

COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Office
Regular Meeting – January 4, 2007
Approved via e-mail January 11, 2007

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator	Bonnie Clark	Karen Cunningham
	Pete Jones, Vice Moderator	Deb Sunoo	James Kearny
	Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Kay Stelter	Tobin Wilson
	Fred Choy	John Foreman	Staff: Barbara Ranta
			Dennis Hughes
			Jerry Poole, Interim EP

The meeting was convened at 3:00pm with singing, followed by prayer by the Moderator. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Annual Retreat

Schedule and agenda items for the Council's Annual Retreat January 19-20, were reviewed.

Budget Approval

The 2007 Proposed Budget will be presented to Presbytery for approval at the January 16 Stated Meeting.

Special Meeting of Presbytery

As requested by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, it was voted to call a Special Meeting of Presbytery on March 13, 2007 at 3pm at Steel Lake PC for the purpose of examining and enrolling Inquirers moving to Candidacy. The 9th Annual CPM Inquirer and Candidate Retreat is being held on March 12 and 13 at the Palisades Retreat Center in Federal Way.

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Karen Breckenridge and Rev. Amy Delaney have been selected by the EP Search Committee as co-chairs. Elder Walt Weaver, Wedgwood, is Recording Secretary. Karen was present to discuss several questions with the Council:

1. **Process and time frame for conducting a mission study**, required for the preparation of a Church (Presbytery) Information Form (CIF). Seattle Presbytery conducted Visioning Events in 1994 and in 2001 that resulted in new mission statements and mission goals, objectives and directions for the coming years. In the normal course of things, it is time to conduct another. These have taken about 6 months from beginning planning to written reporting of results. The committee has looked into an abbreviated process recently used by the Presbytery of Chicago. The primary goal is to write a good CIF in a timely manner. Options and implications were discussed. It was voted to authorize the EP Search Committee to conduct a presbytery-wide Mission Study for the purpose of writing a Church (Presbytery) Information Form. The Committee is planning a Mission Study event during an extended dinner time at the March Presbytery Meeting. This will be the first step in our "five year" visioning process.
2. **Budget for Search** - \$5,000 has been budgeted in 2007 for the EP Search process. The Committee is reviewing recent experience of other presbyteries and is working on a budget. Additional funds will be requested as needed.
3. **Meeting with the Representation Committee** – The Search Committee understands it is required to meet with the Representation Committee and Karen affirmed their intention to do so.

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Rev. Kim Anderson was present to provide updates on several issues.

1. **Review of preliminary 2006 year end financials** – expenses were under budget for the year. Per capita receipts are slightly under budget, but several churches are expected to remit 2006 balances. Year end surpluses were generated largely by unexpended compensation dollars resulting from the September arrival of the Interim EP and departure of the Communications Director. Accounts receivable reflects the internal financing of accrued Buck Creek debt at \$342,833
2. **Reserve Accounts** – the six reserve accounts approved in November 2006 are being set up – Per Capita Reserves, Mission Reserves, Youth Triennium, CPM Offerings, Sabbatical, and Nguyen Accounts. A supplemental report on the Reserve Accounts will be provided to Council on a quarterly basis.

3. **Review of the issues around Buck Creek**, Forest Service requirements, and possibilities for sale. There are several complicated concerns, but there is also reason for guarded optimism. Rev. Anderson will continue to shepherd these issues for the Finance Committee into 2007. Rev. James Kearny offered prayer.
4. **Request for Council** to consider forming a Task Force for the Beacon Hill and Brighton Properties – to review the holding of properties – what is their highest and best use for the mission and ministry of the presbytery? The Finance Committee believes it would be helpful to have a task group of people experienced in thinking outside the box about property issues.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from the Rev. Amy Delaney has been received in which she expresses concerns about the Council's report to Presbytery last November as it related to Buck Creek, the Camp and Conference Ministry Team, and camping ministry in the Presbytery. The letter was discussed. A reply is being prepared to answer her questions and address her concerns.

INTERIM EXECUTIVE REPORT

Rev. Poole will have a report for the Council Retreat regarding the Communications Director search.

CLUSTER GROUP REPORTS

For Cluster A No report.

For Cluster B No Report

For Cluster C No report.

For Cluster D Karen Cunningham reported that the Personnel Committee chair has resigned. The Nominating Committee continues to work diligently to fill remaining openings on committees/ministry teams for 2007.

For Cluster E No report.

AGENDA FOR THE JANUARY 16 STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY

Time will be provided for a report from the Executive Pastor Nominating Committee. It was voted to approve the proposed agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

It was voted to raise the price for dinner at Presbytery Meetings from \$5.00 to \$10.00 effective at the March Stated Meeting. The price has not been raised for more than 25 years. Many host churches are not able to provide a meal within the \$5 framework.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

January 19-20
March 1, 2007 3pm

ANNUAL RETREAT – Mercer Island PC
REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

**COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Mercer Island PC
Annual Retreat – January 21, 2007
Approved February 2, 2007**

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator Pete Jones, Vice Moderator Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Bonnie Clark Deb Sunoo John Foreman	Karen Cunningham James Kearny Fred Choy
	Guests: David Brenner Karen Breckenridge		Staff: Barbara Ranta Dennis Hughes Jerry Poole, Interim EP

The Council Retreat began with Worship lead by the Moderator, Randy Butler.

Role, Responsibilities and Authority of Council

Stated Clerk, Dennis Hughes, reviewed sections of the Book of Order and Presbytery Standing Rules related to Presbytery Councils. Discussion and questions throughout his review related to our two years of experience with a smaller council and its defined duties, and whether the appropriate powers and authorities are in place to fulfill the Council's responsibilities.

Council's work is to serve as the "coordinating committee" to ensure that the mission objectives of the presbytery are being fulfilled. How are things actually working? How are we applying our authorities and responsibilities to the tasks at hand?

- Currently Council is re-active. How do we prepare for the future?
- Where should mission initiatives come from? Currently much authority has been divested to congregations with Presbytery supporting them in the initiatives they determine
- Should Presbytery cast a larger vision? Where are Gospel Imperatives leading us as the Presbytery of Seattle?

To do this, the "big picture" must be kept in focus and the long range view must be considered. What is needed to get us from here to there? How is "there" defined and articulated? We have relied on 5-6 year presbytery-wide visioning events in 1994 and in 2001 to guide us. Annually the Council is charged to review our progress and structure and recommend to Presbytery when adjustments may be needed along the way. It is time to conduct another visioning event. After discussion, it was decided that this kind of event should be conducted after the new Executive Presbyter is installed.

What's Ahead in 2007

Is a PUP Task Force Needed?

After discussion, *it was agreed to ask the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to provide information and guidance to presbytery related to ordination examinations.* It would be helpful for presbyters to receive a written report about the preparation process of each candidate being examined for ordination. It would also be helpful if the committee could suggest appropriate questions for ordination examinations on the floor of presbytery.

It was also agreed to ask the Committee on Ministry to provide information on the examination for each minister entering the presbytery, and to offer information and guidance to Sessions on the examination of elders for ordination and installation.

Alternative Dispute Resolutions

David Brenner, Presbytery Attorney, and member of University PC, was present to propose that Council consider establishing a task group of Presbyterian attorneys to research Alternative Dispute Resolutions

(ADR). ADR processes involve the settling of disputes, usually through a mediator/s, before going to trial. Mr. Brenner strongly recommends that the Presbytery consider a plan for handling our disputes within the Presbytery using Biblical methods. Such a task group could:

1. look at what ADR processes others are using
2. what ADR processes would fit with our Book of Order
3. is there need for an ADR process in our presbytery
4. what would an ADR process for Seattle Presbytery be – who can engage the process? Who can access the process as it proceeds

It was voted to ask David Brenner to gather a representative group of Presbyterian attorneys from within the Presbytery to review Alternative Dispute Resolution processes and report to the Council in about 4 months with a proposed process for ADR in Seattle Presbytery.

