

MINUTES OF THE CANADIAN CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017 – 1:15 P.M.
CORNERSTONE THEATRE – CANMORE, AB

2017AGM01 WELCOME & ESTABLISH AGENDA (1.0)

Moderator Nathan Hewitt called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed delegates. Some preliminary announcements were made, including the use of Robert's Rules for this business session.

2017AGM02 ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM (2.0)

Roll call read by Mark Kowalko (Board of Directors member)

Quorum declared by Mark Kowalko.

2.1 Miscellaneous information, instructions, etc.

Parliamentarians appointed: Michael Blackmer & Mal Wagner

Tellers appointed: Sonia Hildebrand and Heather Baughman

2017AGM03 DISPOSITION OF MINUTES FROM 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (3.)

MOTION: Mal Wagner/ Brian Krushel to accept the 2016 Annual General Meeting minutes as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2017AGM04 AGM BUSINESS COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (4.0)

Policies and Procedures information policy noted. Mark Kowalko, Dave Zimmerman and Anne Wilson comprise the Business Committee. Deadline to bring items forward to the Business Committee was 3:30 p.m. (break time) that afternoon.

Nathan gave instructions regarding our business policies.

2017AGM05 IN MEMORY (5.0)

John Campbell (Credentials Division Chair) came forward, presenting the names of pastors who had passed away during the past year. These included:

- Rev. John Alan Howard – (former Gardner College Academic Dean & President) - Passed away February 10, 2016 (Camrose, AB) (Age 63) – recognized for 53 years of service
- Irene Engst – (retired missionary) - passed away July 13, 2016 (Penticton, BC) – Our first Canadian Church of God missionary to Kenya (27 years) – recognized for 69 years of service to the church
- Rev. Gilbert Karl Sommert (retired minister) – Passed away January 30, 2017 (Edmonton, AB) at age 83; entered ministry at 19 years of age; recognized for 59 years of service to the church.

The Assembly stood in silence to remember these people. John offered a prayer in memory of these persons in closing.

Frank Klassen read greetings and an update from Pastor Cynthia Pelletier (Kinnaird COG, Castlegar, BC) regarding her husband Mark's recovery. Continued prayers appreciated and they are very thankful for all the support and prayer received thus far.

Evan Baum (Drayton Valley COG) came forward to give an update on his wife Bev. Bev has Stage 3 ovarian cancer and has now gone down to Mexico for treatment. Nathan Hewitt offered a prayer for Bev on behalf of the Assembly.

2017AGM06 REPORTS (6.)

Moderator referred to AGM 2016 Reports included in the Delegate Packet.

- 6.1. Board of Directors – Mark Kowalko (BOD representative)
 - Mark highlighted paragraph 1 in his report: “It is the driving passion of this Board of Directors that we continue with keeping ‘Jesus as the Subject’ in all that we do. And as we embark on this Jesus-centered, Spirit-empowered, Mission-focus, we want to keep our energies directed at being good stewards of the Canadian Church of God Ministries in accomplishing its goal to “foster disciple making congregations’.”
 - The Board of Directors values Ken’s leadership and on June 9, 2017, it will mark 8 years of ministry by Ken to the CCOGM. Mark indicated that in 2017 Ken will be taking a 3 month Sabbatical. Ken is working with the District Office staff in preparation for his time away.No questions arose from this report.
- 6.1.1. Financial Services Committee – report as submitted by Randy Roesler
 - Randy highlighted who the members of committee were and that committee phone updates has been done throughout the year. The 2016 Audit will soon begin. Audit for 2014 is complete, 2015 Audit is almost complete.
 - No questions arose from the report.
- 6.1.1.1. Deer Valley Meadows Camp – written by Lavern Kellsey (Steering Committee Chair)
 - Del Pierce came forward to highlight DVM items. They are looking for another member to serve on their Steering Committee. If potential names are there, delegates can let the camp know.
- 6.2. Executive Director of Ministry Services – Ken Wiedrick
 - Ken walked through his report, giving highlights by power point:

TOGETHER WITH THE FATHER...

