

Winnebago Presbytery
Presbytery Council
Minutes
August 21, 2007

The Council of Winnebago Presbytery convened on August 21, 2007, at 9:35 a.m. at the Presbytery office in Appleton, Wisconsin, beginning in morning prayer led by Cyndy Little.

Present:

Barbara Jordanger	E, Moderator of Presbytery
Anne Dropp	E, Personnel Committee
Chuck Valenti-Hein	M, Finance Committee
Barbara Goldthwaite	E, Nominating Committee
Nancy Barczak	E, Associate for Administration
Margaret Dakins	E, Presbyterian Women
Paul Huxtable	M, Committee on Ministry
Cyndy Little	M, Past Moderator
Lucy Rupe	M, Executive Presbyter
Michael Lukens	M, Stated Clerk

Excused: Stephen Wright, Mary Lou Opgenorth, Sarah Moore-Nokes, Deb Bergeson-Graham and Tom Beck.

1. Study Period

Council discussed the first section of Paul Hooker's booklet, *Identity-Polity-Praxis. Ecclesiology and the Presbytery* (Occasional Paper Series No. 2, Office of Theology and Worship, The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)), led by the Moderator and focused on perspectives of presbytery identity.

2. Report of "Six-Pack" Presbyteries Consultation

The Moderator, Past Moderator, and Executive Presbyter reported on the recent consultation meeting of Twin Cities Area, Minnesota Valleys, John Knox, Winnebago, Northern Waters, and Milwaukee presbyteries. Rev. Rupe reviewed some of the history behind this consultation, its relation to wider issues across the whole denomination and emerging but tentative patterns of revised structures within presbyteries.

3. AEP Task Force Report

The report was moved on the agenda until later in the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

Council Voted to approve the Council Minutes from April, 2007 with editorial revisions.

5. Staff/Officer Reports

- The Moderator reported on her continuing church visits with some very positive reflections amidst the wonderful hospitality of our churches. She also reported on her participation in official celebrations within Presbytery.
- The Executive Presbyter reported on the need to keep in prayer several situations within Presbytery. She also related some reflections on her recent trip to Africa, as part of her representative role within the Reforming Ministries program of the PC (USA), in this instance in relation to educational institutions in Africa and as part of the official group visiting Zambia and Mozambique in August. She reflected on the remarkable teaching and learning atmosphere of undergraduate and seminary education. She also attended an international Aids conference in Lusaka, Zambia. as well as time in Botswana and South Africa.
- The Clerk reported on recent work, including the monitoring of several judicial matters within the life of Presbytery. He presented proposed sites for the 2008 presbytery meetings.

Consent

Council **voted** to recommend the following sites for Presbytery meetings in 2008:

February 9	Stevens Point Frame Memorial
May 13	Winneconne First [2:30-8:00 p.m.]
September 9	Crivitz Faith [2:30-8:00 p.m.]
November 15	Green Bay First

6. Old Business

Consent

- Council reviewed the Presbytery meeting in May in Shawano and the first experience with an afternoon-evening meeting.
- Council **voted** to increase the food expenditure at Presbytery meetings to \$6.00 per person, effective for the November, 2007 meeting.
- Council **voted** to endorse the study paper: “Reconciled in Christ with Creator and Creation: The Worshipful Work of Caring for the Earth and People” (Wisconsin Council of Churches Policy Statement, adopted 12 December 2006).
- Council **voted** to approve the request of Church World Service to speak briefly at the November meeting of Presbytery and to display pertinent materials.
- Council reviewed the visit and itineration of Elisabeth Cook within Presbytery in October. Ms. Cook is a mission partner in Costa Rica and part of the Mission Challenge 07 program (PCUSA). Her visit will include the next meeting of Council.

7. New Business

Consent

- Council **voted** to recommend to Presbytery approval for a service of Holy Communion for the Presbyterian Women’s Retreat, October 20 and, if no Minister of Word & Sacrament is available, to authorize Elder Wendy Mannering to officiate at this service in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

8. Committee Reports

- Nominating Committee [Goldthwaite] will meet in October to develop nominations for presentation at the November meeting of Presbytery.
- Personnel Committee [Dropp] reported on its staff reviews in May, including the five-year review of the Executive Presbyter.
- Committee on Ministry [Huxtable] reported on its meeting in April and its forthcoming meeting on 23 August, with a large number of items pending.
- Finance Committee reported on preparation for the development of the 2008 budget.
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry [Rupe in place of Wright] reported on the appointment of Candidate Cynthia Stover-Carlisle to a temporary position within the John Knox Presbytery and her pending examination for ordination to the Ministry of Word & Sacrament by the John Knox Presbytery.

Council **voted** to request that a written report from the AEP Task Force be sent to members of Council, prior to a special meeting of Council for consideration of this report on 11 September at 1:30 p.m. at the Schofield Covenant Community Church.

9. The September Meeting of Presbytery

Council reviewed the docket for the September meeting.

Council **voted** to instruct the Clerk to arrange the final docket for the September stated meeting of Presbytery in consultation with the Moderator and the Presbytery staff.

10. Next Council Meeting

Council will meet next on 16 October 2007, at the Presbytery Office [Appleton] with opening worship by Chuck Valenti-Hein, Barbara Jordanger leading the next section of *Identity—Polity—Praxis. Ecclesiology and the Presbytery*, by Paul K. Hooker, and Paul Huxtable offering the closing prayer.

11. Adjournment

Council adjourned in prayer [Chuck Valenti-Hein] at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael B. Lukens
Stated Clerk