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Conference Council Meeting Attendance, Saturday, October 16, 2021, Via ZOOM 10 AM TO 3 PM							
Council Members							
Charlotte Asher		Eppie Encabo	X	Diana Modoshi	X	Melissa Tumaneng	X
Raygan Baker	X	Tami Groves		Roy Mosley	X	Mei Wang	X
Richard Brabham	X	Jeannie Hobson	X	Bladimer Paeste	X	April Ward	X
Barbara Broadbent		Selulo Lago'o	X	Maria Restivo			
Barbara Colliander		Akiko Miyake-Stoner	X	Jim Ross			
Ex-Officio Members							
		Diane Weible		Rob Parrish		Daniel Ross-Jones	X
Guests							
		Miko Elliott	X				

The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Tumaneng with the Closing Prayer from Annual Meeting given by Rev. Leslie Carole Taylor. She then appointed Richard Brabham as Scribe during her term, which ends June 30, 2022.

Our Northern California Nevada Conference [NCNC] Covenant was read by Eppie Encabo.

A quorum was declared and the addition of approval for the email minutes of September 27, 2021, and the executive session minutes of September 18, 2021, was added to the agenda.

MOTION: Approve agenda as amended M/S/P

New Council members Selulo Lago'o, Diana Modoshi, Roy Mosley, Bladimer Paeste and April Ward were welcomed and a brief check in was completed. Miko Elliott from United Japanese Christian Church of Clovis will join the Council October 17th.

Our regular Conference Council meetings are held every third Saturday of the month, except for April, August and December from 10 AM to 3 PM via ZOOM. Special meetings may be called as needed.

Jeannie Hobson reported on the changes to the system by the provider for Background checks.

Daniel Ross-Jones informed us of changes to our Office 365 program, mainly around additional security measures that will be coming by December 31st. [see report later]

MOTION: Approve Council Minutes from September 18, 2021 M/S/P

MOTION: Approve Executive Session Council Minutes from September 18, 2021 M/S/P

MOTION: Approve email Council Minutes from September 27, 2021 M/S/P

“**See No Stranger**” by Valerie Kaur. This is our current book study, and, like the previous ones, is highly recommended reading for everyone. We had a very moving discussion on Chapter 2: Grief and how it affects our lives. We plan to discuss one chapter each Council meeting.

Annual Gathering

The Annual Gathering planning team [AG7] was very pleased with the October Annual Meeting and its worshipful moments and environment.

The November 13th workshop has been cancelled, due to workshop fatigue expressed by many.

Annual Gathering 2022 will be June 17-19 at Sonoma State University with vaccine and masking protocols

MOTION: Approve dates and location for Annual Gathering 2022. M/*/P

The Authorized Ministers Retreat will be held in January 10-12, 2022. The Council expressed consensus on the issues of vaccine and masking protocols for both Annual Gathering and Authorized Ministers Retreat. The exact wording for the policy is being developed.

Fair & Justice Compensation

Daniel Ross-Jones presented and discussed the updated guidelines for Fair and Justice Compensation

MOTION: Approve updated guidelines for Fair and Justice Compensation M/S/P

Report from Conference Minister/Associate CM Daniel Ross-Jones

First, thank you for including sabbatical leave in the Personnel Policy. I have written elsewhere of just how much I needed my time away for rest and renewal. I am genuinely refreshed and excited to come back to my work as an Associate Conference Minister – dare I be so bold to say that I am even looking forward to the next five years until I am eligible for sabbatical again! J Spirit willing for us all to continue a sense of shared call to this ministry.

Conference House Staff

- Office Manager Nicole Nunnery is a wonderful addition to our staff. She has outstanding energy and brings an attention to detail that strengthens our collective work.
- We are aware of some telephone issues on the main -8990 line. We have requested a new office phone from Regus and will be pointing the -8990 line to that phone in the next week. We anticipate this will resolve the issues.
- The change in staff provided an opportunity to review our internal communication and collaboration practices overall. Already we feel ourselves better equipped to align work with our goals rather than being pulled in multiple, divergent directions in “reactionary mode.”

o Special appreciation to Council President Rev. Melissa Tumaneng who is assisting us in this endeavor.

