

Present: Terry Stefaniuk, Ryan Siemens, Myrna Wiebe, Julia Epp, Gordon Peters, Sharon Schultz, Pauline Steinmann, Rod Suderman

Regrets: Berny Wiens

Attachments: Agenda, MC Sask Council Minutes from February 21, Moderator's Report, Executive Minister's Report, Annual Delegate Session (March 9, 10) Minutes, Financial Reports

1. Opening: Ryan
 - paying attention to God's presence in our midst
 - Ryan led us into a time of silence & prayer
2. Welcome: Terry
 - Terry welcomed Julia and Rod to the council
 - we went around the table and each told "our story" to introduce ourselves
3. Procedural questions:
 - Discussions:
 - in some meetings, minutes note all discussion and who said what – creates a thread or full-picture when looking back
 - should we do an abridged version then that goes out to the public as minutes are not just an internal thing
 - don't add specific names for public version of minutes, but try for those that get circulated to the council
 - Process to be used when arrived at decisions:
 - need to vote when it is financial matters (GP), but can do consensus on others

Consensus that we will vote for financial matters and use consensus for the rest
4. Adoption of Minutes: February 21, 2018
 - **Adopted by consensus**
5. Business Arising from the minutes:
 - Letter to CMU
 - Ryan spoke to Cheryl Pauls and asked if MC Sask should write a letter of support to CMU in regard to them offering and MDiv (Masters of Divinity program)
 - Cheryl took that conversation as our support, however Ryan will write an actual letter anyway
 - Shekinah Update
 - Re confusion over Matt Wiens and stepping off of Shekinah Board:
 - Matt's spouse (Craig Friesen) is a staff member at Shekinah and it was asked whether Matt shouldn't be asked to step off of the board
 - Craig was hired before Matt joined the board
 - there is currently not a good governance policy on boards, etc; we have a number of areas where members of families work together or are staff/board members at the same place
 - therefore Matt will remain on the Shekinah board
 - we also need to get policy written – Kirsten has sent Terry MC Canada's policy which we will use as a guide to create ours
 - Discussion:
 - a. if we continue with direct reporting, then the board member should excuse themselves from discussions that would affect their family member (PS)
 - b. Shekinah has been doing well with this (TS)
 - c. Not certain Elim has been doing this (Ryan S)
 - d. Do individual camps not have their own policies re this? (Rod S)

- e. They do not, which is good reason this needs to happen (Ryan S)
 - f. Once we have something drafted, should we send it to the camps for their input? (TS)
 - g. There would be a better buy-in that way (PS)
 - h. Council would reserve the right to make the final decision (consensus)
 - Executive Director(s) Update:
 - o Ron & Sue Schellenberg were hired as Shekinah's executive directors
 - o Shekinah held their fundraiser this past week, raised approx. \$10,000
 - o they are financially okay right now, but no wiggle room
 - a. currently owe MC Sask \$16,000
 - b. MC Sask paying Kirsten's salary, she was seconded to Shekinah
 - c. their \$50,000 line of credit has been locked at MTL (with all of the severance they had to pay recently, they owe \$49,000)
 - d. mortgage still owing: \$204,000 (207,000?)
 - o are making all necessary payments (taxes, power, salaries, etc)
 - o task force report isn't in yet
 - o Kirsten sprinted for the last 6 months, Ron & Sue have a marathon ahead of them
 - o Kirsten has done a lot of work rebuilding morale, rebuilding relationship with community and MC Saskatchewan
 - Witness Support Teams
 - MC Canada is moving to relational funding for Witness workers
 - the idea is to develop a support team in your home congregation who will be the ones to go out and get support
 - hope to have the teams in place in the next 3 or 4 years
 - the workers won't be left to drum up their own support/money
 - Grace Mennonite in Regina has already partnered with a couple in South Korea
 - Job Descriptions:
 - at the last meeting looked briefly at Executive Minister description (Ryan), Youth Programming (Kirsten) and Congregational Engagement (Kirsten)
 - PLC has also looked at them
 - should now go to personnel for their feedback, then back to council one more time
6. Reports (see attachments)
- Moderator (Terry)
 - the key is conversation and dialogue
 - o now might be a good time for each commission to sit down and re-think what they're doing and how they're doing it (PS)
 - o yes, it should be a yearly thing / there is nothing wrong with failing (TS)
 - Terry will be going to various meetings in the next few weeks (YFBC, Camp Elim, Youth Farm Complex Board, Shekinah Board)
 - o Pauline affirmed Terry and how he is jumping in with both feet. Congregations will come on board with MC Sask if we're visible and communicating
 - Finance Chair (Gordon Peters)
 - Gordon noted that an update needs to happen as the Revenue & Expenditure sheet has a discrepancy of \$3000 on it
 - the line currently called Subsidy (to CMU, AMBS, etc) will be changed to Donation
 - a number of churches donate quarterly, so some of the money won't have come in yet; April will hopefully look better
 - the end of June is a more accurate picture of the year
 - o What is MCC Social Club? (PS) – it comes out of staff salaries & needs to be coded differently (pays for coffee, staff get-togethers, etc).
 - Executive Minister (Ryan)
 - looking forward to spending 3 days with Emmaus

