

MANITOU CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING

held by Conference Call
Thursday December 13, 2012

THURSDAY, December 13, 2012

Attendance	Ted Harrison, Will Kunder, Judith Visser, Jessica Cottrell, Maureen Ellison, Erin Todd
Ministry Personnel	
Laity	Marian Sloss, Marguerite Hayes, Bill Rowe, Elsie Christian
Regrets	Barb Cunnington, Mary-Jo Eckert Tracy, Janice Brownlee, Bill Rogers
Staff support	Susan Whitehead, minute-taker
Constitution of the Court	Acknowledging Bill Rowe has not yet entered the conference call, President Ted Harrison welcomed the Executive members and called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Judith Visser expressed regrets that she had to leave the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
Opening Prayer	The President offered an opening prayer.
Agenda	There was consensus that the following items comprise the agenda for the meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Finance Committee 2013 Budget2) Bill Rogers' resignation3) Camp Lorrain
2013 Budget	The Executive Secretary presented the Finance Committee's 2013 Budget and answered any questions Executive had. The Presbytery Assessments are compiled from the member statistics that are sent into Church House each year and it was decided at the last Conference Executive meeting that it would cost \$17.00 per resident member. For this coming year, Manitou Conference can expect Presbytery Assessment decline of \$5,400.00, based upon the 2010 statistics. The President inquired about the budget lines listed for Manitou Youth Forum and the President of Conference and if they really need to be that high. Will said that Finance would have to look into this. The MPESI committee has requested an increase from \$10,000.00 to \$13,000.00 to offset the costs of the new pilot project that Manitou Conference is undertaking. The Finance Committee recommends that

the MPESI envelope will stay at \$10,000.00, as they do not currently use all of their allotted funds as it is. They will receive extra funds as needed.

There was a consensus by the Executive Committee to not increase the budget for MPESI.

The Faithful Public Witness Committee has a decrease in its budget in 2013. The website is complete and Manitou no longer has the Voyageur in circulation so therefore, the envelope has been reduced.

The Business & Agenda Committee have a \$1,000.00 budget due to this being a General Meeting year.

Bill Rowe joined the conference call.

Spirit Dancing Presbytery has a larger distance to travel when getting members together for meetings and therefore, have an equalization grant to offset those extra costs.

Manitou Conference pays rent to Omond Memorial United Church for using their office space. That envelope will stay the same as Omond has not proposed an increase in rent.

Last year, Catherine and Melody had a freeze on their step increases in salary. This year, there is an increase in the salary line due to Catherine, Melody and Susan receiving those increases

There will be a \$9,077.00 deficit in the 2013 Budget, which can be covered by the reserve funds, if necessary. The CES stated that the Finance Committee may recommend increase in Presbytery Assessments for 2014 and 2015.

The Operating Grant from General Council for 2014 will have at least a 10% cut in funding but Will said he has been asked to anticipate up to a 30% cut. Since there will be a continued shortfall in the upcoming years, Conference may need to look at a reduction in staff in 2014 (staff is the biggest expense). There are also discussions around a possible restructuring of the Conference Operating Grant. The CES will let us know about further discussions in the future.

Motion 11/13 #57: Bill Rowe/Marguerite Hayes that the proposed budget for 2013 be accepted as presented. CARRIED

Marguerite Hayes brought up a question about the pilot project and how will a decrease in staff allow us to engage in the project.

There are measures Executive may have to take to reduce deficit and it was decided to discuss these issues at the Executive meeting in January 2013.

The President thanked the Finance Committee for their hard work.

Bill Rogers' Resignation

Due to family illness, it is with regret that Bill Rogers has decided to resign from Executive.

Motion 11/13 #58: Jessica Cottrell/Erin Todd that Manitou Conference Executive accept Bill Rogers' resignation, with regret. CARRIED

Ted will send a note to Bill on behalf of the Executive Committee letting him know the motion of Executive, as well as our prayers for him and his partner.

The GCE work needs to continue. At the January meeting of Executive, we will elect a lay member to attend the spring meeting of GCE Executive. At our General Meeting in June 2013, Executive will discuss the election of a new lay member to GCE.

Erin Todd proposed that we elect permanent alternates to GCE in case we are in a similar situation in the future. There will be more discussion at the next Executive meeting in January 2013.

Susan will send Bill's address to Executive via email this afternoon.

Camp Lorrain

The Camp Lorrain Board is talking about a 3-year plan that will have measures to gauge success. This summer is a make-it-or-break-it year for the camp. If Conference does not see a good indication of success this year, there may have to be "hard" talks about the camp's viability.

The Board has been extremely active this fall advertising for next summer. All the churches have been provided with announcements for their bulletins as well as posters for their church bulletin boards.

Camp Lorrain has its next board meeting on January 23rd, 2013 and we have an Executive meeting on January 10-11, 2013. The question was raised if we should ask for a member/s to attend the January 2013 Executive meeting. The Executive was in agreement; the CES will ask the Camp Lorrain Board to send a small contingent of people to attend.

Adjournment

Having completed the business before it, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Recording Secretary, Susan Whitehead

Executive Secretary, Rev. Will Kunder