Education and Communication

During this discussion the following points/questions were mentioned:

- Training is where we as a Presbytery can make a real difference in the health of our congregations and the presbytery as a whole.
- The question was asked, “are there structural issues that affect the timeliness of information distribution to the Presbytery?”
- The advertisement for a new Communications Director has been posted.

Executive Presbyter Search Committee

Karen Breckenridge reported on the committee’s continuing planning to gather information from presbyters at the March Presbytery Meeting. The questions to be discussed during an extended dinner time at the meeting will also be sent to all Sessions for their input whether or not they are represented at the March meeting. All of the responses will be collated and used to write the CIF for the Executive Presbyter position. The Committee has decided to host the dinner as well by paying for the meal at that meeting.

Once the CIF has been drafted, the Committee will seek input from the Council as to final wording.

**** It was voted to bring a motion to the March Presbytery Meeting that would authorize the Council to approve the CIF on behalf of Presbytery.***

Organizing for 2007

Cluster Group Liaison assignments were made as follows:

- Group A – Support and Develop Clergy and Congregations
James Kearny (COM and Clergy Care MT) and John Foreman (CPM)
- Group B – Develop the Church’s Leadership
Kay Stelter and Fred Choy
- Group C – Enable Dialogue, Witness, and Mission
Tobin Wilson, Madeleine Brenner and Bonnie Clark
- Group D – Administrative Support of Mission and Ministry
Karen Cunningham and Deb Sunoo

As recommended by the Financial and Accounting Task Force, the Chair of the Finance Committee, or her representative, will be invited to participate in Council Meetings in 2007. Indeed, all committee and ministry team chairs are welcome at the Council Meeting table to facilitate and increase communication and understanding.

It was agreed that time will be set aside in a coming meeting of Presbytery to publicly thank clergy and elder members who serve in higher governing bodies, and to invite Synod Commissioners to report to Council prior to Synod assemblies as to issues they will be addressing, and after Synod assemblies to report

on outcomes and actions taken.

CDMT Issues

James Kearny reported on recent discussions with Don Waite, outgoing Church Development Ministry Team Coordinator, and Tom Fox, COM Chair, regarding issues related to the CDMT raised in Don's memo to Council dated January 5, 2007. James will meet with Vivienne Strickler, the current CDMT Coordinator, to address the concerns.

Council Meeting Dates in 2007

It was agreed that Council should meet more often in 2007. In addition to the regular meetings already scheduled, 4 additional meetings were confirmed:

March 29 at Trinity PC
 May 31 at Capitol Hill PNCD
 July 26 at Marcus Whitman PC (TBC)
 October 4 at Redmond PC

It was also confirmed that Council meetings in 2007 will begin at 4pm and end at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted:
 Barbara Ranta
 Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

March 1, 2007 4pm at Beacon Hill
 March 29, 2007 4pm at Trinity PC
 April 26, 2007 4pm at Beacon Hill
 May 31, 2007 at 4pm at Capitol Hill PNCD
 June 28, 2007 4pm at Beacon Hill
 July 26, 2007 at 4pm at Marcus Whitman PC (TBC)
 August 30, 2007 4pm at Beacon Hill
 October 4, 2007 at 4pm at Redmond PC
 November 1, 2007 at 4pm at Beacon Hill

**COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Office
Regular Meeting – March 1, 2007
Approved via e-mail March 14, 2007**

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator	Bonnie Clark	Staff:	Barbara Ranta
	Pete Jones, Vice Moderator	Deb Sunoo		Dennis Hughes
	Fred Choy	Kay Stelter		Jerry Poole, Interim EP
	John Foreman	Tobin Wilson	Guests:	Joan Merritt
	Karen Cunningham	James Kearny		Peter Notehelfer

The meeting was convened at 4:00pm with singing, followed by prayer by the Moderator. A quorum was present.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

EPNC Hosted Dinner Conversation at the March 20 Presbytery Meeting

Council members who have agreed to serve as facilitators at assigned dinner tables for the EPNC's guided mission discussion were asked to meet in the assigned room at Bellevue First for training from 4:15 pm to 4:45 pm on March 20.

REPORT on Brighton/Beacon Hill Properties Task Force

The Moderator is in conversation with potential candidates to serve on the Brighton / Beacon Hill Properties Task Force. (Refer to Minutes of January 4, 2007)

UPDATE on Alternative Dispute Resolution Task Force

The Moderator is working with David Brenner to identify and name participants to this Task Force. (Refer to Minutes of January 27, 2007).

Debrief of January 20 Pby Meeting

The process for discussing and voting on two overtures at the January meeting was briefly reviewed. It was suggested for the future, that if it is known ahead of time that a motion to limit debate is expected, that the Presbytery be apprised so that speakers have time to adjust.

Budget Approval

The 2007 Proposed Budget will be presented to Presbytery for approval at the March 20 Stated Meeting. It was presented in January, but errors were noted, and have been corrected.

REPORT FROM JOAN MERRITT, Member of the Peace Unity and Purity Task Force

Elder Joan Merritt, Newport, asked for the privilege of speaking with the Council. She briefly highlighted the recommendations of the Peace, Unity and Purity Task Force that were presented to the 217th GA last summer. Joan expressed her hope that the Council would "hear something in these recommendations that would be helpful to Seattle Presbytery in its mission and ministry." The Moderator expressed gratitude to Joan for her 4 ½ years of service to the whole church as a member of the PUP Task Force and for her sharing today. Rev. Peter Notehelfer, Synod Acting Head of Staff, offered prayer.

REPORT FROM JAMES KEARNY RE: CDMT Conversation

As requested by Council at the Annual Retreat, James met with Church Development Ministry Team Coordinator Vivienne Strickler. The CDMT has been in a quandry for some time, and experiencing frustration as to its duties and responsibilities related to church planting, and development / re-development of existing congregations..The Council has a vital role in encouraging and supporting new church development, church redevelopment, and worshiping fellowships to assure that the Presbytery's mission is being fulfilled. *It was agreed that the first "extra" meeting of Council, March 29, 2007 at Trinity PC, will focus on this issue.* The Moderator will invite the CDMT Coordinator, Vivienne Strickler, COM Chair Tom Fox, and FI Co-Chairs Rebecca Blackwell and Loretta Pain to participate in this discussion.

REPORT FROM THE STATED CLERK

Report on Overtures Passed at the January 16 Presbytery Meeting

Dennis Hughes reported that Overture #1 from Adventure of Faith PC, was also passed by the Presbytery of Olympia last fall. Presbyters in Olympia Presbytery requested a stay of enforcement from the Synod, which was granted. The Synod PJC will hear the remedial case on March 20. Whatever the Synod PJC determines as to the constitutionality of

the overture will apply to all of the presbyteries in the Synod.

Regarding Overture #2, a group from Seattle Presbytery intends to file a remedial case with the Synod within 90 days of the January 16 passage of that Overture. When the case is filed, Seattle Presbytery will form a Committee of Counsel to defend the Presbytery's action. Members of the Committee of Counsel will be appointed by the Stated Clerk from among those persons voting in favor of the Overture.

Correspondence has been received from the Rev. Gary Skinner questioning the debate process used at the January Stated Meeting. The Clerk affirmed to Rev. Skinner that all was done according to Roberts Rules of Order, which is our constitutional standard for orderly meetings.

Committee on Representation / Selecting Clergy Commissioners to General Assembly

Dennis reported on efforts to fill out the Representation Committee, which in addition to its Book of Order responsibilities, is also charged with an active role in Seattle Presbytery's process of electing clergy commissioners to General Assemblies. Article IX of our Standing Rules provides for a lottery method of selecting clergy commissioners from 3 pools of candidates – 1 pool of eligible ministers who have been ordained for 10 years or less; 1 pool of eligible ministers who have been ordained 10 years or more; and 1 pool of eligible ministers who are traditionally under-represented in Presbytery and General Assembly. The Committee on Representation is charged to identify the ministers who will be in this third pool. It will be necessary to have this third pool identified no later than September, 2007, so that the drawing of candidates can occur at the November Presbytery Meeting.

