

CMCL Council Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2014

Present: John Thomas, Susan Gascho-Cooke, Lori Bergey, Beth Oberholtzer, Andrea Lommen, Lois Martin, Cheryl Weber, Julia Schrock Rosenfeld, Kevin Kautz, Chad Martin, Adam Miller

Absent: Lucy Ann Boll-Borrero

1. Opening – Happy birthday to Susan.
2. Call to Order
3. Approval of the September minutes. Approved as written.
4. Budget Report – No report.
5. Old Business
 - a. Reports - Structural Timeline Committees
 - i. Structural Revision—**Beth:** (Beth, Julia and Chad) The team met (minus Chad). In November, team will meet again. Team looked at Seattle (Janet Lind’s brother’s congregation) and Goshen congregations’ structures. Beth is concerned regarding expectations of council and the breadth of decisions to be made by council. Perhaps 3 or 4 “councils” could be established; i.e., committees being structured into “categories of councils”. Beth thinks that having a basic structure outline by end of 2014 is a bit optimistic. Possible “umbrellas”: Stewardship (finances, facilities, budget, etc.); Management/Administration (professional staff linked to each council); Spiritual Leadership, with everyone meeting same night of month. Chad spoke about predictability of meetings, rather than flexibility. Timeline can be updated as the team meets and processes.
 - ii. Goal—setting—**Andrea:** (Adam, Andrea and Susan) Handout of 10 broad goals for CMCL—not ranked. Hoping to present goals at congregational meeting and get congregational feedback. Handout of sample milestones that connect CMCL to these goals. Discussion ensued regarding overlap of structure revision, goal setting and volunteer cultivation all working together towards goals. Possible additional goal: mining Anabaptist history and theology for values relevant to CMCL; green/sustainability; open to new and old voices. What new initiatives do we want to take/focus on to get closer to our goals?
 1. Discussion ensued regarding how to report to congregation about structure updates and goal setting. Council snippets; each committee can write up a short paragraph of their activity, and perhaps include a timeline for congregation. Bulletin insert with 3 paragraphs and intro, and recurrent reference to council activities, and then in early January 2015 (January 11), having a presentation of goals to congregation. Committees could offer to sit and listen to congregation on the committees’ activities. Julia will contact Dennis Clemmer as new convener regarding a January 2015 congregational meeting.
 2. Greg is willing to do another assessment meeting (possibly in December, during Christian Ed time).
 - iii. Volunteer Cultivation—**Kevin:** (Kevin and Lori) Focus of volunteers should be health of community—how to encourage it, nurture it. Tangible steps:
 1. Collect information (in new database); (Profession? Hobby? Passion? Interests?)

2. Make information visible (in new database). Make information available to CMCL and outsiders.
 3. Measure this data and publish it.
 4. Once volunteered—how do we value the volunteering?
 - a. Twice a year – check-in call;
 - i. (How’s it going? What’s working? What’s not working?)
 - ii. Thank you!
 - b. Record *calls* made (but *not* content of call).
 - c. Ask: Have you found anyone else who might be interested in doing what you are doing? (Mentoring/shadowing)
 - d. Ask: Have you experienced spiritual growth as you have volunteered?
 - e. Feedback on “how to make it better?”—how do we record/capture that?
 - f. Possible blog posts of volunteer experiences?
 5. Parish Resource Center has a lot of resources for volunteers.
 6. Common interests and engagement tools database.
 7. Cultivating volunteers should be a year-round activity, rather than a once-a-year event.
 8. Could ask small groups to gather volunteer information.
6. Safe Church Committee: PA rules are changing and clearances need to be updated more frequently. Table in Parrot Gallery during coffee hour to help people; asked finance committee to pay \$10 for clearance. Finance offered to pay clearance fee for those who have trouble paying the fee.
 7. New Business
 - a. Report from Staff Relations: Julia read report. Will be meeting with staff in coming weeks. Clarified that staff is responsible to report to staff relations.
 - b. Next meeting date: December 3, 2014.
 8. Other new business
 - a. Pastor’s Report: Susan handed out report clarifying how Chad, Susan and Chris work with auxiliary programs, including how to increase their presence with senior youth. Also included are Chris’ job responsibilities.
 - i. Pastoral Care: wedding; 6 children dedicated; service of remembrance; 1st grade bible presentation; advent and Christmas; 12 Scriptures lectionary; retreat; ACC delegates meeting; Shalom project (Chad);
 - ii. Congregation should be informed of this increase of pastoral team’s engagement with youth, as well as the continued needs of youth.
 - iii. Will not address all needs of youth.
 - b. Young Adult (20s to mid-30s) group continues to grow. Chad will continue communicating with them.
 - c. Chad: trip to Palestine/Israel—will do storytelling during Christian Ed; used professional development money for trip; 12 other pastors and church leaders on trip. Visited refugee camp.
 - d. Shalom Project: Chad continues to work on Project; Don Hess doing some pro bono work; will look into getting college students involved.
9. Adjournment at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Kraybill Stahl, Office Staff