

THE PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

First Presbyterian Church, Effingham, Illinois

Thursday, October 18, 2018

Minutes

Our Mission is to Connect, Equip, and Inspire Presbyterians as we walk with Jesus Christ.

One God, One Table, Many Voices. A Community in Christ committed to discovering and calling out the best in one another.

Present: Rodger Allen, Cindy Bean, Bill Capel, Michael Evanchak, Dennis Hamilton, Jane Hopkins, Katharine Jones, Dan Kingery, Bill McLean, Wade Meranda, Granger Odum, Loren Prest, Stacy Tate, Mary Wright

Absent – Maureen Clark, Laurie Fields, Ann Schwartz, John Swick

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Moderator pro-tem Rodger Allen. A quorum was present and he offered a prayer.

By consensus the docket was approved.

Minutes – approved by email

Bible Study – led by PCC Bill McLean

Morning Discussion:

From Reimagining Stewardship Workshop held on October 13, 2018

Fiscal Leadership Begins with Your Session (General Council)

- *Does your board function as stewards of a vision for tomorrow or as guardians of past successes and values?*
- *Does your board regularly discuss fiscal issues?*
- *What drives your decision-making: your sense of mission and calling or your fiscal restraints?*

Mary Wright shared her experience at the Workshop as being very educational and fulfilling. Bill McLean shared information about Bill Enright and the metaphor of the kitchen table being the place where conversations about values take place. Bill Enright emphasized that stewardship decisions aren't strictly fiscal but are in line with our values.

“Does the General Council function as stewards of a vision for tomorrow or as a guardian of past successes and values?”

We are trying to become stewards of a vision for tomorrow, but we still need to express the values of the Presbytery and work to uphold those as we form our vision. But we don't have a clear statement of our values. The closest we have is “One God, One Table, Many Voices”. That value statement was approved in 2001.

What would it mean to be stewards of a vision for tomorrow since this group is the one that sets the direction of the Presbytery? Usually we receive reports and seldom have the deeper discussion of what the implications are for the future.

“Does the General Council regularly discuss fiscal issues?” Now that General Council has the role that the Financial Ministries Task Force had prior (of setting the fiscal vision) we will have to incorporate that into our discussions. We are working toward being intentional as we rework our priorities. New members on General Council have a real fiscal learning curve and it could be true for our churches too. For instance, some were not aware that churches can give to Shared Mission Giving over and above the Per Capita giving.

We need to think in terms of abundance rather than scarcity. It can be tempting to operate in survival mode as our Presbytery is losing churches, losing members, losing income. How can we make things stretch? Were our recent decisions about closing the office, reducing staff size a part of survival thinking or part of setting a new vision? Bill Enright talked about a community get together around shared values and move forward as if it is a shared adventure. The relational office could be seen as an adventure. Why do we have a PCC part-time rather than full-time? Was that decision made for financial reasons rather than because of vision.

What drives General Council’s decision-making: your sense of mission and calling or your fiscal restraints? What is the main focus of our ministry as a Presbytery and what are we being called by the triune God to do in this time and in this place? It is easy to fall into survival mode in this situation. The two positions can compete with each other – it can be easy to go into survival mode and fall out of call mode.

What are positive stories you have heard in the church? A story was shared about one small church that said that they are dying – few people, not much money, etc. But at the same time, *that* small church knit hats and purchased gloves for every student at the neighborhood school. They have under 20 members, under 15 in worship, little money but they have a vibrant ministry.

Also, the power of story-telling was emphasized in the workshop too. Stories are powerful. We need to tell the story of our ministry. What if we share more of our stories? What if... when we give a report we had one story we could share? Maybe there is a way to use the Bible Study time to share our good news stories? We could easily do this at a Presbytery meeting... we used to do it at regional meetings.

What drives your decision-making: your sense of mission and calling or your fiscal restraints? How do we stay true to our sense of call and mission within the fiscal restraints as we look at our Treasurer’s Report? What is the sense of people in the past when they made decisions about staffing? We need more stories about what Presbytery is doing. What does the Presbyter for Congregational Care do? What does the Stated Clerk do? It is helpful for presbyters to report back to the congregations. Why is it important that we’re paying the salaries of the staff? They need to hear the stories about that.