Currently the Committee on Representation has two ethnic majority (anglo) members – Rev. Donna Whitmore and Rev. Arleigh Champ-Gibson. A male minority elder from Trinity PC has accepted nomination and will be presented for election by Presbytery on March 20. A female minority candidate and 2 youth candidates (male and female) are still needed (G-9.0105). Council members were encouraged to consider names of individuals who might serve on this committee and communicate their names to the Nominating Committee

INTERIM EXECUTIVE REPORT

Communications Director

Rev. Poole reported that interviews are scheduled for Communications Director applicants. Dossiers are still being received.

Representative to the Church Council of Greater Seattle

It was voted to appoint the Rev. Lisa Domke to serve as the Council's representative to the Church Council in 2007.

Staff Sabbatical Request

Communications Assistant Ken Sunoo, also co-pastor of Wallingford PC, is a part time non-exempt presbytery staff member. He will be taking a 4 month sabbatical leave from Wallingford PC this summer, May to August, funded by the Lily Foundation. The Personnel Manual does not provide for sabbatical leave for non-exempt staff. The Personnel Committee would like to make an exception in the printed policy to allow Ken to take a sabbatical from his Communication's Assistant work at the presbytery during this time. Ken has met the time requirement for sabbatical eligibility, having completed 6 years of continuous work. *It was voted to concur with the Personnel Committee and to recommend that Presbytery make an exception to the Personnel Policy to provide a sabbatical leave from May through August for Ken Sunoo.*

Report on Middle Governing Body Conference

Jerry provided a written report on his impressions of the Middle Governing Body Conference which he attended February 14-16 in Albuquerque, NM.

CLUSTER GROUP REPORTS

For Cluster A John Foreman will be meeting with CPM Advisory Group Chairs in the near future. James Kearny updated the Council on COM activities in recent months which have included interaction with a significant number of churches in the presbytery – 1/3 in the past two months – many who are experiencing pastoral transitions.

For Cluster B No Report

For Cluster C Assignments of liaisons to the committees and ministry teams in this cluster group have been made and connections will follow.

For Cluster D Karen Cunningham reported that the Personnel Committee is looking at revisions to the Personnel Manual.

Finance sent several questions to Council. Discussion on the Buck Creek item will have to continue when a member of the Finance committee can be present to speak to it. The question, “who is responsible for Budget variance oversight - Finance, Council, or Jeff Rayner,” was answered. The Council is responsible for preparation and oversight of the Presbytery Budget. Council relies on timely financial information provided by the Bookkeeper to do this work and will rely on the Finance Committee to bring to Council’s attention any issue or circumstance that may impact the presbytery’s income and expense budget.

The Financial Quick Report through January 31, 2007. was distributed and reviewed.

The other questions related to Finance Committee’s role with respect to not making missional and financial decisions in isolation, but in cooperation with other entities will be brought to the March 29 extra meeting as part of the Church Development discussion.

New Business – A letter from Elder Robert Welsh expressing concern about publicity for the history book was read. The Moderator will respond.

AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 20 STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY

It was voted to approve the proposed agenda.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

March 29, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Trinity PC
April 26, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
May 31, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Capitol Hill PNCD
June 28, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
July 26, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Marcus Whitman PC (TBC)
August 30, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
October 4, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Redmond PC
October 25, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

**COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Trinity PC
Extra Meeting – March 29, 2007
Approved April 18, 2007**

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator	Bonnie Clark	Staff:	Barbara Ranta
	Pete Jones, Vice Moderator	Deb Sunoo		Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk
	Fred Choy	Kay Stelter		Jerry Poole, Interim EP
	John Foreman	James Kearny	Others:	Rebecca Blackwell, FI
	Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Karen Cunningham		Loretta Pain, FI
				Vivienne Strickler, CDMT

The meeting was convened at 4:00pm by the Moderator. A quorum was present.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Sunoo Sabbatical

The Moderator reported that Presbytery approved the Personnel Committee's request for an exception to the Personnel Manual to allow Assistant Communications Director, Ken Sunoo to take a sabbatical this summer. The Committee asked that Council be informed of their further actions granting Rev. Sunoo \$1,000 from the Sabbatical Fund account, and that he will receive two months compensation and use his accrued vacation during the sabbatical period.

SJP Request

Bonnie Clark presented the SJP Committee's request for a presbytery event in May. The committee has invited Nuhad Tomeh, PCUSA Liaison to Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria to visit with Seattle churches during his May visit to the area and to speak about the situation in the region prior to the Stated Meeting on May 15. Further, the committee requests that he be given the privilege of the floor for about 15 minutes during the meeting. The Moderator will work on the details with the SJP Chair.

The Committee has also asked for 3-5 minutes on the May agenda to present their Preaching Award.

Bonnie Clark advised the Council that The Presbyterian Women are willing to work on arrangements for an itinerating missionary this fall, with the assistance of the communications department.

Extra Meeting on July 26 Cancelled

The Moderator announced that the Extra Meeting scheduled for July 26 will not be held.

Discussion on Church Development Ministry Team and Related Issues

A number of supporting documents were distributed to frame this discussion, including:

- January 5, 2007 letter from Don Waite
- 2006 CDMT Annual Report
- Report from Kim Fu Lim, Council Liaison to CDMT, not dated, but mid-2006
- May, 2006 Report to Council from the CDMT
- Notes from COM Chair Tom Fox 3/28/2007 related to Church Development issues

Vivienne Strickler, current co-coordinator of the CDMT, stated there has not been clarity about the ministry team's role for some time, as the supporting documents attest.

Issues related to Church Development include the planting of new churches, redevelopment of churches, merging of churches, revitalization of churches, and transition of ethnic worshipping fellowships to new church developments toward eventual chartering. In the last decade, Seattle Presbytery has been about this work, but the processes used have been unique to each situation, leaving us with little or no framework going forward. Our ability to describe this work and who is responsible for it, is fragmented and inarticulate.

Council, as a strategic body is responsible to see that the presbytery's mission is being fulfilled. The Presbytery has a vital interest in where new churches are located, in the development of ethnic congregations, and in the health and vitality of

churches. Going forward, what framework do we need to address these issues? How will various entities of the presbytery (CDMT, COM, Finance, others?) be asked to work together on these issues? Would additional staff be needed to help assess situations and engage committees for solutions? What other resources are needed?

After a period of discussion, it was voted to appoint Rev. James Kearny to form a Task Force for the initial purpose of defining tasks necessary for the Presbytery to develop a comprehensive and cohesive approach to new church development and church development (re-development and re-vitalization) and report back to Council.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

April 26, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
May 31, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Capitol Hill PNCD
June 28, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
August 30, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
October 4, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Redmond PC
October 25, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Offices at Beacon Hill
April 26, 2007
Approved May 2, 2007

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator	Bonnie Clark	Staff: Barbara Ranta
	Pete Jones, Vice Moderator	Kathy Lueckert	Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk
	Fred Choy	Kay Stelter	Jerry Poole, Interim EP
	John Foreman	James Kearny	Heidi Francis, Communications
	Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Karen Cunningham	Others: Tom Fox, COM Chair
	Tobin Wilson		

The meeting was convened at 4:00pm by the Moderator. A quorum was present.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Westminster / CATC Administrative Commission

The Moderator reported that the Westminster/CATC Administrative Commission, elected September 20, 2005, responsible in cooperation with the Sessions, for the legal, financial and ecclesiastical steps required to accomplish the union of Westminster PC and Church at the Center into a new church, has lost two clergy members who have taken calls out of the area. The Moderator appointed Vice Moderator Pete Jones and Elder Bonnie Clark, and ex officio, Stated Clerk Dennis Hughes and Interim EP Jerry Poole, to work with the Administrative Commission Chair, Rev. Doug Early, to review the commission's duties and nominate new members as replacements.

