

**MINUTES OF THE
PRESBYTERY COUNCIL
October 16, 2007**

The Presbytery Council met on Tuesday, October 16, convening at 10:00 a.m. at the Presbytery Office. Members present were:

Mark Davis, Council Chair
Jonathan Bunker, Council Vice-Chair
Robert S. Osborne, Presbytery Moderator
Ron Wilkes, Presbytery Vice-Moderator
Wray Sherman, Budget & Finance
Candi Vernon, Office & Personnel Chair
Harriet Thompson, Resource Chair
David Witt, Church Development
Ann Pettit, Professional Dev. Chair
Linda Livick, PW Moderator

Homer T. Cornish, World Wide Ministries Chair
Kathleen Haines, Higher Education
Barbara Johnson, Potomac Highlands Rep
Ed Brown, Eastern Panhandle Rep
Ramona Sanders, Central Valley Rep
John Sloop, Central Valley Rep
Dan Williams, Highland-Augusta Rep
Pat Klumpp, Highland-Augusta Rep
Martin Stokes, Maury River Rep

Staff:

Philip Sieck, Stated Clerk
Lucille Gohdes, Treasurer
Lisa Hedrick, Resource Coordinator

Doug Sensabaugh, HAE/Communications
Kim Stroupe, Assistant for Constitution

Mark Davis opened the meeting with prayer and devotions.

AGENDA

The printed agenda was approved for the day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of July 17 were approved as distributed.

MISSION COMMUNITY REPORTS

Central Valley – Ramona Sanders submitted a written report highlighting the following: Ramona Sanders was elected as convener and Dr. John Sloop was elected as pastor representative to Council, gave \$3000 for 2008 Baja trip, \$2000 for Gulfport trip, \$1000 to the Lutheran-Presbyterian Campus Ministry, and \$300 for the third annual cookout. Planning a catered meal October 29, 6:00 at First Harrisonburg for pastors, associate pastors, elders, deacons, lay reps, and Presbytery staff.

Eastern Panhandle – Ed Brown submitted a written report highlighting the following: Charles Town is celebrating their 220th Anniversary November 10 and 11; Little Falls held their first VBS in 20 years with 17 students attending; Tuscarora has gone to two Sunday morning services; First Martinsburg will host Dr. Donald and Wei Hong Snow October 27. Next meeting will be November 20, 6:30 at Falling Waters Church.

Highland Augusta – Dan Williams submitted a written report highlighting the following: 60 people participated in the 2007 Baja trip. The 2008 trip is scheduled for July 20-26. Registration opened October 15 with 60 slots to be filled. Highland-Augusta is hosting their second Presbytery meeting in 2007 on November 13 at Mt. Horeb Church. Holding monthly lunches for ministers and other church workers the first Wednesday of the month. (November 7 at Loch Willow and December 5 at Tinkling Spring) Next mission community meeting will be either January 10 or 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Mountain Valley – Joan Wilson submitted a written report noting the Ethiopian Partnership Banquet at First Winchester November 2, Don Snow from China will be visiting and speaking in October, and that PDA will sponsor youth mission trips in June and July 2008. Disaster preparedness training is scheduled for February

17, 2:30 p.m. at Strasburg Church. Warrenton Church is having a CROP walk October 21. Officer training is scheduled for November 11, 3:00 at First Winchester. Next meeting will be November 8 at Sherando Church.

Maury River - \$2400 given toward the Windy Cove/Mission Community Guatemala Mission trip, planning a one-day leadership training October-November, a briefing on disaster response is scheduled for October 21 at 2:00 at Lexington Church, Collierstown hosting February 9, 2008, Presbytery meeting. Next meeting January 27, 2:30 at Bethesda Church.

Potomac Highlands – Barb Johnson submitted a written report.

STAFF REPORTS

Stated Clerk – Philip noted that an appraisal has been submitted for the Poplar Hill property. The Commission is in conversation with the New Beginnings congregation for possible purchase of the property. The commission regarding the transfer of the Barton and Lonaconing congregations are reviewing materials submitted by both churches and will meet October 18 at First Martinsburg with representatives of Baltimore Presbytery as well as representatives of both congregations.

Treasurer – Lucille circulated a document titled “Grants and Fund Shenandoah Presbytery” which gives brief descriptions of the funds and grants held by the Corporation.

