morning presentation and discussion of the report. As part of the preparation for the discussion Worship and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed at the beginning of the Presbytery meeting. The Rev. David McKee will preach and in conjunction with the host pastor make arrangements for Worship.

Presbytery Docket March 14, 2006 Meeting

In addition to the morning Docket (see item above) various committee chairpersons suggested times they would need for reporting. The Stated Clerk was instructed to prepare the Docket for the meeting to include these concerns and to accommodate the requests of the Christian Formation and Discipleship Committee.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was on motion adjourned at 7:20 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted

James H. Rucker, Stated Clerk