1. Together with the Father, we are raising up leaders for the harvest. The district has been working to identify, recruit and support emerging leaders within our churches. Continued partnerships with Ambrose University College, Rocky Mountain College, and Briercrest College and Seminary in raising up leaders for the harvest. Two congregations have been identified by these partnering institutions of higher education as training sites in our district. They are East Side Church of God, and Grace Point Church of God. We continue to be in dialogue with churches and educational institutions in the district to determine if they are in a position to partner with us in this initiative. Dave Van Roon (Leadership Development & Clergy Care Director) was introduced and came forward to give further updates.
 - Partnership – CCOGM is currently working with Prairie Bible College to draw up an education agreement.
 - Dave noted that Joel Hildebrand is partnering with East Side in an internship. (Joel was introduced to the Assembly)
 - Ezekiel McMurtry – Zeke is currently partnering with Crosspoint Community Church (Winnipeg, MB) as an internship. It was noted that he has just won several music awards recently. (Zeke was introduced to the Assembly)
 - Children’s Ministry Task Force (CMTF) & Youth Task Force (YTF) members were introduced and recognized for their leadership and work on behalf of CCOGM.
 - Dave then highlighted the Emerge program (3 year program). He encouraged the Assembly to check out the program and if there are potential students within the district churches, Dave encouraged churches to have them apply for the program. See www.chog.ca for details.

There are 35 persons identified in our leadership development pipeline, which includes 17 Emerge leaders, 7 Fellows, 3 pre-license active pastors, and 8 students who are exploring a call to ministry.

The Youth Task Force (YTF) has been actively leading the Emerge track for young leaders. There will be 6 Emerge students graduate from the program this year. Four will either serve the local church or plan to take part in international

missions. Other events the YTF have developed are: youth camp, FrostOver youth winter retreat, Youth Leader's Summit and YAWE (Young Adult Winter Retreat). Most of these events happen at Deer Valley Meadows Camp.

2. Together with the Father, we are committed to fostering healthy pastors who participate in the Kingdom of God through various ministry efforts.
- Pastoral Huddles – Ken & Dave are carrying these out on a weekly basis. 37% of our pastors are involved in a huddle. Upcoming events: Pastor/Spouse Retreat (Oct. 16-18 in Banff, AB); 2017 Theologue event (Guest speaker: Rev. Jim Lyon; Topic: Biblical Sexual Ethics); other pastoral support ministries were mentioned: Focus On The Family (Clergy Care), Fairhaven Ministry Centre, etc.
3. Together with the Father, we are spurring one another on to faith and good works. A tangible way the district does this is through consulting services to local congregations. Two types of partnerships: 1. Redevelopment partnership (needed when a church requests it or finds themselves on the back side of the bell curve, or is a re-plant), a 3 year process; 2. Discipleship partnership (outlines how the district and local church will partner for the kingdom purpose of making disciples.) These are customized agreements/partnerships with participating congregation – it is seen as an ongoing partnership with the congregation.
4. Together with the Father, we are taking new territory through new initiatives. The district's role is to assess leadership for a new initiative, provide training and coaching so the leader can be effective in fulfilling the Kingdom mandate. Jeff Peter (Pastor-Pleasant Valley COG, Vernon, BC was introduced). Jeff mentioned he is a part of a huddle. He expressed thanks for prayer and financial help from the District and also to Grace Point COG for their support financially. They want to be a church planting church. They do want to reach their culture. He thanked the Steering Team for their encouragement and wisdom. Jeff then shared a story of a new family attending the church and the journey and impact it has made on their lives and the church.
Ken affirmed Jeff and his ministry at Vernon.

The work at Edgerton is under evaluation. The District Office is in discussion with Michael Blackmer to determine whether this ministry will continue.

