

Meeting Notes
Finance and Administration Standing Committee of MMSUCC
15 November 2011

Attendees:

Rev. Jeff Whitman, Conference Minister
Laura Errante, Conference Business Manager
Don Hubatka, Conference Treasurer and Finance/Administration Committee Co-Chair
Dannie Burk, Finance/Administration Committee Co-Chair
Rev. Andy Mockridge, Finance/Administration Member
Pastor Don Frandsen, Finance/Administration Member
Leslie Kemp, Finance/Administration Member

Our meeting opened with prayer.

Dannie Burk conducted the meeting.

Meeting notes from the 30 September committee meeting were approved with name corrections identified.

The MTD/YTD October 2011 **Financial Report** was reviewed. The 2011YTD deficit (\$168,000) is nominally lower than a year ago (\$169,000). For this fiscal year, the Conference is expected to be below the projected 2011 budget in expenditures but it is likely income will also be below the amount projected in the 2011 budget. Rev Mockridge pointed out the Camp Mo-Val YTD deficit (\$83,000) is higher than a year ago (\$67,000). An explanation will be sought.

Old Business items included the following:

- The Endowment Policy development group will consist of Jeff Whitman, Don Hubatka, and Ken Ulmer, who has previous endowment policy experience with the Connecticut Conference. The group plans to meet in December using input from Mike McKee, Conference lawyer.
- There is no change in status of the personnel policy document update effort. Both Don Hubatka and Jeff Whitman know people who might help with the update effort. Jeff's acquaintance in Pennsylvania has H/R experience. Jeff will E-Mail the current document to him for his comment.
- Jeff Whitman shared the good news three churches that have donated to the Camp Mo-Val Retreat Center have agreed to redirect their donations (Immanuel UCC Ferguson -\$100,000, St. Paul UCC Old Monroe - \$10,000, Zion UCC Troy - \$10,000) to help retire the pool debt. A letter documenting the redirection is needed from each. This will bring the pool debt down to about \$176,000. This committee needs to decide what amount of the pool debt can be forgiven. It was agreed it would be desirable to have the pool debt issue resolved and off the books prior to the installation of the new Camp Mo-Val director, in April 2012.
- Projected budget deficit for next year is \$56,000.

- Bob Zimmermann has informed the Conference St. Stephens UCC St. Louis is dividing their assets from the sale of their church building (\$400,000) to a variety of recipients.
- The Garden Light Ministry (St. Luke UCC?) is ready to sell its assets. The Conference will receive some money. The Conference will be the owner of mineral rights on an Oklahoma Reservation.
- The Nollman property (near Desoto) assessment has been done. The last property sale near there was in 2004 and values have decreased 20 – 25% since then. The Conference might ask \$200,000 - \$250,000 for the 19 acre property.
- Our gift acceptance policy needs to be in place so the Conference can be intentional about what we do.
- An examination of Our Churches Wider Mission giving showed the following as of the end of October: St Louis Association \$44,000 behind, Eastern Association \$9,000 behind, Western Association \$10,000 ahead. An E-Courier article highlights increased giving by St. Pauls UCC St. Louis which is increasing its contribution from \$3500 to \$4500 this year. St. Paul's has an average Sunday attendance of 35.
- The Committee considered and approved moving Conference unrestricted funds (007 account) from the United Church Fund Moderate Balanced Fund to the Conservative Balanced Fund. The objective is to better protect the recent stock market run-up.
- The Procedures and Policy Manual development will be pursued after Christmas by Revs Whitman and Mockridge.
- Dannie Burk asked the committee to think about who needs to be part of the conversation about how Camp Mo-Val is run and financed in light of Rev Don Bizer's concern expressed at the last committee meeting. One idea expressed was Camp Mo-Val and Shannondale need office managers to better handle day-to-day financial matters.

New Business items included the following:

- Jeff Whitman will attend the January United Church Funds Investor Conference in New Orleans. He will attend workshops on endowments and investment management.
- The initial work on the 2013 Conference budget will begin after the first of the year with Jeff Whitman, Don Hubatka and Laura Errante developing the first draft.
- The next committee meeting will be held in February. Dannie Burk will send an E-Mail soliciting possible meeting dates.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:10PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Leslie Kemp, note taker