

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

October 21, 2010

Presbytery Office – Portage Westminster Presbyterian Church

Attending John Cox, Harry Johnson, Linda Knieriemen, Jeff O'Neill, Larry Slager, Andy Thorburn, Zoe Wilcox, Seth Weeldreyer, Anne Weirich. Staff: *John Best, Rich Lichti, Janet Magennis*. Guests: Treasurer Larry Nelson, Dave Milbourn from B & F, Ministry Team leaders, Book of Order Committee leaders, Staff Services.

Members excused: Rick Campbell, Chris Prokos

Devotions: Jeff O'Neill shared a devotional time that included reading of the Word together and viewing scenes from the natural world that bring us to worship.

VISIONING

We invited representatives from presbytery teams, committees and agencies to provide their input on priorities for the individual budget requests that meet our foci and goals in adjustment of original budget requests. Many questions were asked and priorities considered throughout the afternoon with numbers adjusting and moving among line items.

There was some general discussion of how we move forward, when is the time to have financial conversations during each year and how we work outside the box in the future. After hearing from all groups the invited guests were released and the Leadership Team moved to the presbytery conference room to conclude its business.

COUNCIL/LEADERSHIP TEAM BUSINESS

We moved quickly on a couple of items:

- Gave our blessing to new committee member orientation this December.
- Approved the schedule of voting on the GA 219 amendments and decisions about who will present amendment 10-A on November 13th.
- We agreed to have Moderator Seth Weeldreyer, Anne Weirich and Janet Magennis set the final docket by conference call for November 13th.
- We agreed that Linda Knieriemen, John Best and Janet Magennis would lead the planning for the visit of GA Moderator Cindy Bolbach on April 12, 2011.
- We designated the offering recipient for November 13th as the Children's Assessment Center in Grand Rapids.

We moved into discussion about the 2011 budget. Dave Milbourn explained how per capita and shared mission giving affect the budgeting process for 2011. Unknown is effect of the stewardship and mission giving focus we are working on now with congregations. At end of September we were at 72% of the goal, so nearly on target. We began this year with \$65,000 in reserve and we are using some of that to balance. If we raise per capita \$0.75 we may still have to consider other revenue sources.

At this point the Moderator was excused to meet another commitment and the Vice Moderator assumed the chair.

Germane to that discussion the following actions were discussed and **approved**:

MOTION: To decrease the Higher Education line item to \$86,506 in 2011 and anticipate subsequent reduction in requests in the future. Zoe Wilcox will be communicating with the Agency.

MOTION: To remove \$5,000 from the *Healthy Congregations* line item in the Leadership Team budget and then move \$5,000 from the *Healthy Ministries* line item in the Leadership Team budget into the Shepherding Ministry Team budget into their *emerging ministry* line item to be used for retreats for church leaders in 2011.

MOTION: To close any remaining budget gap by using surplus funds.

MOTION: To increase per capita to 14.50 for 2011.

John Best indicated his decision to reduce the office assistant line item by \$3,000 on the Staff Services budget, originally set with the intent to add a fourth day per week for that position. Office support needs will be met flexibly and in agreement with that employee.

We recommended these changes and decisions to the Budget and Finance Committee for them to generate a final budget for approval on November 13, 2010 by the presbytery.

John Best distributed his monthly report for reading, highlighting a couple issues.

REPORTS/UPDATES

There were no further reports to consider.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned by 6:30 pm with prayer by the Vice Moderator Linda Knieriemen.

NEXT MEETING: December 9, 2010, 1 pm, Portage Westminster

DEVOTIONS: Harry Johnson

MEAL: Larry Slager and Anne Weirich