5. Together with the Father, we are holding up the arms of those congregations in transition. The district's role is to work with the existing leadership of a congregation in transition, to develop a plan for the transition, re-visioning, help in the establishment of a search committee, and screening of potential candidates. In the past year, the office has worked with: Erwood COG (Gerhardt Venter), First COG (Donnalyne Froese/Stewart Combs), Trinity Pacific (Frank Klassen), Barrhead COG (Mal Wagner – transitional pastor) and Southview COG.

6. Together with the Father, we are stewarding our assets so that we can be as effective as possible in our kingdom work.

The office staff encourages churches and individuals within the district to consider giving to one of our four funds: Those funds are:

- a) Leadership Development Fund which provides financial support to our leadership development initiatives (2017 commitment is \$53,500).
- b) Church Planting Fund which is designed to plant new congregation or new kingdom initiatives in Canada (2017 commitment is \$41,000).
- c) Church Redevelopment Fund which provides funds for church redevelopment (2017 commitment is \$53,000).
- d) Off-Shore Missions Fund which provides funds for offshore missions (2017 commitment is \$83,600).

All these funds are critical for our district to support its ministries. Leadership Development remains the key driver for all the other initiatives.

Staff Reports:

Michael Blackmer (Offshore Missions Director) shared highlights from his report.

- Hungry For Life (HFL) partnership highlighted (Dave Blundell present)
- Michael is now redeveloping all the agreements with our missionaries/projects.
- It was noted that mission team travel insurance is a must and if you go to a COG mission approved project by Global Strategies (Anderson, IN), you can get your travel insurance free.
- Mission internships: International Internships is an additional 2017 line item in our Ministries Budget for 2017. (Noted past Yap School interns: Joel Hildebrand, William Yanke, & Darian Yurkoski (John & Nancy Howard's granddaughter). Sarah Blackmer is currently serving in Yap as a result of the Emerge program. Stevenson's also work with schools in Uganda and there are internships available there as well. Medical internships may also be a possibility. Permission is not needed to send out a mission team, but teams are encouraged to contact the district office so they can promote this to the district to be a "Family together on mission."
- HFL catalogue available to delegates at display table – there are opportunities that are currently available for churches/groups to get connected into. Michael encouraged the Assembly to be connected with HFL. Thanked the churches for the teams that have been sent out this past year. HFL is also working with Nachtigall's for projects in Europe.

John Campbell (Credentials Division Director):

- John asked us to understand we are a part of a larger family, when it comes to credentialing. We act under the authorization of Church of God Ministries Inc. (Anderson, IN) through the Credentials Manual – this Assembly serves under that umbrella. Nathan Wiebe & John have been elected to sit on Credentials Congress these past 2 years to review the current Credentials Manual (24 members on this committee). Anderson has asked Nathan and John to continue on this congress for an additional year. On March 27-29, 2017 the congress will meet to finalize a new Credentials Manual to be presented to the North American General Assembly at the CHOG annual conference in June. 14 significant changes are proposed in the new manual.
- COG Distinctives courses highlighted and noted that most new pastors coming on board in our district will have this as a requirement for their credentialing process.
- Joseph Ibrahim was introduced as a commissioned minister by CCOGM and serving under the umbrella of Grace Point COG.

Mark Baughman (Administration Coordinator):

Presentation for CWBP participants: What is a health spending account? How much is in my account (\$125/quarter) - \$625 since February 2016 to spend; What can I use my health spending account for? How do I access it? Form details; How long does this money stay in my account? To be used by the end of 2017. \$500 total/year for each employee and their dependents that have CWBP medical coverage.

Shannon Boller (Office Secretary) came forward to share some items:

- CWBP has additional forms available on registration table
- Reminder cards- CCOGM Face Book link; Remind App info; annual registration link; Planning Centre link
- Planning Center registration – Shannon walked through a sample online registration power point presentation.

6.3. Ministries Council – Church of God, Anderson, IN – written report by Beverley Henry (Canadian Rep from Eastern Canada)

Moderator Nathan then shared a letter of greeting from the Church of God in Eastern Canada (Cecile Barnhart rep).

Break: 3:15-3:30 p.m.

