

1 **Minutes of the**
2 **Forty-Sixth Annual District Conference**
3 **Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren**

4 **November 6-8, 2009**

Holiday Inn, Sacramento, California

- 5 **I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with prayer offered by Jim Martinez
6 and the Congregational Commitment.
- 7 **II. Special Prayer:** Sara Haldeman-Scarr spoke briefly about Myrna Wheeler (past board chair),
8 who has a terminal condition, and read an update from a family member. The conference
9 attendees had a moment of prayer for Myrna.
- 10 **III. Announcements, Appointments, and Introductions of Special Guests:** Jim Martinez
11 introduced the board chair, moderator-elect, and clerk. Timekeeper: Richard Zapata; Tellers:
12 Larry Cole, Jack Storne, and Karen Walters; A committee to review the 2009 minutes was
13 named: Lois Frantz (Empire), Kate Spire (Circle of Peace), and Linda Davis (Church of the
14 Living Savior).
- 15 **IV. Quorum:** There are 24 churches represented and 70 delegates; a quorum was declared to be
16 present.
- 17 **V. Delegate Dedication:** The delegate body was dedicated (page 6 of the Business Book).
- 18 **VI. Approval of 2008 Minutes:**
19 A. A committee of Lois Frantz (Empire CoB), Richard Downhour (Papago Buttes CoB), and
20 Karen Wolff (La Verne CoB) had reviewed the minutes of the 2008 Pacific Southwest
21 District Conference and verified that the minutes are correct.
22 B. **Sara Haldeman-Scarr moved and Norma Sexton seconded to approve the minutes**
23 **from the 2008 Pacific Southwest District Conference. Approved.**
- 24 **VII. Approval of Agenda:**
25 A. The agenda was read aloud.
26 B. **Jennette Lovelace moved and David Franklin seconded to approve the agenda.**
27 **Approved.**
- 28 **VIII. Report from the Pacific Southwest District Board:**
29 Board Chair Thomas Dowdy spoke about becoming followers of Christ and about the challenges
30 of becoming Board Chair after Myrna Wheeler became ill and resigned. Thomas gave a report
31 of some of the activities of the District Board.
- 32 **IX. District Executive Minister Report:**
33 A. Don Booz introduced special guests Mary Jo Flory-Steury, Rubén Deoleo, Stan Dueck,
34 Steve Mason, and Chip Arn.
35 B. Don Booz gave a report and invited conference attendees to attend the workshops.
36 C. Don Booz spoke briefly about Myrna Wheeler and her impact on the Pacific Southwest
37 District.

- 38 **X. Report from the District Conference Program Committee:**
- 39 A. Sarah Haldeman-Scarr directed us to read a report on page 17 of the Business Book. Next
- 40 year's conference will be held November 12-14, 2010, at Hillcrest retirement Community
- 41 in La Verne, California.
- 42 B. Sara Haldeman-Scarr introduced the other members of the Planning Committee: Russ
- 43 Matteson, Cathy Iacueli, ex-officio members Jim Martinez (moderator), Felton Daniels
- 44 (moderator-elect), Don Booz (District Executive), and Virginia Diaz (Women's Fellowship
- 45 chair).
- 46 C. Sara answered some questions from delegates regarding the all-inclusive registration fee and
- 47 the University of La Verne Homecoming weekend.
- 48 D. **There is a recommendation from the Planning Committee for approval to establish a**
- 49 **consistent weekend for District Conference of the second full weekend of November.**
- 50 **Approved.**
- 51 **XI. By-Laws Revision and Gifts Discovery Team Discussion:**
- 52 A. John Jackson explained the proposed Gifts Discovery Team and the necessary changes to
- 53 the by-laws of the PSWD constitution and by-laws (page 59, Exhibit D).
- 54 B. Time was given for questions and opinions.
- 55 C. This item was continued until the afternoon session.
- 56 **XII. National Youth Conference Report:**
- 57 Becky Zapata and Irene Beltran gave a presentation regarding the upcoming National Youth
- 58 Conference 2010 and invited attendees to visit the NYC exhibit in the exhibit hall.
- 59 **XIII. By-Laws Revision and Gifts Discovery Team: (continued)**
- 60 A. Time was given for questions and opinions.
- 61 B. **There is a recommendation from the Policy board to revise the by-laws of the PSWD**
- 62 **constitution and form a Gifts Discovery Team, which would replace the nominating**
- 63 **committee.** An oral vote was taken, which appeared to be very close. A raised-hand vote
- 64 was taken: 34 yes, 34 no, 1 abstention. A revote was taken: 35yes; 34 no, 1 abstention. A
- 65 paper ballot recount was requested by Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior). The vote
- 66 was 30 yes, 39 no, 1 abstention. **The recommendation of the Policy Board was not**
- 67 **approved.**
- 68 **XIV. Budget Proposal Overview:**
- 69 A. Board Chair Thomas Dowdy introduced the proposed budget for 2010 and explained that
- 70 this comes as a recommendation from the Executive Board.
- 71 B. David Castenholz (Finance and Property Manager) gave an overview of the proposed 2010
- 72 budget (pages 54-58 of the Business Book) and made the following corrections:
- 73 1. P. 54, line 10: \$1000
- 74 2. P. 54, line 36: \$18,100
- 75 3. P. 58, line 223: \$1500
- 76 4. P. 58, line 227: \$8500
- 77 5. P. 58: line 243: -\$283,595.34
- 78 C. David Castenholz answered several questions about the proposed budget.
- 79 D. **Dewayne Gamez (Tucson) moved and Larry Cole (Modesto) seconded that based upon**
- 80 **the numbers we are seeing and projections that the grants approved for the 2010 year**
- 81 **that were stopped be reinstated at a 50 percent rate. The rest of the \$210,000 is to be**
- 82 **used with certain parameters meeting specific guidelines to be determined by the**
- 83 **Grant Review Committee.** Discussion was held. **The motion was defeated.**

