

Sacramento United Methodist Union

DRAFT Minutes May 15, 2014 at Wesley UMC

In Attendance: Carolee Catterall, Kathy LaPoint-Collup, Betty Jo Rose, Vince Lepore, Ronald Hoppes, Joseph Archer, Joyce Brinsky, Cynthia Lawrence, Neal Harrell, Brenda Waters, Doris Baxter, Gloria Phinney, Alan Pedersen, Tina Ballagh, Robin Marese,

Excused Absences: Linda Dew-Hiersoux, Linda Kelly-Baker

Pastor Carolee Catterall welcomed SUMU to Wesley UMC and opened with prayer.

MSP Minutes from March 20, 2014 - no corrections.

Jo Archer reported on attending meeting hosted by Rev. Bener Agtarap and Rev. Schuyler Rhodes for Mission Extension Society Chairs in early May. Similar to the two previous meetings hosted by the Annual Conference, the group began by sharing resources and reflecting on what is happening in various mission societies. Joe found immense differences in the mission societies. San Francisco sits on millions of dollars in real estate. Monterey has no reserve funds and uses Askings to support a Spanish-language church. The bulk of the meeting centered around these three topics:

- 1) Report from Latino Ministry Plan regarding Annual Conference's strategy for increasing ministries in Spanish speaking communities.
- 2) Conference is beginning a pilot program for micro-lending through United Methodist Federal Credit Union. This is an effort to replace high payday loans with funding from churches for loans to individuals. The plan is modeled on Lutheran church in Pennsylvania. One congregation in our Annual Conference will begin a one-year pilot program soon. Could be opportunities for others to participate in the future. Our District Superintendent, Schuyler Rhodes, was very excited about this...contact him if you would like your church to participate or explore opportunities for becoming a pilot congregation.
- 3) Roundtable discussion regarding how mission extension societies could collaborate. Unclear what Annual Conference will commit to this process financially, but extension societies should continue to meet together to discern possible collaborations.

Joe questions regarding Askings to Schuyler. These are the same questions we asked to Rev Bener Agtarap when he met with SUMU in 2012 and again when the Bishop hosted mission extension societies last year. Schuyler will get back to Joe regarding the Askings process and transparency concerns.

Treasurer's Report (Attached) Vince Lepore reviewed the income and expenses statement along with the balance sheet. See attached report. Vince does not anticipate anything regarding Askings until October. Quarterly interest from Endowment Board was received and was in order. Loans are current. Investments were relatively flat, with slight gain. We are \$14,523 up for the year.

A check was issued to Sierra Service Project for \$3,500 in early May.

MSP Vince will send a check in the amount of \$500 for Sierra Service Project and Betty Jo will notify Annual Conference we will have \$1,000 for Camperships this year. This will ensure we follow the guidelines for youth camperships grants established last March. We had a mixup in the amounts and this action should clarify the matter.

Vince reported SUMU is sitting on total assets of over \$629,000.

Finance Report

Matt thanked Ron for his many years of watching over our finances in love. Ron is transitioning out of leading this committee and a replacement is yet to be confirmed. Ron has talked with a person from Rio Linda regarding taking over the role of Finance Chair, but that person has some health issues that will not allow this to happen.

The Finance Chair opening is an opportunity to potentially bring another person and church into the work of SUMU.

ACTION ITEM: Ron write a brief position description for Finance Chair. Clarify commitment and assuring that CPA is not needed. Circulate among churches.

Church Development

Joe Archer and Neal Harrell reported on behalf of our Church Development Committee which met earlier today (Ron, Tina, Kathy L-C, Carolee, Doris, Neal, Joseph, Matt).

Our church development process was formalized last year and this is our very first cycle of grants. SUMU received 8 inquiries and 4 completed applications.

Overall, we are looking for bang for our buck. Not flash, but bang. Want this to make a difference. SUMU is looking for new ministries, making disciples, and reaching new people. We want churches to be creative and pragmatic and take risks.

Church Development has four unanimous recommendations for the first grant cycle... Elverta UMC: Request for \$5,000 grant for ministry to neighborhood called *40 Bags Program*.

MSP Fund Elverta UMC proposal in its entirety as requested and invite Elverta UMC to report to SUMU on progress in-person in six months. Disperse entire funds now.

St. Mark's UMC: Request for \$5,000 for a youth event called *Made for More*.

MSP: Decline grant request. Invite St. Mark's UMC to connect with Annual Conference Youth & Camping Ministries and consider in more detail how they will follow-up this event with discipleship formation process. How could this become a movement with momentum rather than a moment?

Florin UMC: Request for \$19,000 for electronic sign and permits.

MSP: Decline grant request. Encourage Florin UMC to request loan for a scaled down sign (up to \$10,000) from SUMU and/or come back with a proposal for creative ways to continue or expand their outreach to the community.

Riverside UMC: Request for \$24,800 for Youth and Young Adult and Family Ministries.

MSP: Fund Music Ministry portion of the grant proposal at \$6,240. Invite Riverside UMC to update SUMU regarding progress in-person at six months. Encourage Riverside to pursue English speaking guest speakers through their Circuit and through Ethnic Ministries of the Annual Conference led by Rochelle Frazier. Disperse funds now.

Committee celebrated that we are trying to develop a dialogue with applicants. Neal and Joseph will reach out to each applicant and share with them in detail the committee's rationale and decision.

June 30 is our next grant deadline.

MSP Add third deadline for grants: September 30, 2014.

1st Grant Deadline: March 15

2nd Grant Deadline: June 30

3rd Grant Deadline: September 30

Action Item: Vince will cut checks and Neal and Joe will mail to each Riverside UMC and Elverta UMC. Each church applying for a grant will receive a letter from Church Development outlining SUMU's action and identifying sources for follow-up.

One person shared, "After forty years of being in SUMU, this feels very exciting and energizing."

Betty Jo expressed appreciation for the process we have created and celebrated the

work of Church Development. After after three years on SUMU, she is celebrating the actions taken today!

This feeling was reiterated by a number of persons on SUMU.

ACTION ITEM: Matt will confirm Riverside UMC as host for November meeting.

Archives and History/ Sunshine

Doris Baxter reported First UMC (Sacramento) is tithing to the Conference.

OLD BUSINESS None at this time.

Tina closed in prayer.

Matt adjourned the meeting.

2014 Schedule of Meetings

We will meet on the 3rd Thursdays from noon-1:00 pm

May 15, 2014

Wesley UMC (5010 15th Avenue Sacramento, CA 95824)

July 17, 2014

(The Table at Central UMC 5265 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819)

September 18, 2014

(The Table at Central UMC 5265 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819)

November 20, 2014

(TO BE CONFIRMED. Asking Riverside UMC -
803 Vallejo Way Sacramento, CA 95819)