As we think about our fiscal reality and think about our mission and calling, how do we make our decisions about our priorities? Do we really wrestle with the complexity of the mix or do we make decisions quickly? We will have a different staffing model at some time – when, what will it look like? When that conversation happens, it will need to happen without the staff people in the room and we will have to work to not make decisions based on their personalities. Will our staffing decisions reflect our call and values?

The installation of a called pastor is an act of Presbytery – great confluence about the presbytery and we should celebrate that. We may have forgotten how to tell those stories. Do we convince ourselves that some of the stories aren’t important enough to tell and how are we making that distinction? When we install a moderator, the opening of the liturgy is the recitation of the six great ends of the church. What are the stories that show that we own who we are? What are we convincing ourselves is too little to tell

about? It was shared that some of the congregations at regional meeting would do that – discount their ministries because of their membership size.

We reflected on the restraints that used to be around ordination (gender, race, orientation). The removal of those barriers is a story that needs to be shared. We have great traditions of telling stories of God and God's people in Sunday School, etc. Today we're not so good at telling those stories involving people right here and right now. Sessions don't want to feel like they are bragging. But some people want to tell the stories. There is a television show called God Friend Me – God is using other sources to tell the stories that we don't tell. How do we tell our stories now?

How do we tell our stories? People watch screens now. Story telling is relational and its effectiveness is related to listening. One – we're not great at telling our story. We aren't good at the shorter elevator speech. Younger people are better at it because they text regularly. How do we get reticent story-tellers through the feeling that they might be bragging? Eight minutes is the amount of time people focus on oral presentations. We need to be better at sharing our stories as a presbytery. We need to reframe our stories in terms of our mission and ministry.

One challenge we have in our decision making is the time it takes to build consensus. A General Assembly learning is that the more that you use Roberts Rules of Order the more that White males teaching elders over 55 dominate the discussion followed by white females teaching elders over 55. Consent agendas can serve to foster more discussion because it frees up time for the more in-depth discussion. But it can also cut out opportunities for other people to speak. Roberts Rules of Order have been changed to foster more consensus building in small boards. Also, Roberts Rule of Order were designed to protect the minority from being shut out of discussion.

How do we make sure that we don't repeat our old patterns? It would be nice to have more time to discuss things; want to be true to our mission and not go into survival mode; to tell our stories; to not just have Wade (presbytery treasurer). put together a budget; not just delegate difficult issues out to a task force? For instance, the Financial Ministries Task Force did the technical change recommendations and it ended there with General Council committing to address the larger adaptive issues. General Council and the whole Presbytery didn't take up wrestling with the deeper issues. When we are looking at numbers and priorities, how do we make certain that we don't just hand this off to someone else?

We now have a new awareness and can look at this differently and start creating the new skill set. If you don't have a good awareness of our financial position and what it is about, it is hard to know where to start. The previous reports didn't have a lot of clarity. The conversation starts with people understanding where we are financially. Was it helpful last year when we also looked at the budget in terms of connect, equip and inspire and had line items spelled out that way? It reminded people what our mission statement is by putting numbers to those items wasn't helpful. People say you need a narrative budget, but maybe just the narrative. When we talk about the big decisions about the budget – for example do we talk about Personnel matters in November when the budget has to be decided pretty quickly? That doesn't leave time for discussion and therefore you just have to trust and approve the committee recommendation rather than interact with them. Could we deal with personnel issues earlier in the year? We tried that for a couple of years, but it moved back into technical issues rather than pursuing the adaptive issues and we ended the practice because it was seen as too early to make the technical decisions (salaries).

How will we be dealing with the adaptive issues due to the timing that Bill and Cindy are 39 months into a 60-month call agreement? Dan is a couple months into a 36-month agreement. Additionally, COLA is different than a merit-based raise... and we need to be clear about that. We also need to consider the just payment, the "call" in salary discussions. Everything/all decision /discussion need(s) to address, "How

are we being called to serve Jesus Christ?" We need to talk about call and mission at the mid-council level.

