

**Presbytery of Wyoming
Council Minutes
January 31, 2008**

Present: Frank Kinney (Moderator), Jim Blaha, Sherry Flyr, Linda Norris, Sherry Stottler, Daren Terpening, Lee Wickel; Ex officio: Bruce Ford, Fred Feth
Excused: Gordon Sommer; Ex officio: Glen Flyr
Guests: Doug Melius, Jane Malone

The meeting was opened at 10:10am with devotions and prayer by Daren Terpening.

The minutes of November 14, 2007 council meeting was approved.

Financial Report

Alayne discussed the financial report. Council **VOTED** to continue with Jim Montgomery as our CPA under his new employment with Killmer & Associates.

Alayne discussed the balance sheets after adjustments, the general journal and income statements. Council voted to receive the financial report.

Budget & Finance Committee Report

Daren Terpening announced that mission partnership funds decrease each year and may expire altogether after 2010. The budget & finance committee has formed a task force to consider funding alternatives to the mission partnership funds. Bruce Ford, Glen Flyr, Dorothy Cottrell and Bruce Heimback (pending Bruce Heimback's acceptance) will serve on the task force, which will also receive synod assistance from Bob Sheldon.

Daren commented that the internal financial review conducted by the budget & finance committee found everything in order.

Council adjourned and convened as trustees

Saratoga Manse

The First Presbyterian church of Saratoga voted (the session on December 6, 2007 and congregation on January 27, 2008) to receive the gift of a new home at Lot 5, Block 4, Bramdee Subdivision, Town of Saratoga, Carbon County, Wyoming to serve as a manse. The property is valued at \$175,000 and is free of any encumbrances. The trustees **VOTED** to approve reception of the donation of the home.

Worland Remodeling

On January 28, 2008 the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Worland voted to approve a project amounting to \$170,425, to remodel the front of the church and install an elevator, and to request a loan from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program. The requested loan is for \$100,000 at 4.45% for twenty years, with monthly payments amounting to \$629.25 per month. Trustees **VOTED** to approve the request for remodeling, including the elevator, and to coordinate the loan request with General Assembly.

The trustees adjourned and reconvened as council.

Camping Ministry Task Force

Bruce Ford announced that the camping ministry task force will deliver a PowerPoint presentation to presbytery at its Friday session. The task force will review the first draft of the report from the consultant. The task force's report will be included on the Friday docket of the May 2008 presbytery meeting.

Presbyterian Women

Sherry Flyr announced that there is over \$6000 in the mattress fund.

Spring Gathering will be held April 4-5, 2008 in Encampment. This year is the 20th anniversary of Presbyterian Women. Bruce Ford will introduce the new Horizon's Bible Study – "*Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor*" by Dale Lindsey Morgan.

The PW/Churchwide Coordinating Team newsletter is on the web at www.pcusa.org/pw.

The 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be July 11-15 in Louisville.

Evangelism and Congregational Development Work Group Report

Over 30 people attended the training event for the southeast area. The training is now finished and the work group is working directly with individual churches in the area. Plans are to go to the Big Horn Basin next.

Wyoming Ministries in Higher Education

WMHE has sent its funding request to synod. Synod requires an income and expense statement from each of the campus ministry programs as per our guidelines.

Old Business

Sherry Stottler will draft the presbytery's report for the 2009 mission yearbook.

New Business

Council discussed the proposed overture from Rev. Bob Garrard and the First Presbyterian Church of Cheyenne calling for the Board of Pensions to create a full-time position of Patient Advocate. The overture was withdrawn because the Board of Pensions agreed to create such a position by the end of March 2008. Council **VOTED** to communicate with the Board of Pensions its support of the overture and its withdrawal and requests that the Board communicate to the council its progress towards the creation of the Patient Advocate position.

Council **VOTED** to recommend that presbytery approve the request from Winter Memorial Presbyterian Church of Casper for a grant through the General Assembly Mission Grant Program to fund undertaking a transformation program entitled a "faith walk." The grant obligates the presbytery to \$67,500 over a seven-year period on a decreasing schedule and is matched by the General Assembly.

Mission Task Force Report

Doug Melius, Sherry Stottler and Jane Malone presented a PowerPoint program for long range planning. The report included a proposed mission statement "The Presbyterians of Wyoming...Living to Make Christ Known," and three principles of commitment to "Care, Connect and Challenge."

Stated Clerk's Report

Council **VOTED** to recommend that presbytery approve the First Presbyterian Church of Casper as host for the presbytery meeting of February 5-6, 2010, and the First Presbyterian Church of Saratoga as host for the presbytery meeting of May 7-8, 2010.

Presbytery Moderator's Report

Lee Wickel is inviting local pastors to be part of the worship service during presbytery meetings. Lee announced that the White Mountain Presbyterian Church of Rock Springs is worshipping on a regular basis. The congregational meeting will be held February 8.

General Presbyter's Report

Bruce Ford's term on the synod coordinating council is ending. He is co-moderating with Lynn Williamson the session at Winter Memorial. South Goshen Presbyterian Church is preparing for its final year's review of its grant from General Assembly. Bruce is providing officer's training to Cody and Cheyenne First.

Council Moderator's Report

The April 8, 2008 council meeting will be Frank Kinney's last meeting. An interim moderator will be named at that meeting. Sherry Stottler agreed to serve as commissioner to the synod meeting May 8-10, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm with prayer by Daren Terpening.