6.4. Financial Statements – Mark Baughman

The financial statement was presented to delegates for review.

What we have and what we owe and own (balance sheet) was reviewed.

Income/Expense statement reviewed. Mark noted that the General fund giving was down by about \$60,000.

Financial Services did well and will make a larger donation to the general fund in 2017.

No questions.

MOTION: Don Bergquist/Jim Magee to accept the reports as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2017AGM07 DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE REPORTS (7.)

(No discussion from the floor)

2017AGM08 NEW BUSINESS (8.)

8.1. 2017 AGM Ballot – Presented by Dyann Schultz (Board of Directors Nominations Committee rep)

Tellers proceeded to hand out the ballots.

- Dyann noted that 7-12 members are allowed on the BOD. We try and get a mix of members from across our district and pastor/lay persons. She reviewed the BOD qualifications. A board member can serve up to 2 terms of 3 years. Any names that might be possibilities for the future can be called in to the district office or given to Dyann. The BOD will discuss this at their March meeting. Dyann explained how to fill the ballot out. She reminded the Assembly that the BOD needs the prayers of our churches and district.

Delegates then proceeded to fill out the ballot and tellers collected them.

8.2. 2017 Ministries Budget presentation – Mark Baughman

- Budget highlights reviewed.

- Challenge projects line down \$20,000

- Mark noted that they are presenting a \$10,000 surplus in the 2017 budget

-Financial Services donations to CCOGM is \$98,000 for 2017

Questions for clarification. None.

8.3. 2017 Ministries Budget Acceptance

VOTE: To accept the 2017 Ministries Budget as presented.

Delegates voted by the raising of voting cards. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

8.4. Ballot Results: 56 ballots completed

The following positions on the ballot were ratified:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (3-Year Term 2020): Don Bergquist (Hardisty, AB), Rose Purschke (Saskatoon, SK), Anne Wilson (Bragg Creek, AB)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2-Year Unexpired Term 2019): Not filled

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (1-Year Term 2018): Not filled

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MODERATOR: Mal Wagner (Camrose, AB)

Mark Kowalko thanked the Tellers for their work.

MOTION: Donnalyn Froese to destroy ballots. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Two video clips shown: Zach & Audrey Langford (England) and Gary & Gwen Bistritan in Yap
Nathan expressed a prayer for our missionaries.

Ken expressed thanks to Nathan for being our moderator. He also thanked pastors and delegates for coming to this event.

2017AGM09 DATES TO REMEMBER (9.)

Dates to Remember and Final Announcements

- 9.1 Board of Directors Meeting – March 20-21 – Calgary, AB
- 9.2 Children’s Ministry Leaders Retreat – April 7-8 – DVM Camp, Alix, AB
- 9.3 Emerging Leader’s Summit – April 27-30 – DVM Camp, Alix, AB
- 9.4 THEOLOGUE – May 16-18 – Calgary, AB (Guest Speaker: Jim Lyon)
- 9.5 Western Canadian Family Campmeeting (DVM) – July 11-16 – Alix, AB
(Guest Speaker: Rev. Ed Hyatt; Worship Leader: Kendyl Terry)
- 9.6 Greenwater Family Camp –August 4-7
(Note other camp dates on 2017 Calendar)
- 9.7 Board of Directors Meeting – September (TBC)
- 9.8 Youth Leader’s Summit – October 13-15 – Rundle Stone Lodge, Banff, AB
- 9.9 Clergy/Spouse Retreat – October 16-18 – Rundle Stone, Banff, AB
- 9.10 Board of Directors Meeting – November (TBC)
- 9.11 LEADERCONNECT 2018 – February 22-23 – Canmore, AB
(Host Hotel: Coast Hotel Canmore; Sessions/Meals: Cornerstone Theatre)
- 9.12 2018 Western Canadian Family Campmeeting (DVM) – July 10-15 – Alix, AB

2017AGM10 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Keith Inscho/Dan Schultz

Recording Secretary,

Wendy Inscho, Administrative Assistant (Canadian Church of God Ministries)