February meeting is at round tables so that we can discuss the amendments. What if we worked to create relationships early in the meeting (perhaps with Bible Study)? Lunches have been frustrating because we have had presentations so there haven't been opportunities to meet with our colleagues.

There is not an easy technical answer to our fiscal and staffing/vision issues. This is what a lot of our congregations are dealing with now. What is the shifting in our understanding of who we are? How do we find the balance between inclusion and exclusion? Solving technical issues can be so satisfying. We are dealing with systemic things that don't have easy technical answers. Adaptive work will help us move forward. Example – changing the formatting of our financial statements was a technical fix, but now the easily understandable financial statements make it possible for us to have the deeper adaptive discussions. Discerning God's will is messy and not easy. There are no easy and clear answers that can be put on a spread sheet. We keep working on it.

For the next Presbytery meeting, Mary hopes to share a good news story in the COM report. Other Committee chairs might see this as a good step toward this.

Reports

The Moderator of General Council pro-tem. Rodger Allen reported.

COR vacancy nominations

It was agreed to ask the following to serve: Greater Decatur - Phyllis Warnick, At Large – Sutton Decker, At Large – Eric Corbin. Bill Capel and Rodger Allen will ask these candidates and then circulate the nominations to the General Council by email and then hopefully will elect them at the November Stated meeting. (Update – so far, none of these positions have been filled.)

On-line Giving

Report on Presbyterian Foundation's on-line giving options. Can do through on-line and text. Cost is 2%. Does the Presbytery want to establish this as an option for Presbytery meeting offerings, etc.? The way that people give is changing. On-line giving is used by people of all generations. We as a Presbytery don't do a lot of check transactions like churches do. This would allow us to model this for our churches and also free presbyters from having cash or checks at the Presbytery meeting. The overhead expense would go to benefit the Presbyterian Foundation which benefits our congregations. It would be targeted to offerings only. It won't be used for per capita because of the 2% fee. There is no fee for set-up. **It was VOTED** to implement the on-line giving service through the Presbyterian Foundation as an option for Presbytery meeting offering, ordination/installation offering and any individual general donations to the Presbytery.

Per Capita Resources

There are new per capita resources available. We will want to consider having these available for the November Stated meeting. It would be good to have these resources available. Bill M. will call and find out the cost to have them printed out rather than downloading them and then printing them out ourselves. It was confirmed that the resources are free and 250 of them were shipped and will be available at the November Stated meeting.

Endorsement of Shelbyville Grant Application from the Synod of Lincoln Trails.

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery endorse this Grant Application.

The Commission on Ministry (COM) Mary Wright reported.

It was VOTED to have a module added to each presbytery meeting related to Navigating Healthy Relationships (broadly defined). It could be 15 minutes long or longer or shorter. Boundaries are something that we are dealing with all the time in our relationships so it should be something we address regularly and continually.

Small Church Forum Dates and Locations

We have added the following dates for the small church forums to our presbytery calendar with the locations hopefully to be Marion and Philo from noon to 2pm:

March 26 & 27, 2019

May 14 & 15, 2019

Sept 10 & 11, 2019

Nov 5 & 6, 2019

Discussion about an issue with implications for COM and CPM

There was discussion about navigating a relationship with a Candidate for Minister of the Word and Sacrament and the desire of the congregation of care to call the Candidate. There has been on-going conversation with the previous Clerk of Session and the Candidate that this should not happen – it is not ordinary procedure. COM and CPM will stay in contact and will reach out to the session for discussion.

The meeting was recessed for lunch.

Actions of the 223rd General Assembly – How to proceed beyond the suggestions below?

From the previous meeting:

The priorities that we can address easily in the near future are:

- Aim for the Table Setters to conduct anti-racism training in May 2019.
- Can add some of the Honest Patriotism content for the February meeting for discussing overtures.
- Ask COM to address the Family Leave Policy.
- Send out an email about the Peace congregations and the gun policy sent from the General Council
- Add into the August Presbytery papers the call to pray for the Korean Peninsula for 2018, suicide prevention and recovery (every year).
- The Climate Change items – General Council ask Cindy Shepherd to work with the four Green congregations.