- 84 **XV. Election of Officers:**
85 A. Written ballots were distributed. The floor was opened for additional nominations. There
86 were no nominations from the floor.
87 B. **Russ Matteson (Modesto) moved and Kate Spire (Circle of Peace) seconded to approve**
88 **the ballot by an oral vote. Approved.**
89 C. The following people were elected:
90 1. Moderator-elect: Karen Walters
91 2. Nominating Committee: Thelma Keeling
92 3. Program Committee: Annette Martin
93 4. Clerk: Laura Miller (2nd term)
94 5. Policy Board: John Gingrich
95 6. Policy Board: Janelle Keeling (2nd term)
96 7. Policy Board: Karen Pierson
97 8. Policy Board: Richard Zapata
98 9. Policy Board Arizona Representative: Mauricio Iaculli
99 10. Youth and Young Adult Representative: Nohemi Flores
100 11. Youth and Young Adult Representative: Rehana Franklin (2nd term)
101 12. Youth and Young Adult Representative: Dylan Haro
102 13. Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board Nominee: Roger Hanawalt
103 14. Brethren Hillcrest Homes Board Nominee: Karin Nelson
104 15. Camp La Verne Trustee Nominee: David Flores
- 105 **XVI. Disorganization of Fellowship in Christ Church (Fremont):**
106 A. Don Booz explained the situation with Fellowship in Christ Church and directed the
107 delegates to pages 66 and 67 of the Business Book. Don reported that a celebration of the
108 ministry of Fellowship in Christ Church will take place on January 30, 2010, to bring
109 closure to this congregation.
110 B. **Jennette Lovelace (Pomona Fellowship) moved and Lois Frantz (Empire) seconded to**
111 **disorganize the Fellowship in Christ Church. Approved.**
- 112 **XVII. Disorganization of the Community Brethren Church (Fresno):**
113 A. Don Booz explained the situation with the Community Brethren Church (Fresno) and
114 directed the delegates to pages 68 and 69 of the Business Book.
115 B. Time was given for questions and discussion.
116 C. **Janet Hart (Pomona Fellowship) moved and Lois Frantz (Empire) seconded to**
117 **disorganize the Community Brethren Church. Approved.**
- 118 **XVIII. Disorganization of the Latino Community Church of the Brethren (Fresno):**
119 A. Don Booz explained the situation with the Latino Community Church of the Brethren
120 (Fresno) and directed the delegates to pages 70 and 71 of the Business Book.
121 B. **Karlene Daniels (Modesto) moved and James Isaacs (Bakersfield) seconded to**
122 **disorganize Latino Community Church. Approved.**
- 123 Erin Matteson led the body in the singing of The Doxology in honor of the three churches that
124 were closed.

- 125 **XIX. Resolution to Reduce Paper Usage:**
126 A. Thomas Dowdy explained the Resolution to Reduce Paper Usage found on page 65 of the
127 Business Book. Discussion was held. This comes as a recommendation from the Policy
128 Board.
129 B. **The Resolution to Reduce Paper Usage was approved.**
- 130 **XX. Standing Committee Report:** Elizabeth Rowan gave a report for the Standing Committee
131 Representative, Lucile Leard, who was absent. Elizabeth reported the need for nominees for
132 positions on the 2010 ballot for consideration at Annual Conference.
- 133 **XXI. Denominational Agencies Report:**
134 Steve Mason gave a report and showed a video highlighting the denominational agencies:
135 Bethany Theological Seminary, Brethren Benefit Trust, Missions and Ministry Board, and On
136 Earth Peace.
- 137 **XXII. Webcast Report:**
138 Enten Eller (Bethany Theological Seminary) gave a brief report about the District Conference
139 webcast that was filmed this weekend.
- 140 **XXIII. Passing of the Gavel:**
141 Jim Martinez thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as moderator and passed the gavel
142 to Felton Daniels.
- 143 **XXIV. Adjournment:**
144 The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m. with prayer offered by Jim Martinez.
- 145 _____
146 Minutes recorded by Laura Miller, Clerk
- 147 _____
148 In July 2010, the proof copy of the minutes was examined by the committee: Lois Frantz (Empire),
149 Kate Spire (Circle of Peace), and Linda Davis (Church of the Living Savior).