

NCNC Council Minutes

June 13, 2020 10:00 AM

Ring Central Meeting

FINAL

Council Members Present: Richard Brabham, Theron Jones, Jim Ross, David Gregory, Roy Mosley, Liz Armstrong, Raygan Baker, Mei Wang, Patsy Finster, Jeannie Hobson, Eppie Encabo, Tony Waltman, Janice Hill, Barbara Broadbent, Patrick Lopez, Melissa Tumaneng.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Diane Weible, Rob Parrish

Council Members Absent: Phil Konz

Opening:

The meeting was called to order by Richard Brabham at 10:04 a.m. and opening prayer was offered by Janice Hill. This was followed by agreement with the New Covenant of Respect. A quorum was present. There was a brief check-in by those in attendance.

MOTION: Eppie Encabo moved the approval of the agenda. Roy Mosley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Jeannie Hobson moved that we approve the Council minutes for May 16, 2020 as corrected, the minutes from the Ring Central emergency meeting for May 22, 2020. Roy Mosley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Guests:

Chris Wagner and Steve Warden joined us. Chris spoke for both, because Steve did not have camera or mic available. Chris offered his opinions about the decision to sever relationship between the Conference and UCCR, and offered to spearhead a fundraising effort to save the camp.

Chris requests that the Council consider a 2-month postponement of the cancellation of the contract with UCCR so that a cost benefit analysis can be obtained. Chris also requests that an ad hoc committee of 7 be established to renegotiate contract with UCCR.

UCCR brings experience, resources, group discounts, 50% of bookings, marketing, promotion, adding expense to the camp.

MOTION: Roy Mosley moved that we return to agenda. Patrick Lopez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Roy Mosely moved that we enter Executive Session at 10:28 a.m. Eppie Encabo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Jeannie Hobson moved that we NOT go into Executive Session. Roy Mosley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Slate:

Theron reported the addition to COM Committee B of Brendia Pierre of Pilgrim Church. Jeannie reported that Maria Restivo will join the Council for Class of 2024 and is a YYA.

MOTION: Patsy Finster moved to adopt the current slate as amended. Roy Mosley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Eppie Encabo, Roy Mosley (to consult), and Theron Jones will review how we handle minutes, financial reports, etc. and the membership/eligibility requirements for serving on Council and Committees in the Conference.

ACTION ITEM: As Vice President, Jim Ross is chair of the Committee for Leadership Recruitment and volunteers rep association Eppie Encabo, Bay, David Gregory, GGA, Barbara Broadbent, Santa Clara, Janice Hill, Sequoia, Liz Mountain Valley, need Sac Valley.

Annual Gathering:

Eppie thanked all who participated in the May 30 Special Meeting

We now have new revised bylaws and have approved new officers.

AG7 met last Wednesday to evaluate the process of the virtual meeting and propose improvements and to review proposals for the Annual Gathering (virtual) in October, which will be reviewed at another place in today's agenda.

MOTION: Jeannie Hobson moved the approval of the Revised Standing Rules. Theron Jones seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Eppie Encabo moved the approval of the report of the Annual Gathering Committee. No second required. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Meeting Schedule:

Jeannie Hobson noted that we will continue to meet on the third Saturday of the month except December and April. Traditionally we do not meet in August. Diane requested that we meet in August to review White Fragility and any other business that is needed.

We will continue to meet virtually at least through the end of the year.

Richard Brabham will serve as Clerk of the Council in the coming year.

Mission and Purpose/Conference Covenant:

ACTION ITEM: Janice Hill, Jim Ross, Mei Wang will constitute a committee (with suggested others outside the Council) to possibly include a statement on social and racial justice issues be included in bylaws, like the three words proposed at the Special Meeting on May 30.

Our desire is to transcend wordsmithing and bylaw changes and actually live out the mission as a Conference.

This will be greatly helped by passing the four proposals from the Business Committee first.

MOTION: Roy Mosley moved that we recess the meeting until 12:45 p.m. Theron Jones seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

MOTION: Roy Mosley moved that Council enter Executive Session at 12:51 p.m. Jeannie Hobson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Jeannie Hobson moved to adjourn Executive Session at 3:06 p.m. Theron Jones seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Second by Theron Jones. Motion carried unanimously.