By consensus the repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery will be addressed and resources for Native American Day September 22nd or 23rd could be incorporated into the August 2019 worship meeting. (resource insert). Add info to an upcoming newsletter article.

Camp and Conference Board of Directors

Outside groups renting the Camp

The Church of the Latter-day Saints would like to rent the entire camp to use the camp for \$4,410 for the last week of June for 65 kids and 20+ adults. The Camp Board will either move the camp schedule or not take the week of July 4th off. The Vine and Cornerstone church (local churches) and American Heritage Girls may want to rent the camp in the off season. Looking for ways to make up the projected \$7,500 deficit. This will get them back to the 200+ kids participating in programs at camp.

When an outside group uses the Camp there is a requirement of proof/certificate of Insurance. Is this a model (renting out the facilities to outside groups) we could look at for utilizing for increase of the Camp and how does that affect our agreement with US Fish and Wildlife? They are happy by how many people visit the refuge.

Updates

The Camp Board is working hard. Had good workday recently. Can't get the brochure together until they find out if the LDS is coming. They had 8 kids show up for the Open House over Labor Day weekend.

Accreditation and Inspections

Got ACA recertified for 5 years. Department of Fish and Wildlife visit recently, and everything went well.

Northern programming

Trying one more time to get enough kids at the Danville location for Confirmation Camp. It would be good to get more camp programming in the northern portion of the Presbytery. It was shared that there is a camp north of Taylorville that rents out only to churches so that would be another outlet for camping in the northern area of the Presbytery.

Promotions

Dan is still going around talking about Camp Carew in congregations despite what the emails say. Frustrations about the ineffectiveness of promotions was shared between the Camp and the Presbytery (Reimagining Stewardship event attendance was low even though the event was promoted in many different ways).

*Camp Fees and Rental Fees were approved by the Camp Board at their last meeting but weren't submitted for consideration at this meeting. The following will go straight to the Presbytery for approval since General Council didn't get to act on them.

It is VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery approve a Camper's Fee change increase of \$5.00 across the board except for Horseback Camp.

There will be no increase or change in Rental fees.

Camp Financial Reports were reviewed.

Proposed 2019 Camp Budget

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery approve the 2019 Camp Carew Operating Budget.

Treasurer's Report Wade Meranda reported.

Update on Financial Review for PSEL.

It is done and just needs the final review done internally by the auditing firm. It will be done by the end of October. The final report will be emailed to General Council to receive it.

Receive the 3rd Quarter Financial Reports

Wade reported that we have received 52 in full and 27 partial payments in per capita. We always budget for 100% of per capita to be paid. But last year we were \$35,000 short. This really affects our bottom line for the year. Wade will coax the congregations that have not completed their per capita payments.

If approved, next year's Shared Mission Giving percentages will be 75/20/5 which is in line with the other presbyteries in our Synod.

We manage all our money in 9 funds with the primary one is the Operating Fund. Trying to create transparency by providing details/notes when those other 8 funds are used.

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery receive the Treasurer's Third Quarter Financial Reports.

Local disaster relief is a fund that he would like to eliminate. We could use \$1000 for the Tolono church which had flooding in their facility and that is the deductible amount.

Compensation Correction

Wade explained the background for the correction. The Camp Director position had unusual terms of compensation for a non-pastor. They included compensation for the equivalent of a full-time pastor's Board of Pensions dues for medical, pension, death and disability. When the Camp Director position went to part-time and thereby he was paid less than the participation minimum of \$44,000, we failed to take into account that those dues were still based on \$44,000, not his lower salary. Additionally, Wade reviewed all of the previous years of compensation and found any errors and also added interest for the back pay which totals \$1031 which will be paid to him through a 1099 form. Wade explained that there was no feedback on the shortage because normally we would receive a bill from the Board of Pensions, but since he wasn't enrolled, there was no fail-safe.

