

**PRESBYTERY OF TAMPA BAY, INC.**  
**STATED MEETING MINUTES**  
**Saturday, May 5, 2018; 9:00 a.m.**  
**Hope Presbyterian Church, Winter Park, Florida**

The Moderator, Rev. Libby Shannon, called the May 5, 2018 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay to order at 9:02 a.m. The meeting served both as a meeting of the ecclesiastical governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and a meeting of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, Inc., a non-profit corporation of the State of Florida.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The Stated Clerk declared a quorum was present.

The docketed agenda was approved.

Rev. Owen Carriker, pastor of Hope, and Rev. Manuel Fernandez, pastor of Nueva Esperanza, welcomed the Presbytery. The Moderator then asked that first-time Commissioners, new Minister Members and Corresponding Members rise and introduce themselves.

The Moderator appointed the following tellers:

- Paula Salter
- Barbara Booth-Jarmon
- Karen Cosan
- Robert Shaw
- Allison Kelly
- Darwin Anneler

## **Consent Agenda**

The Presbytery voted to adopt the Consent Agenda:

### **Reports without Motions:**

**Report of the Commission on Ministry**  
**Report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry**  
**Reports of the East, West and Central Regional Commissions**  
**Report of Beth-El Farmworker Ministry**  
**Report of Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center**  
**Report of Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network**  
**Report of Presbyterian Women**  
**Report of Thornwell Homes**

## **Reports with Motions:**

### **Report of the Commission on Church Vitality:**

1. Approve the Commission on Church Vitality (CCV) Manual

### **Coordinating Team:**

1. That the Presbytery set its next Stated Meeting for Thursday August 23rd, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church of Brandon.

### **Stated Clerk:**

1. That all requests for excused absences be granted for today's meeting.

### **Temple Terrace Presbyterian Church:**

1. Approve changes to the church bylaws.

## **Presbytery Worship**

The Presbytery then moved into a time of worship where Rev. Phil Hollins preached, and Ruling Elder Patrice Hatley read the Necrology. Revs. Dave Baker, Dawn Haeger, Loli Ros Reiter, Peg Roy and Elder Joe Smith, Inquirer Leah Higginbotham and musician Philip King also participated in the service. An offering in the amount of \$1,243 was taken on behalf of CBE International (founded as Christians for Biblical Equality).

## **Reports, Part 1**

### Synod Commissioner Report

David Shelor

David reminded the Presbytery of the work of the Synod, it's functions, partnerships, grants and ministries.

### Committee on Nominations and Representation

Denise Lay

The following were nominated to the commissions or committees below:

#### Racial/Ethnic:

- W for people who identify as Caucasian
- H for people who identify as Hispanic or Latin
- B for people who identify as African American or Black
- A for people who identify as Asian or with their country/language of heritage

Gender:

- M for Male identity and F for Female identity

Ordination status:

- C for clergy who identify themselves ordained as ministers of word and sacrament or teaching elders
- E for those persons who are ordained as ruling elders

0=partial term less than one and a half years (filling a vacancy), and are eligible for two more terms.

1=first term; 2=second term

**COMMISSION ON MINISTRY (COM)**

Robert Fort, EMW, East Region, 2020-1

**COMMISSION ON CHURCH VITALITY (CCV)**

Tim Sizemore, CMW, East Region, 2019-1

**COMMISSION ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)**

Sally Speer, EFW, Central Region, 2019-1

**PRESBYTERIAN CAMPS & CONFERENCES (PCC) CEDARKIRK BOARD**

Wendi Baker, EFW, East Region, 2020-1

Jeanie Stephen, EFW, West Region, 2020-1

Lynn Pabst, EFW, Central Region, 2020-1

**PRESBYTERIAN HOMES AND HOUSING FOUNDATION BOARD**

Scott Boggs, EMW, West Region

**VILLA INTERNATIONAL**

Norma Johnson, EFW, Central Region

After an opportunity for open nominations, nominations were closed, and the slate was approved.

