

Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry Meeting
May 17, 2018
Troy Wesley

Opening Prayer

- Scott Hohn opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Members Present

Jenni Hendrix, Stuart Worth, Ashley Davis, Dric Williford, Misty Barrett, Buddy Starling, Rob Thomas, Kay Whaley, David Goolsby, Levi Gardner, Bill Hamilton.

Finance Report

- Cammack Estate Trust has \$201,298.31; Cash & Equivalents: \$14,132.25.
- Higher Ed Trust has a Market Value of \$192,769.19; Cash: \$4,923.94

Approval of Minute

- 1st-Misty; 2nd-Dric; Approval- Unanimous

New items

1. Francis Asbury Award
 - Scott Hohn would like to nominate Rev. Lisa Pierce and to do a special recognition for Dr. Delores Alexander (faculty member of Tuskegee and chair of Tuskegee Wesley Foundation, but not Methodist).
 - 1st-David; 2nd-Misty; Vote-Unanimous
2. Report from Levi Gardner about Southeast Jurisdictional Campus Ministry Meeting
 - David shared that from the meeting he attended in Texas, he believes we need to give more attention to how the GC2019 will affect our Campus ministries. This often gets lost in the larger conversation about what will happen and our Campus Ministries are vulnerable.
 - Levi shared that there will certainly be less money available for our extension ministries, will they be viable; It is clear that a bigger piece of a campus ministers role will be financially supporting their unit's ministry. Bishops and other conferences are preparing to live in a new reality with potentially fewer finances available.
 - There will also need to be more concrete criteria to evaluate existing campus ministry.
 - We will need to decide what our criteria will be. Ex- Georgia has a more streamlined process for overseeing both conference campus ministries.
 - Levi challenged us to find a more streamlined and efficient way to evaluate the viability of our campus ministries. Ex- 1st- Size of unit at least 1% size of school; 2nd- 70-100 in main worship; 3rd- weekly metrics; also what is your leadership, discipleship plan; warning system;
 - GA's higher Ed has 30 people. Their hiring process is also a mixture of appointment/searching.
 - Things to consider- under this model what is their plan for the HBCUs?
 - Reality of these two gatherings: diminishing resources; matrix needed; HBCUs;
3. Report on USA and UWA
 - USA is still searching for a new Director
 - Alan Broome will be serving at UWA and half time at Eutaw UMC
 - Both Campus Ministers will be invited to join us at our next meeting in Greenville.
 - Scott will send letters of appreciation to Johnny and Kitsy on behalf of the board.

4. Meeting with Conference Treasurer Mickey Wilson (BHECM Wesley Foundation Apportionments
- David began with an update about how we got to where we are- BHECM around 2008, in an attempt to make sure campus ministers could be paid, Campus Ministers were given preferred status when it came to distribute conference monies. First, money was distributed to be sure they could be paid, then future monies were to be given distributed towards the percentages assigned by this boards. But this meant that as salaries changed/grew, that the amount left over after the salary distributions mean there was less actual money to be distributed by percentages. More significantly affecting larger campus ministries.
 - Mickey gave the following information to the board:
 - Benefits for our Campus Ministers will be shown differently in the budget to more clearly reflect how money is being spent. There will be no changes in how it is spent.
 - The budget for our board is approximately \$5,000. In light of this Scott made a motion to being including mileage for Board meetings. And Ashley Davis will clarify for us what the current appropriate rate will be.
 - 1st-Misty; 2nd-Dric; Vote-unanimous.
 - He shared that the cost to have a clergy person, in addition to salary was around \$20,000 a year (10,500 – health; 400-dental; 5000-DB; 2000-CB; 2000-CPP)
 - We had discussion after Levi shared his experience at the meeting. Among that was the need to decide what our criteria will be going forward for measuring; how will we divide the pie.
 - Part of our discussion centered around what are the benefits and possibilities of having campus ministers be conference employees (insurance/benefits)
 - The following Plan was put forth to help us begin to organize ourselves in a way that would be most beneficial to our Campus Ministries and responsibility to the Conference:
 1. Levi will share the GA model/Commission via email with the Board Members.
 2. Scott will then share this with Campus Ministers as well, so they can share what kind of accountability they feel is needed and have input, (ex- what kind of accountability do you wish would happen during this transition) and then share it with the board via Email to Scott by July 31st This will allow board members to read suggestions before our next meeting.
 3. Ask Ashley to look into what it would mean to move Campus Ministers towards Conference Staff
 - 3.B Also, have Ashley advocate for a Conference Staff Member lead this board.
 4. Develop our own plan to meet the needs of our Conference (HBCUs etc.)
 5. Develop the reports needed to put plan into motion
 6. Train and move towards new plan

Officer

- Scott Hohn decided to step down as Chair of our board and it was decided that Jenni Hendrix should not hold both the Secretary and Treasurer positions.
- Levi was nominated as treasurer.
 - 1st- Jenni; 2nd-Dric; Vote- Unanimous.
- Misty was nominated as Chair.
 - 1st-Dric; 2nd-Bill; Vote-unanimous.

Next Meeting:

September 13, 10am Greenville

November 5, 10 am Greenville

Stuart closed in prayer at 12:50pm.

Addendum to 5-17-18 Minutes

On June 1, 2018 Scott Hohn sent the following e-mail:

Friends,

I have two items that we need to approve before annual conference starts on Sunday. I ask that you vote "yay" or "nay" through email.

1. The USA Wesley Foundation Board met last night and unanimously voted to hire Mr. Clay Landon Smith as the Executive Director and Campus Minister for the USA WESLEY Foundation. Carol Foster represented our conference board at this meeting and she feels that the USA board did a thorough search for the right person.

The USA Wesley Foundation will need our board's approval before they can extend an official offer to Mr. Smith. Please let me know if you need additional information; I trust USA's judgment, and I ask that we approve their choice.

2. UWA Wesley would like to add the following persons to their Wesley Foundation Board: David Edmonds (Brewersville); David Willis (Demopolis), and Jessie Guin (York). I ask our conference board to also approve their new board members.

If you could respond this email as soon as possible, I would be grateful.

in Christ,
Scott

There were ten e-mail responses, and all were affirmative. (Bill, Levi, Bessie, Buddy, Misty, Robert, David, Jenni, Dric, Scott).

Scott informed the USA Wesley board of our approval via e-mail on June 1st.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Williamson,

The Alabama-West Florida Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry has approved the USA Wesley Foundation's Board of Directors decision to hire Mr. Clay Landon Smith as the Executive Director and Campus Minister for the USA Wesley Foundation.

We are grateful for the work that the USA Wesley Board has done in searching for the person to follow Johnny Peters ministry at USA Wesley. We will be praying for you, and we trust that God has a wonderful future planned for USA Wesley under the leadership of Clay Smith.

We request that Mr. Clay Smith join us at the next AL-WFL BHECM board meeting that is scheduled for September 13 at 10 AM in Greenville First UMC in Greenville, AL. The conference board would like to meet USA Wesley's new director.

Clay Smith began his duties at the USA Wesley Foundation on Monday, June 4th.

Submitted by Jenni Hendrix on June 12, 2018