The 2017 minutes will be changed to show the corrected terms of compensation for the Camp Director.

Proposed 2019 Budget

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery approved the balanced 2019 Budget. This would mean that the Presbytery Per Capita would be raised \$2 to \$42 per active member. This would also mean that the Shared Mission Giving percentage being retained by the Presbytery would be raised from 50% to 75%. 20% would be sent to fund the Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency and 5% would be sent to the Synod of Lincoln Trails.

Budget beyond 2019

Stacy raised the point that DuBois Center isn't supported by the Illinois South Conference. It is up to the churches in the Conference and the Camp to do their own fundraising. We are going to have to talk with other camps like DuBois Center to find out how this goes. Could we rent a Camp ourselves for one week for all the kids that we have for the entire summer? It is like the process we went through with groups like Kemmerer Village. We no longer give any money to Kemmerer Village – they have to go to the congregations and other funding sources for that.

Should we have a special meeting how to resolve the budget issues? **It was VOTED** to have a Special Called Meeting of the General Council. It should be a meeting without the Presbyter for Congregational Care, the Stated Clerk, the Camp Director and the Administrative Assistant. Wade Meranda will be there to answer financial questions during the discussion. Outgoing PSEI Moderator Rodger Allen will moderate that meeting so that Laurie Fields can participate. The meeting will be held in Effingham January 17 from 10 am to 1:00 with a working lunch or the group will get lunch together afterwards. This event has been booked with the Effingham church office.

The Personnel Committee Stacy Tate reported.

Personnel recommends that all presbytery staff receive a COLA increase of 2.8% understanding PSEI's financial restraints. (The budget implications of this increase – the cost is \$5,307) It is possible that we could cover some of the costs by encouraging congregations to give a bit more in Shared Mission Giving. Action on COLA could be to pay it retro-actively. We could raise Shared Mission Giving to \$80,000.

Cost of Living Adjustment for staff

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery approve a 2.8% COLA for the Presbytery staff and approve the proposed balanced PSEI budget for 2019. There was no COLA for 2018.

Treasurer for 2019

Wade informed personnel that he is willing to continue as treasurer for another year –

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that Wade Meranda be elected to another one-year term. He will be installed at the November Stated Meeting.

Sabbatical for Staff

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery approve a sabbatical leave policy for the Presbyter for Congregational Care and the Stated Clerk that is commensurate to the guidelines for pastors in the presbytery.

The Committee on Representations (COR) Dennis Hamilton reported.

Update on filling vacancies and new terms. Met on September 20. They had six vacancies and all the new terms to fill. Only filled one vacancy. All the 2019 terms except four have been filled. With some of the vacancies are for terms expiring this year so that only leaves seven positions to be filled. Some terms have been re-arranged in order to bring balance and continuity. The Camp Moderator position has yet to be filled, despite asking those who were recommended by the Camp Board. There are two vacancies on Camps and Conferences and five vacancies for COM. They hope to have some of those positions filled prior the Presbytery meeting. CPM was filled by COR for the larger committee structure. They will look to find ways to reduce that committee by three. We could also consider making some of the COM positions at-large rather than all being regional assignments.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) Michael Evanchak

Recommending Toby Montgomery (current youth director at Mattoon) be enrolled as an Inquirer, effective October 1, 2018.

Exam readers and alternates approved.

Monday, December 17th is training date for the oncoming and present CPM members.

After 2019 the CPM will be reduced in size to 9 members plus a moderator – 1 per region and 3 at large members.

CPM Manual Updates

Key changes – - Recommending that the CPM Handbook be the foundational document for their work. He briefly reviewed the other changes. Change in committee size. Section 9 on Commissioned Ruling Elders Preparation. They removed the two-phase process while keeping the requirement that it be a two-year program of preparation. There were also changes that reflected the current Book of Order.

It was VOTED to concur with the RECOMMENDATION that the Presbytery approve the revisions to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry Manual.

The Presbyterian Women (PW) Jane Hopkins reported.

