

## **MC Sask Council Meeting – August 8, 2018 6:00 pm at home of Terry Stefaniuk, Hague SK**

Present: Pauline Steinmann, Terry Stefaniuk, Gordon Balzer Peters, Rod Suderman,  
Ryan Siemens, Sharon Schultz, Bernie Wiens, Myrna Wiebe, Kirsten Hamm Epp

Secretary: Myrna Wiebe

**Attachments:** see August 8, 2018 Council Meeting Docket, follow-up emailed documents from Terry, and Executive Minister Report (handed out at meeting)

- 1) Welcome: Terry Stefaniuk
- 2) Opening: Bernie Wiens
- 3) Adoption of Minutes: May 30, 2018  
**Approved by consensus**
- 4) Business Arising
  - a. Ryan has sent a letter to Wildwood Menn, apologizes for not talking to Renata yet about nominations
- 5) Reports:
  - a. Moderator: Terry Stefaniuk
    - i. Shekinah related work and board meetings
    - ii. YFBC meeting with Mark Wurtz
  - b. Finance Chair: Gordon Peters
    - i. Budget Update
      - numbers are down, however it's tough to tell when it's the middle of summer
  - c. Executive Minister: Ryan Siemens
    - Ryan handed out his report
    - He would be interested in attending a workshop in September, hasn't used any of his continuing ed days yet (Leading the Church through Transformation, Change and Renewal). Will look into if it's different than things he's already done with Betty Pries
  - d. Area Church Minister, Youth Programming and Admin: Kirsten Hamm-Epp
    - it's a big highlight that part of her job is spending weeks at camp – really loves those weeks and connecting not only with campers, but staff and volunteers
    - Ride for Refuge – MC Canada has participated in for a few years already. It's a premade, pre-ready for you fundraiser. Places sign up as a charity and they use the Ride for Refuge platform to raise money. The Bridge has been the host charity for the past 10 or so years in Saskatoon and are not able to this year, so MC Sask was asked to be this year's host. Should be good exposure for MC Sask; as a host we receive a larger portion of the funds raised
    - Scholarships:
      - 14 applicants, \$500 to offer

**MOTION: That \$500 be taken from the SMYO Reserve Fund to raise the amount of scholarship monies available for this year to \$1000. Gordon / Pauline. Carried.**

- Kirsten will encourage applicants who do not receive a scholarship this year to speak to their churches
- Kirsten and Ryan are given permission to form an ad hoc committee to select the recipients of the scholarships
- Camp Disbursements:
  - Kirsten's report explains about MC Sask's contributions to the camps and how we disperse it (subsidies for campers)
  - the purpose of the donation is to provide support for the camping program, so it would make sense to stick with the first set of numbers given in the report
  - in deciding the camper numbers to figure out the subsidy, the Adult Special Needs campers currently count as 1.5 campers – but if there are no extra resources that the camp uses for those campers, maybe then they should not be weighted and be counted 1 for 1
  - we will stick with the formula listed in the report for this year (option 1), and Kirsten will do some research but will likely move to a non-weighted formula next year

6) Information:

- a. Personnel: The personnel committee has a job description for Kirsten's position. They have been asked for comments on this description and suggestions. (See attachment.)
  - Ric Driediger is on this committee and is currently up north at his job in Mississippi, so this is on hold until fall
- b. Ad hoc Governance Committee: Kirsten and Tim Wiens are at work and have met twice.
  - they are trying to find a 3<sup>rd</sup> person to be a part of the group
- c. Vacancies to fill:
  - Nominating Committee
  - MC SK Council
  - MC Canada
  - Others?
- d. Shekinah Cabin Project: One cabin is ready for use. General update. (See attachment.)
  - the pad is up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> one, staff have been helping with prepping beams

7) New Business:

- a. Youth Farm Bible Camp
  - i. Pasture increase by 40 acres (in the corner by the sign)
    - MC Sask has ½ section of land out at the Youth Farm Complex that is rented as farm land

- along with pasture for the horse program, the 40 acres could also be used for parking for the corn maze as that has been expanding
- should the land be rented to YFBC at a proportionate amount of to what's being paid by the present renters
- would need to speak to the current renter before any of this happened
- **\*need to find the current lease agreement** to make certain of the lessee, the amount per acre, the length of current lease, and who signs
- ii. Riding Facility: status of fund raising and 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage application (See attachment.)
- iii. Information Future expenses: replacing the kitchen/equipment and the Quonset (projected costs \$2-3 million)
- iv. Mark sent a document that looks at the governance of the Youth Farm Bible Camp  
Discussion:
  - is there a way to segregate the YFBC from the MNH to have it be more like Shekinah and Elim to create consistency with the camp relationships
  - is it worth looking at how things were structured with the Herbert Nursing Home in the past to help figure out how the MNH can/should relate to MC Sask? Ken Warkentin would be a good person to talk to as he used to be the board chair at Herbert**suggestions:**
  - look at board structures
  - there are 2 houses owned by MNH and rented by the YFBC – who looks after rent and who looks after upkeep (whoever collects the rent should be maintaining the structures)
- b. Shekinah: Terry
  - i. Alcohol Policy: recommendation from Shekinah Board **Decision Item** (See attachment.)
    - Shekinah board has worked hard on this; consulted with other camps that have a policy like this
    - YFBC is “no” to alcohol under any circumstances; Elim is “no”, but if you ask they may say yes to wine – have to ask though
    - if this policy passes and it causes problems in the future, then the board would pull the policy
    - there is a question on clarification of “catering to minors” and what that means
    - add wording that indicates not only Shekinah, but MC Sask would not be liable
    - a few grammar and spelling things to call attention to
    - other than wording, are we okay with this
- **MOTION: the proposed alcohol policy be approved as presented, subject to recommended editorial changes. Pauline / Rod. Carried.**

ii. Financial update:

Abundance Canada

- Abundance has approved a new mortgage (refinancing with \$75,000 extra money for functioning); needs to be approved by council to proceed
  - re the dispersal of camp funds - Shekinah's allotment would go to MC Sask to help pay for Kirsten's salary; their goal is to pay off Kirsten's salary by the end of the year
  - the mortgage always gets paid, taxes and insurance are being paid, staff are being paid, a number of bills are being delayed
  - we would like them to have a plan - 3 years? - of getting themselves into the black – with a metric and guideposts
- **MOTION that we approve the Abundance mortgage. Gordon / Myrna. Carried.**

Mennonite Trust Limited

- the \$50,000 line of credit is actually a mortgage, so they can only pay off up to %10 of it a year and can't use the money from Abundance to pay it off totally

iii. Task Force:

- report from Ken W.'s task force (See attachment.)
- Task Force 2.0(See attachment.)
  - maybe a task force not just for Shekinah but for camping / the camps in general
  - is there a vision that is consistent/stable through various directors at Shekinah? The original vision of Shekinah and the Timber Lodge didn't carry through all of the different Executive Directors. In the last 10 or so years there have been 4 different Executive Directors.

8) Other Items:

- 9) Future Meeting Dates and Times: Wednesday, October 10, 6:00 pm at the MCC Building in Saskatoon