Confirmation of Cluster Group Liaison Changes

James Kearny has moved to Cluster C – serving as liaison to the Church Development Ministry Team and the Ethnic Ministry Team. Madeleine Brenner has moved to Cluster A – serving as liaison to COM.

Brighton / Beacon Hill Task Force

The Moderator reported that the following persons have been appointed to serve on a task force requested by the Finance Committee to evaluate mission and ministry needs in the Brighton and Beacon Hill facilities:

Elder Alma Jean Marion, St. Andrew
 Elder Randall Brand, Bellevue First
 Elder Cal Uomoto, Bethany PC, Co-coordinator of the Ethnic Ministry Team
 Elder Steve Judd, Bethany, Member of the Finance Committee
 Rev. Elaine Swigart

Alternative Dispute Resolution

The Task Force is ready to report at the Council's next meeting, May 31. The Report will be distributed via e-mail for review well ahead of time.

Correspondence from the Moderator of Olympia Presbytery

A letter from the Rev. Christine Long, Moderator of Olympia Presbytery, related to their camping program, was distributed and discussed. Randy Butler will call Rev. Long to update her on issues related to Buck Creek's pending sale.

Requests for Presbytery Agenda Time

A request from Rev. Chuck Jenner (HR) for time at the September 2007 Pby Meeting related to the Theological Education Fund was approved.

A request from the Spiritual Formation Ministry Team to a pre-presbytery event at the November, 2007 Pby Meeting lead by Victoria Curtiss, PUP Task Force Member, on discernment and decision making was approved.

SEATTLE FIRST

Rev. Jeff Schulz, Rev. Ellen Schulz, Elder Steve Cedergreen, Elder Jace Allen, Director of Operations, Tim Newton, Elder Russ Johnson, UPC, and Elder Jack Van Hardsvelt, Mercer Island came to discuss with Council plans for mission and ministry at Seattle First in the future, which include a proposal to develop their property as "a multi-purpose facility uniquely designed to foster community and service to the surrounding neighborhoods." (SFP Mission, Vision and Values

Statement).

A congregational vote to approve the Session's plans is pending, as are ongoing discussions with the Finance Committee, the Committee on Ministry, and the Church Development Ministry Team before requests are made for Presbytery approval to proceed.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Dennis Hughes reported that a Remedial Case has been filed with the Synod related to Resolution #2, Per Capita, from Adventure of Faith PC approved by Presbytery January 16, 2007. A Committee of Counsel is being formed to defend the Presbytery in this action.

The Lawson Administrative Commission is nearing completion of their work and plans to report to the Presbytery at the September, 2007 Stated Meeting.

REPORT FROM COM

The Moderator asked Elder Tom Fox, Chair of COM, to comment on current issues on which the committee is working.

Transitions in pastoral leadership in the presbytery have been quite high in the last year or so. This is resulting in a higher level of anxiety and uncertainty in several congregations. COM's involvement and partnership with Sessions and Pastor Nominating Committees has increased commensurately.

A number of Sessions have recently inquired about the possibility of using Candidates, Certified Candidates and ordained pastors in Temporary Pastoral relationships (G-14.0513 d & e) in particular situations. These include sabbatical coverage for solo pastors, coverage for associate pastor vacancies while staff design conversations are ongoing, and pastoral coverage in lieu of an Interim or Designated Pastor position. COM is working carefully to consider each request on its merits and the implications for healthy ministry for the church and for the candidates/pastors.

The Committee is also reviewing the Commissioned Lay Pastor program to develop more clear and reliable processes, and to clarify relationships between the CLP Committee of COM and the Ethnic Ministry Team.

COM will be meeting on May 3 and on May 10 to process the volume of requests for action and/or discernment.

Randy Butler expressed deep appreciation and ongoing gratitude to Tom Fox for his faithful service to COM.

INTERIM EXECUTIVE REPORT

Jerry Poole reported briefly on the recent Western Regional BOP Conference.

CLUSTER GROUP REPORTS

For Cluster D Karen Cunningham reported that the Nominating Committee is working to fill the openings on the Committee on Representation. They are holding off on nominations for the Church Development Ministry Team until further notice. They are also arranging face to face meetings with particular committees and staff, as needed, to discuss currently unfilled positions. The biggest need, aside from Representation, is Finance Committee – at least two clergy members are needed.

The Personnel Committee reported compensation for presbytery staff in 2007 as printed on the attached table. Compensation for the new Communications Director, full time, exempt, is:

Salary \$51,500 annually	Prof Expense	\$1,000
Sec 125 Cafeteria Plan - 14.5% of salary	Continuing Ed	\$1,000
403b Retirement Plan – 12% of salary		

The Nominating Committee itself still has 3 openings and Council was encouraged to continue work to fill them.

Financials for the year to date are good. Income is above budget and expenses are below budget. Camp Beracah continues with its due diligence regarding the pending purchase of Buck Creek. A change in brokers for the Covenant Presbyterian Insurance Program, from Heffernan Peterson to Willis, is underway. The Finance Committee is

reviewing the situation.

For Cluster A Madeleine Brenner and John Foreman are planning a meeting with COM, CPM and Clergy Care Team leaders to strengthen working relationships and connections related to common interests in this cluster group.

For Cluster B The Worship Ministry Team is working to strengthen their processes for worship during presbytery meetings. The Spiritual Formation Ministry Team has indicated interest in assisting the Worship MT. Vice Moderator Pete Jones will contact them.

For Cluster C The Mission Development Committee is looking for direction from Council as to their purpose - are they to focus on granting, educating, and/or mobilizing? Face to face discussions will be arranged.

Mark calendars for an itinerating missionary from Worldwide Ministries in Louisville to be in the Seattle area October 19-26.

James Kearny, the Church Development Ministry Team folks and Council members are praying earnestly for potential persons to participate in the re-organization of this work.

New Business – There was no new business.

AGENDA FOR THE MAY 15 STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY

It was voted to approve the proposed agenda.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

May 31, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Capitol Hill PNCD
June 28, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
August 30, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
October 4, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Redmond PC
November 1, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

**COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Capitol Hill NCD
May 31, 2007
Approved via e-mail June 7, 2007**

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator	Bonnie Clark	Staff: Barbara Ranta
	Pete Jones, Vice Moderator	Kathy Lueckert	Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk
	Fred Choy	Kay Stelter	Jerry Poole, Interim EP
	John Foreman	James Kearny	Heidi Francis, Communications
	Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Karen Cunningham	Others: David Brenner, ADR
			Loretta Pain, EPNC
			Rebecca Blackwell, Finance

James Kearny welcomed Council and gave a brief history of Westminster PC and an update on the progress of the Capitol Hill NCD. The church is active in mission, has an arts outreach, and expects to do renovations of the sanctuary and kitchen.

