

**Meeting of the Council of New Castle Presbytery
October 7, 2009
Christiana Presbyterian Church**

Attendance: Gary Baer, Jean Bostwick, Kevin Bowers, Alice Davis, Joan English, Barry Gray, George Hall, Greg Jones, Marlene Quinn, Tim Rodden, Sue Weissinger. Treasurer Doug Gerdts, Executive Jim Moseley and Associate Executive Jackie Taylor

Excused: Reid Beveridge, Stated Clerk, Kathi Busch, Council Chair, Kay Myers, David Parke

The meeting was opened with prayer by Moderator George Hall. A discussion of the previous Presbytery meeting will be added to the agenda. The agenda was approved with the added amendment.

Clerk's Report: The Minutes of September 22, 2009 were not available. Jackie Taylor, Clerk for this meeting, will attach a motion page and send it to appropriate committees.

Treasurer: Doug Gerdts reported the presbytery budget for 2010 is showing a deficit of \$58,000. The report was received.

Jim Moseley reported on the approved COM examinations committee. This issue was raised from a request from COM to clarify their examination policy between presbytery meetings. Laurel Brundage's pending examination was lifted as an example. Discussion points included: purpose of the examinations committee, length of service, when pastoral candidate meets with COM. Jim reported for five years, the COM has met with potential candidates before candidates had a face to face with PNC's. The Council recommends COM chair, Doug McPheeters continue current examinations protocol. Barry Gray will work with Doug to establish an examination committee as approved by presbytery. Barry will also meet with CPM.

Jim reported on the West Legacy Funds Prospectus draft. Jim raised issue of process. It was reiterated that Council has empowered Kathi Busch to nominate a work group as approved in the minutes of the May 19, 2009 presbytery meeting.

Jean Bostwick reported on behalf of the Human Resources committee. Members of the committee met with Treasurer Doug Gerdts. Jean reported a more comprehensive report would be presented at the next meeting of Council.

Staff Reports: Jim reviewed a policy adopted that states "no one person shall serve on more than one Unit or Mandated committees at a time". The Nominating Committee is seeking to nominate an individual for a committee who is already serving on COM. It was recommended that Nominating Committee request the Presbytery suspend this policy in each instance. Gary will confer with Reid for further clarification on this rule.

Jim reported on his trip to Minneapolis for the Association of Presbytery Executives (APES) meeting. The organization will now include all Middle Governing Body staff and will attempt to foster better communication with GA. Jim also reported that he will leave for Guatemala this weekend, collaborating with the Albany Presbytery. The local Episcopal Bishop has asked Jim to sign a letter to Senator Carper requesting the release of Pension funds to families of Cuban pastors. Jim plans to sign the letter.

Jackie reported on the plans for the November Mission fair, reserved for highlighting congregation mission initiatives. She also reported the Speer Commission is capping grants for 2009 funding cycle due to the reduced funds received. It was also reported that the Commission is exploring multi-year funding.

Discussion of Presbytery: Issues raised were: process of voting (i.e. hand votes, stand votes, etc.) process for examining candidates and subsequent process after individual is approved for candidacy. Gary will coordinate with COM and CPM chairs to create better flow between committees and Clerk/Parliamentarian at Presbytery meetings. Other issues included: the Sexual Misconduct policy, acknowledgement of NCP pastors who have joined the church triumphant, business moving too quickly, intentionality of acknowledging of pastors transitions, moving two-minute Unit drill to earlier in meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer at 5:36 p.m.

Submitted by
Acting Clerk, Jackie Taylor