Fall Gathering was Saturday, Sept. 29, at Centralia Presbyterian Church. Worship was led by Joannie Naraghi. Betty Stelmazewski and Sue Tomlin, Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church, presented a slide program on their participation in the First Presbyterian Church of Champaign's June 2018 Mission Trip to Cuba. Mission projects included the local food pantry and the Centralia PW Giving Tree at an assisted living home.

We were happy to receive word that the national PW Birthday Offering Grant Request benefiting Effingham Child Development Center which was endorsed by Presbytery has been funded in the amount of \$100,000 for 2019. Jane will send the announcement to Tom Riggs for inclusion in the Presbytery newsletter when it is available to be publicized.

A good number of women from PSEI attended the PW Churchwide Gathering Aug. 2-5, 2018, in Louisville. This was very inspiring and educational, and a great way to get a wider view of current issues

in the world and in the denomination. The theme of the event was “Arise, shine, for your light has come.” The Presbytery PW Coordinating Team offered \$150 scholarships, and 2 were funded.

The Commission of Trustees No report

Report from Worship Planning Team Bill Capel reported.

Now that the worship is all at one time in the meeting Vice Moderator Bill Capel doesn't think that the liaison role for the Vice Moderator is as crucial. He believes that we need to upgrade worship so that it seems more important. He thinks that the group has to plan a couple of worship services ahead.

Worship for the next Stated Meeting has been moved to 11am so that Champaign First's choir can sing. Stated Clerk Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson has been made aware of the time for worship.

Install officers – who will do this and when? This question still has yet to be answered. The worship planning is still up in the air at this point.

The PSEI Moderator Rodger Allen reported.

Had the honor of presiding at Joannie Naraghi's ordination at Centralia October 7th. Bill Capel will preside at Eric Corbin's installation on October 21st at Champaign First as Associate Pastor.

Synod Commissioners Loren Prest reported. The Assembly is scheduled for tomorrow and Saturday. It will be in Bloomington, IL. They are going to recognize Judy Johnson as she retires on November 30th. The Synod's Board of Directors work primarily with the budget. \$50,000 will be delegated for the Synod Coaching Initiative for 2019. They want to facilitate a coaching culture within the Synod. They also want an Investment Advisor for the Board. They have about \$10 million. Per Capita apportionment would stay at \$3.81 and it has been that since 2011. There are 10 funds in the Synod that have donor restrictions or other ties and the Synod Board of Directors are going to have work to try to break those ties.

Administrative Commissions' Reports

Mt. Vernon – Skip Herbert will be at the November session meeting.

Argenta – Votes on the Federation Agreement between the Presbyterian Church and the UMC church are scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 11 at 2pm. They will become The Bridge. The Presbyterian Church will still be a separate corporation and they will be responsible for their own property. So far they are thinking of using the building to meet the needs of the community.

New Business

It was VOTED that if the way be clear, to appoint Matt Matthews to be our representative for the Illinois Council of Churches for a three-year term that can be renewed. This would begin January 2019.

The Executive Team Bill McLean and Cindy Bean reported.

General Council Summer Meeting Date Change

By consensus the General Council meeting scheduled for August 1 will be moved to July 25th due to conflict with Big Tent.

2019 Stated Meeting Locations

It was VOTED to give permission for staff to set locations for 2019 Meetings: Presbytery: Saturday February. 23 - Greenville, Thursday June 6, Thursday August 29, Thursday November 21

Parish Paper Subscription

It was VOTED NOT to renew the Parish Paper Subscription: Our subscription to The Parish Paper will expire on January 15, 2019. Our one-year renewal to The Parish Paper is \$69 (for a congregation) or \$150 (for a judicatory).

Media Contract

Synod of the Sun media contract – already sending out newsletter; posting to Facebook and Twitter; working on website. We need content from GC members, presbyters and congregations. Spread the word!

Marion Medical Mission

MOVE to next meeting - Discussion about our informal relationship with Marion Medical Mission – do we want to work to formalize it? How do we want to advance this discussion during 2019?

The Presbyter for Congregational Care Bill McLean reported.