- Relearning Community Taster – registrations are coming in
- hope to ordain Daniel Janzen (Carrot River) at end of May
- June 3 will be at Eyebrow
- Area Church Minister: Youth programming and Administration
 - Please note that Kirsten is on holidays at this time We hope to have Kirsten back with us at the next meeting of council.

7. ADS Update (Ryan_

- comments from those in attendance were mostly positive
- people appreciated the sharing from MCEC and MC Alberta
- there were a lot of questions about the Youth Farm Board not being prepared to present re the building of the horse barn; it caused more suspicion than it needed to; all was done appropriately, above board, vetted, etc.
 - Terry is meeting with Mark Wurtz next week and will discuss about trying to get a better word out to people re process and the project
- Expenses:
 - we broke even
 - this was the final part of our contract with Betty Pries
- people commented that they liked being able to attend more of the workshops
- don't have a host location yet for 2019
- Ryan would be interested in bringing David Fitch as speaker for 2019 ADS
 - David grew up fundamentalist but became Anabaptist
 - fee: \$1500 US (which compares to what we paid for Betty)
 - could add a pastor's time as well as 3 sessions at the ADS
 - Ryan is looking for some authority to ask/book David

8. Refresh, Refocus, Renew update (Ryan):

- Deepening our walk with Christ
 - We need to keep this before us
 - as we think about it, how do we integrate this into what we do as council and also bring it to congregations
 - Ryan should do a follow-up "Dear MC Sask" letter, send to pastors to share as they will
 - Pauline is working on this theme and Terry has asked her to draw upon this and do opening for next council meeting (May 30)
 - it would be good to do some regional services on this theme (Ryan's plate is too full to do anything this spring)
 - a number of clergy in Saskatoon are hoping to work on a series re spirituality
- Deepening our walk with each other
- Deepening our walk with our neighbours

9. Ministries Commission:

- Terry and Ryan were present at the recent Ministries Commission meeting
- Terry set them a task – what are they doing currently and what do they want to do
- Ministries asked if they could come to council meetings – any group can ask to come to council meetings, they wouldn't be considered part of council as that would require a bylaw change (to be approved at Delegate level)
- Discussion:
 - we should really be getting reports from all the commissions, camps, etc at each meeting
 - do the approved council minutes get sent out to the commissions? They used to
 - maybe we should gather all of the minutes and post them on the website for those interested to read
 - folks would like an email to be send with a reminder that they're on the website

- some reports may need to be very scripted/brief – ie PLC has sensitive issues that they discuss
 - maybe just list topics of discussion and decisions
- Ryan will talk to Marianne: 2 weeks prior to council meeting Marianne will send notice to the commissions re a meeting coming up and ask if there are items to be brought to council
10. Equipping Day Rep from Council
- someone needed from council to be on the committee to help plan
 - PLC, Ministries, council, & a chair
 - the theme & speaker are done: need help getting workshops in place
 - Equipping day is Oct 27
11. Governance/Bylaw Revision:
- has to happen this year
 - Terry & Kirsten will have a conversation – maybe attack it full-speed in fall
12. Other Items:
- Motion to give incoming MC Sask Moderator, Terry Stefaniuk, signing authority with the financial institution(s) used by MC Saskatchewan. Gord/Pauline. Carried.**
- Motion to begin in camera session. Gord/Julia. Carried.**
- Motion to end in camera session. Pauline/Rod. Carried.**
13. Future Meeting Dates & Times:
- Wednesday, May 30, 6:00 pm @ MCC
 - September 5, 6:00 pm @ MCC