Events & Programs

- Our 2022 Authorized Ministers Retreat is fast approaching.
 - o We have an original signed contract with Embassy Suites Monterey Bay Seaside from 2019 for a planned 2020 Retreat.
 - o Contract “bumped” due to covid to the latest possible date, January 2022. We can no longer “bump” the contract without paying a \$14,000+ penalty.
 - o Registration will open with next week’s newsletter. Fee is much higher than in the past, due to removal of program funds from operating budget.
- Financial assistance policy: will be up to one-third of cost with grant from Conference Minister Discretionary Fund for employed clergy, up to two-thirds of cost for unemployed clergy. CMDF is “assistance of last resort” after continuing ed and Association funds have been accessed.
 - o To help with contracted minimums, opening to non-clergy partners for room reservation and meals only. Retreat programming will still be limited to clergy.
 - o Program will include Boundary Training modules and other workshops.
 - o Due to time crunch and budget, not planning on a “keynote speaker.” Instead, leaning into the oceanside location with ample time for rest/relaxation.
- Planning for Annual Gathering 2022 is underway.
- Conversation about vaccination mandates for Conference events. AG7 is very much in support of a vaccination mandate for AG 2022.
 - o I believe that if we do this for AG 2022, we need to do the same for the Ministers Retreat.
 - o I have reached out to Heather Kimmel and the Minnesota Conference regarding a sample policy.

Leadership Support

- New members to Conference Council have been added to Microsoft 365. Please reach out to me if you have general questions.
- There has been an uptick in “hacking” activity. As a result we will be changing some of our security policies and practices, effective in December.
 - o All users must have multi-factor authentication on their Microsoft 365 accounts.
 - o We will no longer allow the forwarding of Microsoft 365 email to other email. You can still access your Outlook through the Web, or you can add your Outlook account as a secondary account directly with your preferred email.
 - o We will no longer allow “guest access” without Conference Staff approval.

Communications & Mission Interpretation

- It’s new website time! Early 2022 is the launch target. I am pulling together a group to begin strategizing and hope to get a meeting scheduled for the first week in November.

Philanthropy & Stewardship

- A special thank you to all of you who are reaching out to churches regarding their OCWM contributions! It is so appreciated, and we are seeing some early results!
- An additional thank you to April Ward, our newest Philanthropy & Stewardship Team member. Two additional leadership invitations have been extended, and I am meeting with those potential members next week.

Staff Monthly Report to Conference Council (October 2021) 3

- Giving Day in November (Tuesday after Thanksgiving) had great success last year, and we'll be doing it again this year.
- o Our public goal is \$4,000, with a stretch goal of \$7,000.
- o I have secured \$500 toward a target challenge gift of \$2,000 and will be reaching out to additional donors in the coming days.
- o All electronic gifts received the week of Thanksgiving through the Tuesday after Thanksgiving will be counted toward our Giving Day goal.

Updates from Council Committees

- Personnel - Eppie Encabo, Chair: The annual performance evaluation for Conference Minister, Diane Weible was completed and delivered to her. It was very good. Now we are beginning the 2021 evaluation, so Council members and staff should be looking for the forms to arrive soon. The hiring of the new part time position for Youth Ministries is done by the conference minister.
- Leadership Recruitment - Jeannie Hobson: The committee is working diligently to fill the holes in the various committees. If anyone has a recommendation, please contact the committee so we can get them filled.
- Youth and Outdoor Ministry Committee - Jeannie Hobson: They need a chairperson, so please talk to people you think might want to serve in this important way. The dates for Camp Tamarack 2022 are: Junior July 10-16, Junior High July 17-23, Senior High July 24-30.

MOTION: Approve dates for Camp Tamarack 2022. M/S/P.

- FABC/Investment (Carmelle Knudsen/Nick Kukan, Chair) Melissa Tumaneng for Chairs: A special thank you to Barbara Colliander for her work on updating the Endowment Policy. FABC to work together to formalize updated policy. All is going well with the investing as scheduled.

MOTION: To appoint Daniel Ross-Jones as Executive Officer during Conference Minister's sabbatical. M/S/P

MOTION: Move to executive session at 2:12 PM M/S/P

Resume regular meeting 2:26 PM

A discussion was held about the newly created part time Youth & Outdoor Ministry [YOM] position. Since hiring staff is the conference minister's job, we decided that Jeannie and Davena Jones will work to develop a poll to try to gather input to assist her.

The closing prayer was offered by Bladimer Paeste.

Meeting adjourned at 2:39 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Brabham, Scribe

Future Meetings:

- Workshop Day #2 November 13, 2021 CANCELLED
- Council Meeting (via ZOOM) November 20, 2021 (NO December meeting)
- Council Meeting (via ZOOM) January 15, 2022