



December 4, 2020 – 1:00pm EST, via Zoom- Synod Assembly Meeting Minutes.

Present

Moderator, Patrice Hatley
Vice Moderator, Brady Radford
Sue Krummel
Adel Malek
Ben McConaughy
Elona Street-Stewart
Michelle Johnson

GA Staff

Flor Velez-Diaz – OGA
Jihyun Oh – OGA

Synod Staff

Chip Hardwick, Interim SC Executive
Sharon Moore, Stated Clerk
Heather Johnson, Office Manager/Administrative Assistant

Rev. Richard H. Rojas-Banuchi (absent)

Other participants

** Recognized as Corresponding member

Rebecca Tollefson** – Scioto Valley
Jim Bennett** - Eastminster Presbytery
Adrienne Adams** – Presbytery of Detroit
Flo Barbee-Watkins** – Presbytery of Detroit
Cal Bremer** – Lake Michigan Presbytery
Fran Lane-Lawrence** – Lake Michigan Presbytery
Dan Saperstien** – Lake Huron Presbytery
Jen Malohn – guest

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. EST. Opening prayer by James Hurley, Patrice Hatley

A quorum was present

The synod meets to receive reports and continue its work and the following actions were taken:

- 1) Meeting docket was approved
- 2) Minutes for Sept 25, 2020 meeting – edit to correct the spelling of Ben McConaughy name

- 3) A time of worship was lead by Ben McConaughy/Flor Velez-Diaz/Chip Hardwick

- 4) Financial matters
 - a. Financial reports from DeMarco upon motion received and approved.
 - b. Upon motion to take one half (\$100,000) draw from the investments account in the 2020 budget year was approved.
 - c. The 2021 budget was received and upon motion approved.
 - d. Upon motion approved: The Synod of the Covenant will offer a financial gift of gratitude to the presbyteries equal to two-thirds its 2020 surplus. The total amount will be divided evenly among the eleven presbyteries, at a minimum to be \$8,000 each. It will be distributed before the 2020 books are closed (~January 2021). The presbyteries can use this gift to support any needs consistent with their mission and ministry.

- 5) Executive Session: Moved at 2:45p.m. that meeting go into executive session with the following guests;

Faith Whittaker, Attorney from Dinsmore & Shohl LLP
Devon Collins, Attorney from Dinsmore & Shohl LLP
Flor Velez-Diaz – OGA
Jihyun Oh – OGA

- 6) Moved to go out of executive session at 3:25pm and continue receipt of updates and reports

- 7) The AC/SoC approved the motions of the Synod Membership Report.

- 8) The AC/SoC moved to approve Personnel Report proposal.

- 9) The AC/SoC moved to approve change to Bylaws.

- 10) The AC/SoC moved to approve the following Assembly schedule for 2021

- **January 7, 2021 @6:00-8:30pm** – this will be the Commissioners orientation meeting; *Full Assembly* (meaning Commissioners and AC members are expected to attend, others are welcome to observe)
- **March 11, 2021 @ 6:00-8:30pm** - *Full Assembly*; visioning, engaging the commissioners
- **October 7,8,9 2021 - Fall Retreat Assembly**
 - Annual meeting
 - Lombard Mennonite Peace Center Workshop “Healthy Synods”
 - Presentation of ministry plan with longer focus
 - Potential for AC to return original jurisdiction

The meeting was closed in prayer at 3:45 p.m. Next meeting will be held by Zoom on January 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

In Christ,

Sharon E. Moore

Stated Clerk, Synod of the Covenant