The meeting was officially convened at 4:15 p.m with prayer by the Moderator. A quorum was present.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Administrative Commission for Capitol Hill NCD and Duties of the Commission

Under the authority granted by the Presbytery on May 15, 2007, the moderator appointed the following persons to replace vacancies on the Capitol Hill NCD Administrative Commission:

Rev. Doug Early, Chair	Elder Frank Holman, Bethany
Rev. James Kearny	Elder K.C. Watkins, Capitol Hill PNCD
Rev. Doug Ranney (effective 9/1/2007)	Elder woman to be named later
Rev. Sheri Edwards Dalton	

Under the authority granted by Presbytery on May 15, 2007, Council voted the following update to the responsibilities and authority for the Capitol Hill NCD Administrative Commission:

1. Develop the design for mission.
 2. Secure a petition to Covenant as an Organized Church in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
 3. Working with the Organizing Pastor, and serving as the session of the congregation, ascertain that all covenant members have been educated on: 1) the Lordship of Christ, 2) the uniqueness of the Presbyterian Church and its polity, and 3) its Christian stewardship.
 4. Prepare Articles of Incorporation and By-laws for the presentation to the new congregation at the first congregational meeting.
 5. Train leadership including examination of elders and deacons nominated by the Steering Committee for election by the new church to be ordained and installed at its first congregational meeting.
 6. Preparation of a budget and establish salary projections for the pastor and staff.
 7. Be responsible in conjunction with the Organizing Pastor for the process of ecclesiastical actions such as baptism, communion, reception of new members, and recommend for enrollment and supervise Inquirers or Candidates from the New Church Development.
 8. Serve as the Organizing Commission and preside at the Service of Organization to charter the new church and enroll it as a full member of the Presbytery Seattle, Presbyterian Church (U.S. A.).
 9. In concurrence with Presbytery's Committee on Ministry and the Steering Committee recommend to Presbytery the Pastor and the terms of call.
 10. Serve as the Installation Commission and preside at the Service of Installation of the Pastor.
- And [from original Commission, if this has not been completed yet]
11. Identify existing Memorial Funds in each congregation in order to preserve them as discreet funds within the new church's finances.

EPNC REPORT

The Moderator introduced Loretta Pain of the Executive Presbyter Nominating Committee. She reported that the committee meets every other week and that they hope to have the CIF finished by the time of the June Council meeting.

Loretta expressed the EPNC's concern about the possibility of calling an unintentional "installed interim" because the Presbytery "may not have a good handle" on whether the current level of staffing supports the mission and ministry needs of the Presbytery. The EPNC is asking the Personnel Committee to review carefully the current staffing and to provide input so that the staffing model will be appropriate.

The EPNC asked Council to look at the budget implications for future staffing. It is recognized that future budgets must provide an appropriate salary for the new EP and the possibility of increased staffing for the presbytery.

Council directed Jerry Poole, Interim EP, to work intentionally with the Personnel Committee, in consultation with staff and committee chairs, on staff design issues, incorporating the responses of the the EPNC questionnaire and taking into account the increasing workload expected of the Executive Presbyter and presbytery staff. Jerry was asked to report back at the August 30 meeting.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION REPORT

Elder David Brenner, UPC, reported on the results of the task group of Presbyterian attorneys authorized by Council on January 21 to review alternative dispute resolution processes and bring a proposed process for ADR in Seattle Presbytery. ADR is way to respond to conflicts with mediation and compromise instead of litigation.. The task group proposed six specific alternative dispute resolution recommendations and additional protocols. David recommended that a group be formed of clergy and elders to review the protocols. After discussion, the moderator asked that he, the vice-moderator, Interim Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk review the document more fully in preparation for further discussion at the June Council meeting.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer by James Kearny at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

June 28, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
August 30, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
October 4, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Redmond PC
November 1, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

ADDENDUM: The moderator appointed Elder Vivienne Strickler, Mt. Baker Park PC to the Capitol Hill NCD Administrative Commission., in an e-mail notification to Council June 1, 2007

COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Offices at Beacon Hill
June 28, 2007
Approved via e-mail July 6, 2007

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator Pete Jones, Vice Moderator Fred Choy John Foreman Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Tobin Wilson Bonnie Clark Kathy Lueckert Kay Stelter Karen Cunningham	Staff: Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk Jerry Poole, Interim EP Heidi Francis, Communications Others: Loretta Pain, Finance Co-chair Amy Delaney, EPNC Co-chair
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Excused: James Kearny, Deb Sunoo

The meeting was convened at 4:07pm by the Moderator with prayer. A quorum was present.

REPORT FROM FINANCE, Loretta Pain

The Finance Committee voted to accept the offer for Buck Creek Camp by Camp Berachah. Kim Anderson will report the terms for the Finance Committee at the July 17 Presbytery meeting for the vote of the Presbytery. The committee will sign the agreement contingent upon Presbytery's approval. The 2006 audit will also be reported on July 17.

The May balance sheet for the Presbytery shows income close to the projected budget, with expenditures under the year-to-date budget projections. Bookkeeper Jeff Rayner expects the accounts to come out even by the end of the year.

Loretta asked Council to reconsider setting up restricted accounts for Per Capita and for Missions. This will be discussed at a later Council meeting. The other accounts Council asked for in November 2006 have been set up.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

2008 Budget Preparation

Liaisons are asked to find out the budget needs for 2008 from the committees and groups in their clusters. This will be needed sometime in September or early October. Karen Cunningham will send out the 2007 budget by e-mail to give liaisons a starting point.

Staff Design Team

In May, Council directed Interim EP Jerry Poole to lead a staff design review of the Presbytery. Randy reported that Pete Jones from Council and Kay Broweleit from Personnel will assist Jerry in this review.

Network to End Homelessness

***It was voted to recommend that Presbytery establish the Seattle Presbytery Network to End Homelessness as a Ministry Team under Cluster C.**

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Discussion will continue at the next meeting regarding the proposals for Alternative Dispute Resolution. Council will seek further input from Elder David Brenner, UPC.

CPM guideline questions

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry will print guidelines for suggested questions to ordinands for the July 17 meeting.

EPNC REPORT, Amy Delaney

Under the authority granted by the Presbytery at its meeting on May 15, 2007, Council voted to approve the Executive Presbytery Nominating Committee's Church Information Form, with proposed changes to be made before publication.

CLUSTER GROUP REPORTS

Madeleine Brenner and John Foreman hosted the chairs of cluster A for dinner at Cafe Brenner. Madeleine presented COM's request for the Ethnic Ministry Team to be in Cluster A under the COM. Madeleine will take Council's input

back to COM and the EMT to make sure everyone involved understands what the structure should be and what the oversight of the EMT funds will be. She will report back to Council.

Kay Stelter, Cluster B, reported on the difficulties Heidi Francis is having in the formation of a Communications Team. Bonnie Clark, Cluster C, related the thanks from the Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee for the time on the May 15 Presbytery meeting docket for Nuhad Tomeh, PCUSA Liaison to Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. Karen Cunningham, Cluster D, reported that the Nominating Committee has one person who will be nominated in July for the Representation Committee, and the committee is seeking more. James Kearny wrote that he has met with Jerry and has been contacting folks about membership in the Church Development Ministry Team. This has generated considerable interest and several commitments to be a part of this resurrected ministry team.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Dennis Hughes relayed an invitation to a dinner on Thursday, July 12, at Seattle University celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Formula of Agreement among the PCUSA, the United Church of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the Reformed Church in America. Worship will follow the dinner. Reservations must be made by July 9.

INTERIM EXECUTIVE REPORT

Jerry Poole suggested Council members go to the Synod of A/NW web site to find out what happened at Synod this June. The Rev. Joyce Martin Emery, Transitional Synod Executive, begins work at the Synod office on July 23. Elder Pat Baer, Bellevue First, is the new Synod moderator. Jerry handed out a proposal request from the Presbyteries of North Puget Sound, Olympia, Seattle and Cascades for the development of Spiritual Leadership and Pastoral Ethics Curriculum Training.

Presbytery Docket

Pete Jones will be moderating at the July 17 Presbytery meeting. The docket was reviewed and approved.

New Business – There was no new business.

After a hymn, **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED** with prayer by the moderator at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Karen Cunningham
Associate Stated Clerk, pro tem

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

August 30, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
October 4, 2007	4pm	EXTRA MEETING – Redmond PC
November 1, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Offices at Beacon Hill
August 30, 2007
Approved – September 10, 2007

Present: Randy Butler, Moderator Tobin Wilson Staff: Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk
Fred Choy Bonnie Clark Jerry Poole, Interim EP
John Foreman Kathy Lueckert Barbara Ranta, Assoc Std Clerk
Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator Karen Cunningham Heidi Francis, Communications
Others: Rebecca Blackwell, Finance Co-chair

Excused: Pete Jones, Kay Stelter, Deb Sunoo

The meeting was convened at 4:00pm by the Moderator with prayer and a hymn. A quorum was present.

ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Elder David Brenner, UPC, was present to update Council with regard to recent meetings of Presbytery Counsel from around the denomination on continuing discussions related to Alternative Dispute Resolution. ADR processes involve the settling of disputes, usually through a mediator/s before going to judicial processes. The ADR Task Group of Seattle Presbytery, appointed by the Moderator on January 21, 2007, was tasked to:

1. review the ADR processes others are using
2. consider which ADR processes fit within the parameters of the Book of Order
3. consider whether there is a need for an ADR process in Seattle Presbytery
4. recommend an ADR process for Seattle Presbytery.

The task group is comprised of Elder David Brenner, Robert Mitchell, Elder Clark Puntigam and Jeannette Bowers Weaver, all attorneys and all members of presbyterian congregations.

Mr. Brenner presented the task group's initial proposal to Council on May 31, involving specific recommendations and protocols. After a summer of reflection, and further discussion with Mr. Brenner at this meeting, *it was voted to approve the Proposed Resolution Concerning Alternative Dispute Resolution and to present it to Presbytery for approval.* The Moderator asked Elder Madeleine Brenner and Elder Kathy Lueckert to join him in preparing a plan for presenting this proposal to presbytery in the near future.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Proposal to change Standing Rules

** It was voted to recommend that Presbytery change Article IV. Section A.2 by striking the words "shall chair Presbytery Council and;" and add a new item under Article VI. Section A.1 to be designated "b." as follows: "b. The Past Moderator shall chair Presbytery Council, and shall designate the current Moderator or Vice Moderator to chair Council in the event of his/her absence."* Additional housekeeping changes include relettering the subparagraphs of Article VI. Section A. to accommodate this insertion; adding the words "of Presbytery" after "Moderator" in Article VI. Section A.4 and Article VI. Section B.3 to avoid confusion; adding the words "Past Moderator" to the docket committee in Article VI. Section B.4 because of the new role; and renumbering to correct error in Article VI. Section B.

This recommendation will be brought to the September 18 Stated Meeting for a first reading and to the November 20 Stated Meeting for vote. Proposed amended sections of the pertinent articles are attached at the end of these Minutes.

White River PC Grant Proposal

White River PC has rewritten their grant application for funding from the General Assembly Mission Program to enable the congregation to hire a Director of Neighborhood Outreach Programs who will foster and coordinate community ministry collaboration with their partner congregation, Iglesia Buen Pastor, cultivating projects the two congregations can work together, side by side. Funding this program will require financial partnership from White River PC (\$156,266), the Presbytery of Seattle (\$50,000), General Assembly (\$100,000), and gifts from sister congregations in the Presbytery(\$50,000) over a 5 year period, beginning January 1, 2008.

** It was voted to endorse this project and commit to budgeting \$50,000 (\$10,000 annually for 5 years) as Presbytery's share of the total request.*

2008 Presbytery Calendar

The proposed 2008 Calendar was affirmed as presented and attached at the end of these Minutes.

Committee on Representation

The COR now has 4 members and is working on the tasks assigned to them in Article IX, Section B.3 of the Standing Rules related to the selection of Minister Commissioners to General Assembly. As directed, by the Standing Rules, minister commissioners will be selected by the drawing of lots at the November Stated Meeting from three pools of candidates. The first pool is eligible ministers who have been ordained for 10 years or more. The second pool is eligible ministers who have been ordained for less than 10 years prior to the date of selection. The third pool is eligible ministers who are traditionally underrepresented in Presbytery and General Assembly.

Update on sales of the Presbytery's History

Robert Welsh reported that 206 presbytery history books were purchased in 2006. In 2007 an additional 32 copies have been purchased. Royalties to date are \$261.24. Bob expresses his appreciation for how the book is being used on the web site and reported that the book is now in the University Book Store and officially listed with the Library of Congress.

Permission to Officiate at the Celebration of the Lord's Supper

1. *It was voted to grant permission to the Rev. Dave Hackett to officiate the Lord's Supper at an international mission gathering in Helsinki, Finland, on September 30, 2007*
2. *It was voted to grant permission to a clergy member of the Presbytery of Seattle to be named to officiate the Lord's Supper at the Presbyterian Women's Fall Gathering at Lake Burien PC on September 29, 2007.*

REPORT FROM THE BRIGHTON/BEACON HILL PROPERTY TASK FORCE

On April 26, 2007 the Moderator appointed a task force requested by the Finance Committee, to evaluate mission and ministry needs in the Brighton and Beacon Hill facilities. The persons named below were appointed in April and Elder Kathy Lueckert served as Council's representative.

Elder Alma Jean Marion, St. Andrew

Elder Randall Brand, Bellevue First

Elder Steve Judd, Bethany, Member of the Finance Committee

Rev. Elaine Swigart

Elder Cal Uomoto, Bethany PC, Co-coordinator of the Ethnic Ministry Team

** Upon recommendation of the Brighton/Beacon Hill Property Task Force, it was voted to recommend that Presbytery proceed to sell the Brighton property as outlined in their report.* The report is attached at the end of these Minutes. Discernment and study related to the Beacon Hill property continues.

2008 PER CAPITA RECOMMENDATION

** It was voted to recommend that Presbytery approve the per capita apportionment for administrative expenses of the Presbytery of Seattle in 2008 at \$28.85 per communicant member on the rolls of congregations on December 31, 2006 (21,265).*

This sum, \$613,495.25 (21,265 x \$28.85) will provide money for presbytery office and communication expenses (\$83,500), insurance and audit expenses (\$21,500), Council and Permanent Judicial expenses (\$18,000), and staff compensation (\$490,428), including a pool for cost of living/merit increases in 2008 and additional funds as may be needed by the Executive Presbyter Nominating Committee in the final stages of negotiating the call to the next EP.

For Information and Planning:

GA per capita in 2008 will be	\$5.72
Synod per capita in 2008 will be	\$5.46
Presbytery per capita	\$28.85
TOTAL Per capita apportionment	\$40.03

2008 BUDGET PREPARATION

Liaisons were provided a list of questions to guide budget and structure discussions with the committees and groups in their clusters, to be conducted by the end of September. They were asked to present written summaries of the information gathered to the October 4 Council Meeting which will be used to formulate the proposed 2008 mission and ministry budget. Discussions and proposed changes to Presbytery structure for 2008 will be addressed during the November 1 Council meeting.

CLUSTER GROUP REPORTS

CLUSTER A (Supporting and Developing Clergy & Congregations)

Madeleine Brenner reported on follow up conversations regarding reasons to move the responsibilities and oversight of **Ethnic Ministries** to the Committee on Ministry. After discussion, *it was voted to move the Ethnic Ministry Team to Cluster A as a subcommittee of the Committee on Ministry.*)

CLUSTER C (Enabling Dialogue, Witness & Mission)

James Kearny reported on his prayerful discernment and efforts related to resurrecting the **Church Development Ministry Team**. Five individuals have expressed interest in serving in this area. Recognizing that issues of new church development, ethnic ministry development and church redevelopment are also key areas of concern for the Committee on Ministry, James emphasized the necessity for a strong connection with COM, which may suggest that moving this entity to Cluster A may make sense.

Bonnie Clark reported on activities of the Network to End Homelessness, Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee and Presbyterian Women. Publicity information for events should be forwarded to Communications Director Heidi Francis.

CLUSTER D (Administrative Support of Mission and Ministry)

Rebecca Blackwell reported that the operations permit for Buck Creek Camp has been extended to September 30, 2007 to provide extra time to complete the sale of the camp to Camp Berachah.

The financial Quick Report for the period ending July 31, 2007 was distributed to Council with the meeting papers. The Council was encouraged to provide feedback on this report, whether or not it is helpful in its current form, and what, if any, other information would be useful.

