

MINUTES
Northwest Regional Christian Church
Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting
October 11, 2010

The Executive Committee of the Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) met in a teleconference call on October 11, 2010, under the leadership of Debbie Little, regional moderator. Other officers participating were Stewart Sharpe, moderator elect; Debbie Jennison, treasurer; Lillian Moir, secretary; Wahhab Baldwin, mission council moderator; Jim Harwood and Gary Shoemaker, at-large members; and Sandy Messick, regional minister.

Absent was Terrie Roberts, mission council moderator-elect.

Debbie welcomed the members and opened with prayer.

1. Minutes

The minutes were approved as received by e-mail.

2. Financial Report

Debbie Jennison said the tentative September report shows \$5400 in Disciples Mission Fund giving for the region. This amount is more than twice that received in August. A final report is expected later this week. Board members are encouraged to contribute at some level to the annual fund.

The finance committee will meet October 24 to put the final touches on the 2011 budget. The committee needs to look at investments to see what can be pulled for 2011. The proposed budget will come to the regional board for approval on November 6.

3. Grant Proposal

The draft of the transformation grant proposal was discussed and suggestions for alterations made. Some comments include: The criteria need work. The projects should be something different than already being done or are unique expansions. The projects need to challenge congregations to approach ministry in a new way. Deadline for submitting proposals needs to be open-ended. Questions also were raised about who decides and follows up on the projects? What happens if the project is stopped?

By consensus, Gary Shoemaker will edit the document, including criteria, for submission to the regional board for action.

By consensus, the Executive Committee agreed that a maximum of \$5,000 would be available for each of the next three years.

4. Virtual Office

Sandy reported that the move is going forward with one unexpected problem: the lease on the copier. The region is responsible for shipping the copier back to California once the lease is finished at a cost of approximately \$550. This is in addition to the final payment of \$450. The region then will need to spend around \$900 for the new printer. The region has a second option:

to pay the copier company \$1095, including tax, with the company to satisfy the final lease payment and to purchase the copier on our behalf at a lower-than-market value. The region would keep the machine to do with as it decides.

Since the equipment is five years old and won't fit the new office space, a laser printer-scanner-fax machine would be more usable, with major copying jobs sent to outside businesses for churches.

By consensus, the Executive Committee agreed to take option one by making the final lease payment and shipping the equipment to California.

Office furniture needs were discussed. The suggestion was discussed to move Amber Saladino's computer to Larry Moorman's office and to purchase a new computer for Amber as one alternative. Wahhab Baldwin agreed to work with the office staff in securing new computers or refiguring old ones.

By consensus, the Executive Committee agreed to set up the needed home offices at a cost not to exceed \$6659.

Among points of discussion were the need for conference call capability, an "800" number, internet for Larry and mileage to weekly staff meetings. Discussion will continue on potential extra heat and electricity costs for home offices. The experiment in virtual office will be evaluated.

Sandy distributed a list of office furniture that is available free to the churches. She also shared potential savings of a virtual office compared to a physical office. The virtual office may cost approximately \$637 per month while a physical office would cost around \$3,116 per month.

5. Next Meeting

Since the full board meets on November 6 in Yakima, there will be no November 8 meeting. Sandy and Debbie Little will do the minutes since Lillian will be out of the country.

Executive Committee members were asked to hold the regional staff in prayer during the move.

Sandy closed the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by Lillian Moir
Board Secretary