

Board of Directors Meeting
Mennonite Church Manitoba – MCM Boardroom
March 3, 2010; 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Minutes

Present: Justin Z., Hans W., Julie D, Edgar R., Erin M., Dan H., Dave Regehr (Altona) , Dave Wiebe (Springstein)

1. Welcome & Call to Order – Introduction of new members.
 - a. Review agenda -
 - b. Minutes of February 9, 2010 meeting. – Minutes approved as circulated by consensus.
2. Opening – prayer by Justin Zacharias.
3. Executive Director’s report.
 - a. February 2010 financial statement review – Tom was unable to get February statements ready in time for review at this meeting. The statements were circulated at the end of the meeting.
 - b. Update on Camping Ministry leadership placement – Edgar reported that the Program Director position is advertised in the next two issues of the Canadian Mennonite. The other positions (Administrator and assistant) are contract and will remain contract until more work is done on how to integrate the New Directions initiative and Camp strategic plan.
4. New board member orientation – Hans led a period of introduction about the Carver model and how our Board works and the tension that exists between it and the issues that we need to respond to. Possible ideas of how to connect the Board with the congregations and the ministries were exchanged. One suggestion was that we have a conference for church councils, another idea was that ministry directors should briefly be introduced to the Board over the next few meetings so that we have an idea of what each other do. Edgar suggested that we have some more intense discussions with staff about the New Directions. Dave Wiebe asked how board members relate to the churches in their cluster.
5. MCM Gathering:
 - a. Debriefing – It seemed like there was a positive and active energy about this gathering. People were interested in the idea of the New Directions but were having trouble visualizing what it would look like when it was finished. The round tables were also very good and mostly positive and a sense of wanting to move somewhere. There were a couple of “fear” responses to some of the more provocative statements – in particular the camp statements (New Directions). Staff suggested that the resolution of accepting the New Directions might have received greater support from delegates if the motion had been displayed on the screen. The suggestion was made that in the report book we could have an explanation of the rules of engagement or process. Justin Z expressed surprise that there weren’t any voices speaking up in favour of part B of the Creation Care proposal even though they were likely present.
 - b. Review resolutions – The Gathering resolutions were reviewed.
6. New Directions:
 - a. Identify issues to follow up-
 - i. Camp – What is the main question? Is ours a sustainable camping program, and how do we make it sustainable. This is so given issues like a declining camper base and rising facility costs. What are the trends with regard to camp revenues and donations? What about costs? It will be good to have this frank conversation with the Camp Planning Committee.
 - b. Specific questions:
 - i. Status of Camp Strategic Plan – This will remain on hold until the New Directions issue has some direction.
 - ii. Meeting with Camp Planning Committee: The Board will meet with the Camp Planning Committee on March 24. It was suggested that we present a document to the CPC outlining the issues that need to be solved in order to achieve sustainability prior to meeting with them.
7. Creation Care next steps:

- a. Composition of “CA Forest Management Planning Group” – A core committee of five will be established with a group of technical consultants outside that circle for consultation. The board favours the Camp Assiniboia manager, a CPC Member and perhaps the CWM program director be part of the planning group. Edgar will begin recruiting members of the planning group.
8. Canadian Women in Mission – have renamed themselves and are looking for help to re-launch in Manitoba and would like MCM to house them or assist them in finding a place in Manitoba. Hans will have another conversation with Erna Neufeld her in order to get more specific information.
9. Other ...
 - a. Future Board meetings: Tuesday April 13, Tuesday May 11, and Tuesday June 15
 - b. MCM Fall Gathering: October 21, 2010 @ Camp Assiniboia
 - c. MCM Gathering: February 25-26, 2010 @ MCI
 - d. Future agenda - Board members are asked to submit matters needing board attention to moderator.
10. In camera session to discuss personnel matters.
11. Adjourn.