Camp Cazadero

MOTION: Jeannie Hobson moved that to pay the ongoing monthly expenses for Camp Cazadero and hire Melissa Sorrick to do the water testing and as a consultant as necessary. Jim Ross seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Faith Letter to Attorney General

Diane received a request from Rev. Deborah Lee who is sending letter to Attorney General office.

MOTION: Barbara Broadbent moved that NCNCUCC will sign onto the faith letter to Attorney General Xavier Becerra, pending final review by the Conference Minister. Jeannie Hobson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's report

Rob reviewed his written report.

We have applied for the PPP loan funds which should be received this week. The amount is \$62,803, and we can qualify for forgiveness based on our February 2020 payroll. Rob will advise as to the status of our loan forgiveness.

MOTION: Roy Mosely moved to accept the treasurer report. Eppie Encabo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Conference Minister's Report

- Diane is working to get volunteers to expand racial justice and dismantling white supremacy. Have small groups. Plan to train more facilitators in the style/way that Diane/Davena trained.
- Working on conference wide time of vigil or worship (some kind of action of repentance) for white privilege. Brought forth by Casey Tinnin who is doing something for his church. What might it look like on same day, different places, by other white faith leaders to do the same?
- Thinking about having a series of roundtable conversations (that is structured like Oprah's Two-part conversations the other night.) Multiple panelists who were African-American stating their needs to where to go from here. Multiple topics. For example panel of mothers to talk about how to talk to kids. Panel of peach people to talk about their privilege. Panel of Black & Brown people to tell their narratives. Would like to get this launched as soon as possible.
- Elk Grove Church impacted by George Floyd's brother asking "How much is my brother's life worth? \$20?" They are asking for \$20 donations that they'll give the funds to conference to support racial justice work.
- Laura Rose – Alameda – How do we show up for that?
- Liz Armstrong – Angel's Camp protest – Read news story.
- Vallejo – News article said it has the most violence on B&B by officers in the country (?); definitely California.
- Diane tries to attend 3-4 services plus one evening service if available. Diane is preaching live next week. Conference staff is recording sermons if ministers want a break.
- Christian Cathedral – We're still paying their insurance as well as Sacramento Marshallese. These 2 churches never became fully became UCC and we've been paying their insurance.

- Council member asked: How can we help Diane? When we get a list of things that Staff is not doing, Diane will bring it to Conference Council. Are there groups of people that need to be called? Expect to receive a list and we'll go from there.
- Council member asked: Who is drawing the contract for Melissa Sorrick? Council will draw up that contract. Write what we expect from her for the \$2800. Need help writing this contract. Maybe Jeannie and Wade, Al DeBella, Kevin Mayhem, Tyler Dickey. Richard to follow-up.
- FABC Meeting Update: Talked about idea that given whatever we do with Cazadero property, we need to know where is the energy by the churches.
 - o Need add'l member. Committee meets monthly for developing budgets.
 - o Idea for 3 different proposals for different scenarios.
- Where we are right now with 4 staff. No add'l cost for camp. Where we are with OCWM today.
- Return to staff of 5 budget.
- Staff of 4, plus costs with and without camp budget.
- Then have online forums for feedback. What do you need as churches? Then Conference Council will review and prepare recommendation for Oct AG. Church will vote.
- OCWM went down in 2015 and we are trying to get it more in line. A good rule of thumb is 10% of pledge and offering (\$880k) or 5% of budgeted expenditures (\$1.2m). We average 7.5% of offerings that we receive for OCWM. The average a church gives is ~6%.

New Business

No new business

Adjournment

Closing Prayer was offered by Barbara Broadbent, and meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Post notes:

Diane's experience at Alabama exhibit. "Grandfather" clause came from meaning "If your grandfather can read or write, you can vote." So it's good to not use this in our language because of the racist connotation. Better way is to say this is "Waived due to non-conforming and thus excluded."

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. David Gregory, Council Clerk