*Eckerd Student Trip Report*

*Doug McMahon*

Doug thanked the Presbytery for its support of a spring break trip for seven Eckerd students who traveled to Civil Rights sites around the country and reported on their journey.

Mike spoke to the Presbytery regarding our mission and ministry and the work of the Coordinating Team (CT) in discerning new ways of doing the work of the Church together. The CT proposes that the Presbytery change the Regional Commissions into Regional Networks that are not business oriented, but interest oriented. We observed that the early 'come one, come all' approach we used when we started this transformation journey with Regions is the approach that actually encourages and nurtures more people, and includes more people, not limiting participation to only designated commissioners.

The CT therefore moves that we shift from our current practice of alternating 2 Stated Meetings of the Presbytery and 2 rounds of Regional Commission Meetings to become 4 Presbytery gatherings per year, rotating the regional host venues.

After discussion, the motion passed.

## **Order of the Day**

Loli closed this portion of the meeting with a blessing for lunch, and the Presbytery then organized itself into networking groups for conversation regarding the proposed changes. These groups were to go straight to the Order of the Day, lunch, at noon.

## **Reports, Part 2**

*Moderator*

*Libby Shannon*

Libby reported on her work installing and ordaining various ministers in the Presbytery, which has been quite busy.

*Commission on Preparation*

*Deb Belusa*

Deb Belusa, chair of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry, moved the examination for ordination of Candidate Stephanie Dion, who has a call in another presbytery but will be ordained here. After preaching, Stephanie was examined as to her faith and knowledge. Kathy Dain moved that her examination be sustained. Stephanie was excused while the motion was discussed. This motion was seconded and passed. Stephanie was received with rejoicing after which Bob Scott led the Presbytery in prayer for her.

Deb also presented recent Candidate Jeff Davis, who was questioned on the floor. The examination was then arrested, and Bob Scott prayed for him.

The Coordinating Team moved that the Presbytery approve the Presbytery Manual of Administrative Operations, as amended. Stated Clerk Dave Baker spoke to this motion, which passed.

Board of Trustees

John Hehn

The Board of Trustees moved the following as an amendment to the policy on use of funds from the sale of church properties: That the Trustees will make decisions regarding approval of any property loans to congregations. These loans may be converted, in full or in part, to grants based on conditions set by the Commission on Church Vitality.

This language would become part of the Policy for use of funds from sale of church property. This motion passed.

## **Reports of Staff, Officers and Partners**

Treasurer

John Hehn

In Treasurer Terry Dennis' absence, John Hehn reported on the financial state of the Presbytery and a recently completed audit. Per Capita giving is slightly down over last year, as is Mission giving, but that reflects the unusual strength of the previous year more so than weakness this year. The Presbytery is in good financial shape.

Coach and Coordinator

Patrice Hatley

Patrice reported on the life of the Presbytery and on Sermons of Service. She also challenged the Presbytery to consider new ways of doing Church.

Vice Moderator

Loli Ros Reiter

Loli talked about the different ways that our churches celebrate Pentecost. She encouraged the Presbytery to look for teachable moments during the Pentecost season.

Beth-El Farmworker's Ministry

Kathy Dain

Kathy shared about the work that Beth-El does helping farm workers and their families. They are opening a new dental clinic and have plans for additional services. She asked for continued help and partnership.

John reported on a possible all time high for summer camp enrolment, including the traveling day camp. Cedarkirk is also more than one million dollars towards their four million dollar capital campaign. He offered to come do minutes for mission at any church in the Presbytery, and asked for continued prayers and support.

The Stated Clerk reported that the login side of the website was nearly done. He also reminded the Presbytery to hand in their lanyards and to include feedback regarding the networking groups on the evaluation forms.

**Unfinished Business and Thanks**

Having no unfinished business, Loli thanked the host church for their hospitality.

Vice Moderator Loli Ros Reiter dismissed us with prayer at 2:52pm.

Submitted by,

Rev. David Baker, Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Tampa Bay