Report on Pastoral Support and Enrichment Grants – Still have money available (\$10,000).

Where the Cross Meets the Street – the PC(USA)'s book study for the coming year. We could consider having the Presbytery book study using this text. This would strengthen our denominational ties.

The Stated Clerk Cindy Bean reported.

Presbytery Docket Draft - no draft available at this time.

Holy Cow incident

A congregation participated in the Holy Cow process as usual by contacting our Mission Discovery Subcommittee members, two of whom worked with the congregation in setting up the process. However, unbeknownst to staff (and perhaps the Mission Discovery Team) the report was interpreted by Holy Cow Staff. That makes the bill hundreds of dollars higher. The bill was emailed from the congregation to the Stated Clerk who passed it along to the Treasurer for payment assuming that it was a bill for our standard operating procedure. We need to send a letter to Holy Cow insisting that they notify us if they are coming in for an interpretation because we don't pay those costs in full; the congregation would need to choose to pay the extra expense. It is a much better use of our resources to interpret the report ourselves.

Authorized Alternative Meeting Methods

It was VOTED to RECOMMEND that the Presbytery approve adding the following to our Administrative Handbook:

All Commissions, Committees, Boards, Task Forces, etc. of the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois will hold their meetings in person whenever possible. On occasion or when action items need to be addressed quickly a meeting may be conducted through electronic means such as the Internet or by telephone which provide, at a minimum, conditions of opportunity for simultaneous aural communication among all individuals participating. Routine items of business that arise between meetings can be acted on by email vote provided the number of votes cast exceeds quorum. However, any voting member can request that the item be postponed until a conference call or Internet discussion can be arranged. The usual quorum for each group must be maintained.

Child Protection Policy – need our own. The GC Moderator will recruit people to be appointed at the next meeting to draft a Presbytery policy. Need to consider child care, Triennium primarily because the Camp Board has their own policy.

Record appointment of Investigating Committee between General Council meetings:

Appointed to Investigating Committee: Rev. Laura Aull Johnston, Moderator; Rev. Michael Evanchak; Jan Mandernach; Mac Moore; Phyllis Warnick.

Annual motions:

Communion at Camp Carew

It is RECOMMENDED to authorize the celebration of the Lord's Supper at Camp Carew during the 2019 Summer Camp Season and Confirmation Camp and authorize Ruling Elder Dan Kingery to administer communion at Camp Carew. Dan has been trained to administer the sacrament.

The Lord's Supper - Presbyterian Women

It is RECOMMENDED to authorize the celebration of the Lord's Supper at the Presbyterian Women events in 2019.

The Lord's Supper – PSEI Retreats

It is RECOMMENDED to authorize the celebration of the Lord's Supper at any PSEI sponsored retreats (for committees, pastoral leaders, etc.) in 2019.

The Lord's Supper - Kemmerer Village

It is RECOMMENDED to authorize the celebration of the Lord's Supper at Kemmerer Village during 2019 by the Chaplain Rev. Joel Jackel-Hugh.

Special Administrative Commission to Examine Between Meetings

It is RECOMMENDED that at least 7 teaching elders and ruling elders be appointed to serve on the Special Administrative Commission to Examine Inquirers and Candidates when needed between Presbytery meetings from January 2019 to December 31, 2019 who will be called into session only on occasions of extenuating circumstances and to nominate the following to serve:

2019 Commission

Ruling Elders: George Johnston, CRE for PSEI; Granger Odum, Marion; Tom Mulch, Assumption.
Teaching Elders: Moderator Cindy Shepherd, Faith in Place; Mary Wright (or her appointee from COM); Michael Evanchak (or his appointee from CPM), Taylorville; Maureen Clark, Carmi; Ex-Officio (without vote): Bill McLean, Presbyter for Congregational Care; Cindy Bean, Stated Clerk.

In conversation with Michal Doerge about becoming the Presbytery lawyer, but still need to have a conversation about the disciplinary process.

Ruling Elder Granger Odum closed the meeting with prayer at 4:17pm.

Submitted

Cindy Bean, Stated Clerk