Lucille noted that the auditors suggest having a memo in place between Camp Paddy Run and the Presbytery, in addition to the current letter of content dated March 2006. ***A motion was made, seconded and approved to ask Phil Miller, the attorney for the Corporation, to draft the memo and bring to the Council.***

Resource Coordinator – Lisa reported the number of users is growing and the collection is growing, hence the need to rearrange, especially the sections of worship and spiritual growth.

Communications/HAE – Doug reported that registration information for the Partnership Banquet can be found at <http://shenpres.org/PartnershipBanquet.html> and the itinerary for our Illubabor guests can be found at <http://shenpres.org/GuestsItinerary.pdf> . The Ethiopia Mission Network conference will be held April 24-26 at Western Presbyterian Church in Washington DC. For more info go to: <http://www.ethiopianetwork.org/2008Conference.html>

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance – Wray Sherman submitted a copy of the second reading of the 2008 Budget noting the amount required from the operating reserve to balance the expenditure requests is \$33,153. ***A motion was made, seconded and approved to send the second reading of the 2008 budget to the November 13 Presbytery meeting.***

Campus Ministry – Kathleen Haines submitted a written report noting that over 75 names of students were collected at the August Presbytery meeting. Kathleen recommends that as Advent and exam time approaches, to be in prayer for college students away and to send them care packages and an Advent devotional booklet.

Nomination – will be submitting nominees for the 2008 GA at the November 13 Presbytery meeting. It was noted that two members will be rotating off the committee at the end of 2007. (See New Business section)

Office & Personnel – nothing to report

Paddy Run Outdoor Ministries – no report

Communications – Martin Stokes submitted a written report noting that a request was approved for the purchase of a digital camera with accessories, gave \$1000 to the Eastern Panhandle toward the purchase of a projector and accessories, gave \$170 to the Franklin/Ruddle/Upper Tract churches for DSL service for one year, elected Martin Stokes chair of the Committee.

Church Development – David Witt noted that he will be the new chair beginning in 2008. A written report was submitted noting the following: CCD partnered with the Committee on Ministry in a study of the church mission study process; assisted Mt Storm Church with manse repairs; assisted Poplar Hill with property appraisal; work continues with re-development at First Martinsburg, Falling Waters, and Tuscarora; suggest a presbytery-wide officer/leader workshop.

Funds Administration – allocated 18 college scholarships at \$375 each.

Stewardship Education Resource Team – reorganizing and determining future tasks.

Presbyterian Women – Linda Livick reported that the Synod Leadership Training was held on the campus of W & L. The Fall Gathering was held September 8 with 108 in attendance and an offering of \$661 that was given to New Bridges, Massanetta Challenge Fund, and Presbyterian Disaster Fund.

Presbytery Planning – meeting following today’s Council meeting to plan the agenda for the November 13 Presbytery meeting and to procure host sites for the 2009 Presbytery meetings. Jonathan Bunker asked the Council their view of having three Presbytery meetings per year instead of four. After much discussion, it was very clear that the current Council is in favor of four meetings per year. ***A motion was made, seconded and approved to have a task force to look at the current structure/outline of Presbytery meetings and how might attendance be increased, especially at the summer meeting.*** Members to serve are: Ron Wilkes, convener; David Witt; Ann Pettit; Harriet Thompson; member of Vision and Mission; member of Stewardship Education Resource Team. It was asked that any ideas/suggestions from this task force be sent to the Council via email for review before the January 15 meeting.

Professional Development –received a written report noting that more members are needed for the committee.

Worldwide Ministries – Homer Cornish submitted a written report noting that the schedule for Don and Wei Hong Snow can be found at <http://shenpres.org/SnowSchedule.pdf> Homer reported that over 600 attended the Mission '07 Conference with 11 from Shenandoah.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made, seconded and approved, to recommend to the November Presbytery meeting the nomination of Barbara Johnson to serve chair of the Nominations Committee, and John McDonald to serve as vice-chair of the Committee.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to ask Tom Biggs to serve on the Nominations Committee, class of 2010.

A motion was made, seconded and approved for Martin Stokes to obtain an elder to serve in the class of 2010 on the Nominations Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 with prayer by the Rev. Jonathan Bunker

Next meeting: Tuesday January 15, 2008, beginning at 10:00 a.m. with time on the docket to discuss the content of presbytery meetings

Submitted by,

Kim T. Stroupe