Loretta Pain and Rebecca Blackwell, as co-chairs of the Finance Committee, submitted a written proposal to Council containing observations, concerns and recommendations related to the present organizational design and Finance Committee's protocols. *These will be taken under immediate advisement.*

REPORT FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Heidi Francis reported that she is preparing to submit a proposal for the Presbytery of Seattle's \$5,000 grant for 2007 from National Mission Interpretation Funds, administered by the Synod. She proposes that the money be used to assist 26 churches and ethnic fellowships to get their own websites up and running, to provide other resources in the form of additional web support and a library for communications related materials. She is regularly visiting churches to meet staff, learn about the mission and ministry of congregations and offer support and resourcing as requested.

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM EP

Jerry Poole reported that the Staff Design Task Force, comprised of Vice Moderator Pete Jones, Personnel Committee member Rev. Kay Broweleit and himself, will be prepared to make a report on their work at the next Council Meeting. This task force was appointed by Council at the request of the Executive Presbyter Nominating Committee on May 31, 2007, to "work intentionally with the Personnel Committee, in consultation with staff and committee chairs, on staff design issues, incorporating the responses of the the EPNC questionnaire and taking into account the increasing workload expected of the Executive Presbyter and presbytery staff."

Jerry also reported that a 3 Presbytery Team (North Puget Sound, Olympia, and Seattle) is working to prepare a proposal for the development of a program on Spiritual Leadership and Pastoral Ethics. Drafts of the proposal are being reviewed and helpful critiques are being incorporated. More information at a later date.

PRESBYTERY DOCKET

The agenda for the September 18 Presbytery meeting was reviewed and approved.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer by Rev. Jerry Poole, Interim EP, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta

Associate Stated Clerk

**PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
STANDING RULES
Revised and Adopted
SEPTEMBER 20, 2005
Incorporating changes to Article IX, Section A, and Article VI, Section A,B**

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

A. MODERATOR

1. The Moderator shall be elected for a one year term at the November Meeting and shall take office January 1 of the year following. Installation shall occur at the January Meeting.
2. The Moderator of Presbytery shall ~~chair Presbytery Council and~~ perform the duties of the office as provided in the Book of Order and Robert's Rules of Order.

B. VICE-MODERATOR

1. The Vice-moderator shall be elected for a one-year term with the understanding that ordinarily this person will become the nominee for Moderator the following year. The Vice-Moderator shall be elected for a one year term at the November Meeting and shall take office January 1 of the year following. Installation shall occur at the January Meeting.
2. The Vice-moderator will preside in the absence, or at the request, of the Moderator.
3. In the absence of the Moderator and the Vice-moderator, the most recent Past Moderator present will preside. (G-9.0301)

C. STATED CLERK

1. The Stated Clerk shall be elected for a three-year term at the November meeting and shall take office January 1 of the year following.
2. The Stated Clerk shall perform the duties of the office as provided in the Book of Order (G.9.0203) and such other duties as Presbytery may direct.
3. The Stated Clerk shall be the Presbytery's parliamentarian unless otherwise designated by the Presbytery.

D. RECORDING CLERK

1. The Recording Clerk shall be elected for a three-year term at the November meeting and shall take office January 1 of the year following.
2. The Recording Clerk shall make a full and accurate record of all proceedings of Presbytery meetings for its official minutes.

ARTICLE VI – PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

A. ORGANIZATION

1. The Presbytery Council shall consist of the following members:
 - a. The Moderator of the Presbytery, the Vice-moderator, the Past Moderator and the President of Presbyterian Women.
 - b. The Past Moderator shall chair Presbytery Council, and shall designate the current Moderator or Vice Moderator to chair Council in the event of an absence
 - c. Four ministers and four elders elected at-large by the Presbytery for three year terms in rotating classes

~~ed.~~ The Stated Clerk of Presbytery shall be an ex-officio member without vote and shall be the clerk of the Presbytery Council. Other members of the Council, without vote, shall be the Presbytery Executive, Associate Executive(s), the Communications Director, the Recording Clerk, and any persons representing the Presbytery on the Council of the General Assembly.

2. The at-large members of the Presbytery Council shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee of Presbytery and elected at the November meeting of Presbytery and shall take office January 1 of the following year. They shall be divided into three classes, each to serve a three year term, one class retiring and its successor to be elected each year.

3. After having served two (2) three year terms, an at-large-member of the Council shall not be eligible to serve a further term until at least one year shall have elapsed from the expiration of the terms for which elected.

4. Any vacancy occurring in the Council may be filled on appointment by the Moderator of Presbytery until the next meeting of Presbytery.

5. A quorum shall be a majority of its members.

B. DUTIES

The primary duty of the Presbytery Council shall be to facilitate and coordinate the work of the committees, ministry teams and other entities of the presbytery to ensure that the declared mission objectives of presbytery are being faithfully pursued. The Council shall regularly review the functional relationship between presbytery structure and its mission (G-11.0103v) and report the Presbytery's current structure for mission and ministry at the November Stated Meeting. Other specific duties and powers of the Council shall be as follows:

1. The Council provides coordination for emerging mission that is deemed consonant with and vital to the Presbytery's mission until it can be provided for by existing presbytery entities.

2. The Council is responsible to oversee the development of a manual of administrative operations for the Presbytery. (G.9.0405)

~~23.~~ Council –meets within the third week prior to Stated Meetings of the Presbytery and/or on call of the Moderator of Presbytery.

~~34.~~ The Moderator, Vice Moderator, Past Moderator, Stated Clerk, and Executive Presbyter formulate, and the Council approves, a proposed docket for all stated meetings of Presbytery.

~~45.~~ The Council places the names of nominees for the Nominating Committee before the Presbytery at the November Stated meeting.

~~5-6~~ Council is authorized to make routine approvals, on behalf of presbytery, of the observation of the Lord's Supper under W-2.4012 and to accept invitations to host presbytery meetings and events.

~~67.~~ Council relates to the Boards and Agencies of our Ministry Partners, currently including, but not limited to, Presbyterian Counseling Service, Harborview Chaplaincy, Intentional Communities, and the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

~~78.~~ Council is responsible to review the Standing Rules of Presbytery annually.

**Report of Brighton and Beacon Hill Property Management Task Force of the Council of the Presbytery of Seattle
August 30, 2007**

Having met for several months to consider the options for the properties held in trust by the Seattle Presbytery, here is our first recommendation. It concerns the Brighton Property only. Other recommendations for the Beacon Hill Property will come after more deliberation, study and prayer.

It is our recommendation that the property at 6721 51st Ave. S., Seattle WA, known as the Brighton Presbyterian Church property be sold

This is given with two caveats:

1. That the Presbytery will find ways to assist the Vietnamese Fellowship in re-locating and provide seed money from the sale of the property to help defray the costs of re-location. And,
2. That the funds from the sale be restricted to capital projects, most of the funds being used to upgrade and develop the Beacon Hill Property should the committee recommend retention of the property and Presbytery vote to concur.

Rationale:

1. The task force was very concerned about the ministries of the place. After all, we are not in the business of buying and selling real estate, but in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We therefore spent a whole meeting talking with Pastor Truong Ta about his ministry and the ties he has to the building. We were impressed with the dreams and vision of the Vietnamese church. However, those ministries could, with help from the Presbytery, relocate to one of the other churches in close proximity to Brighton or to another space in their area. Although there are several other ministries presently utilizing the building, all are relatively small. The Vietnamese fellowship, the only Presbyterian group, is small, 20-30 worshipping on Sundays, and larger numbers for community gatherings. The other ministries, a youth program and a video ministry, are either very small, or could be easily relocated. (The lease of the building by the Vietnamese Fellowship to the Atlantic Street Project which just got approval from Presbytery, was not discussed with us prior to the vote of Presbytery, nor was it part of our deliberations.)
2. Good stewardship of resources is a mandate for a Presbytery. This building is very old, the electrical system is in serious need of repair, the kitchen is unusable without serious input of substantial money, many of the rooms are in need of paint, plastering, upgrading, etc.
3. It is a very large building and requires enormous amounts of energy to keep it heated in the winter. The Presbytery is footing the bill for a majority of the maintenance and upkeep.
4. Although there is a new roof on the building, the repair and maintenance needed for the building for the foreseeable future will be a burden for the Presbytery. We cannot look to the users of the building for any substantial help in renovation, upkeep or repairs.
5. We have two prospective buyers without advertising a sale.

**COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Redmond Presbyterian Church
October 4, 2007
Approved October 26, 2007**

Present:	Randy Butler, Moderator Pete Jones, Vice Moderator Fred Choy John Foreman Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Tobin Wilson Bonnie Clark Kathy Lueckert Karen Cunningham James Kearny Deb Sunoo	Staff: Jerry Poole, Interim EP Barbara Ranta, Assoc Std Clerk Heidi Francis, Communications Others: Loretta Pain, Finance Co-chair K. Breckenridge, EPNC E. Swigart Brighton/BH Task Force
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Excused: Kay Stelter

The meeting was convened at 4:00pm by the Moderator with prayer and a hymn. A quorum was present.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

Rev. Karen Breckenridge presented a table containing research on the issue of EP compensation in a variety of presbyteries across the country, comparing minister membership, number of congregations, number of associates, composite cost of living, median housing values, 2007 effective salaries and 2007 effective salaries adjusted to Seattle's composite cost of living. From the EPNC's study of the data, they are recommending an effective compensation range of \$100,000 to \$115,000.

Karen asked for an update on the Staff Design Task Force, specifically whether they are looking at moving toward a multi-staff (associate level) organization. Plans to move in this direction, or not, are critical information for the EPNC to have when they begin to interview Executive Presbyter Candidates. Interim EP, Rev. Jerry Poole, responded that the Staff Design Task Force is seriously considering this question. The approximate increase to per capita for an associate level staff person is projected to be \$5.00 (\$5.00 x 21,100 members = \$105,500).

ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROPOSAL

Moderator Randy Butler, reported that the ADR proposal will be presented to Presbytery for a first reading at the November 20 meeting, to be followed by a pre-presbytery Q & A at the January 15, 2008 Presbytery meeting. Voting on the proposal would occur at the January meeting.

After the first reading in November, we will need to "take a read" on what kind of response is generated. If questions, concerns, requests for discussion opportunities are received, then those opportunities will be provided prior to any vote on the proposal.

REPORT FROM THE BRIGHTON/BEACON HILL PROPERTY TASK FORCE

Rev. Elaine Swigart, Chair of the Brighton/Beacon Hill Property Task Force, was present to discuss the work of the Task Force and the process they used to prepare their recommendation to sell the Brighton property (see August 30 Minutes.) This task force was recommended by the Finance Committee in January, 2007, to review the presbytery's "holding of properties – what is their highest and best use for the mission and ministry of the Presbytery?" (Council Minutes, January 4, 2007). This request for a task force was made by the Finance Committee in response to their growing concerns that both the Brighton facility and the Beacon Hill facility are in need of major repairs and renovation. The Moderator reported at the April 26 meeting that the task force had been appointed "to evaluate the mission and ministry needs in the Brighton and Beacon Hill facilities".

The Task Force submitted a report in August which recommended that Presbytery sell the Brighton property and use the proceeds to 1) assist the Vietnamese Presbyterian Fellowship in relocating – they have been meeting and caring for the facilities under the guidance of an Administrative Commission since 1998, and 2) pay for renovations, repairs and upgrades to the Beacon Hill facility. The Council voted to make the recommendation to Presbytery at the September 18 Meeting. Within a few days, however, concerns began to surface as to whether other potential missional uses for the property had been considered. The Moderator decided to present the recommendation to Presbytery on September 18 for a first reading to provide time and space for further discussion.

Rev. Swigart reported that the Task Force met for 6 months, discussing issues with stakeholders including Commissioned Lay Pastor Truong Ta, members of the Administrative Commission for the Vietnamese Fellowship at Brighton, and members of the Finance Committee. Rev. Swigart spoke to the rationale provided with the recommendation and urged that the recommendation be approved.

A concern raised in the discussion was caution about proceeding too hastily. Once the property is sold, we lose a foothold in that part of the Rainier Valley, a very diverse area of Seattle. A process for assisting the Vietnamese fellowship in finding a new home must also be clearly developed before proceeding with a sale. Rev. James Kearny proposed a “season of discernment”, guided by the Church Development Ministry Team over the next six months or so to pray for a sense of God’s vision and guidance for 1) the best missional use of the property and 2) for the mission and ministry of the Vietnamese Fellowship, including its best location.

It was agreed that there is not consensus to proceed on the recommendation to presbytery at this time. It was agreed that these are two separate and important issues, to be carefully and prayerfully considered on their merits. There will be more discussion at future meetings.

Rev. Butler expressed appreciation and gratitude to the Task Force for their work to date. The Task Force recommendation/s on the Beacon Hill property will be coming soon. The Moderator offered prayer.

2008 BUDGET PREPARATION

Liaisons presented requests from Committees and Ministry teams and those numbers were “plugged in” to the budget proposal. Some figures are still pending. There was discussion on the funding of program committees and ministry teams. Since the Transitional Budget of 2005, most program committees and ministry teams have been “self funding” for events and conferences. It was agreed that a change was not in order at this time. Finalization of the proposed budget will occur at the next meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The issues raised by Co-Chairs Loretta Pain and Rev. Rebecca Blackwell at the August 30 meeting regarding the Finance Committee’s present organizational design and protocols will be addressed at the next meeting.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer by Rev. Jerry Poole, Interim EP, at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

November 1, 2007	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
January 3, 2008	4pm	REGULAR MEETING – Beacon Hill
January 26, 2008	9am to 3pm	ANNUAL RETREAT – Place to be determined
February 28, 2008	4pm	REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Offices at Beacon Hill
November 1, 2007
Approved November 13, 2007

Present: Randy Butler, Moderator Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator Pete Jones, Vice Moderator Kay Stelter	Bonnie Clark Kathy Lueckert Karen Cunningham Deb Sunoo	Staff: Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk Jerry Poole, Interim EP Barbara Ranta, Assoc Std Clerk Heidi Francis, Communications Others: Loretta Pain, Finance Co-chair Lee Seese, Nominating Chair Tom Fox, COM Chair
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Excused: Tobin Wilson, John Foreman, James Kearny, Fred Choy

The meeting was convened at 4:00pm by the Moderator with prayer and a hymn. A quorum was present.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

2008 Calendar

The Presbytery will be asked to confirm that the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Seattle, ordinarily held on the third Tuesday of March be moved to April 1, 2008. An updated 2008 Calendar was distributed.

Invitations to Host Presbytery

Invitations to host stated meetings of Presbytery in 2008 have been received from:

Inglewood PC to host an April 1, 2008 Meeting

Calvary PC to host September 16, 2008 Meeting

It was voted to accept these invitations with appreciation.

Brighton Recommendation

The Moderator expressed gratitude to the Task Force that worked faithfully for six months to formulate recommendations regarding the Brighton and Beacon Hill properties. There is consensus in the Council that continued discernment and research is needed, but not for an indefinite period. It is recognized that for much of 2007, the Church Development Ministry Team was not organized to provide input to the Task Force. They will be in a position to assist beginning in January. *It was voted to ask the Church Development Ministry Team to proceed in discernment as to (1) the best missional use of the Brighton Property and (2) to work with the Vietnamese Presbyterian Fellowship at Brighton to assess their ministry needs and to report to Council by June 2008.* These questions are to be considered separately, on their own merits.

Finance Committee Status

The resignations of Co-Chairs, Rev. Rebecca Blackwell and Elder Loretta Pain, received on August 30, 2007, went into effect on October 31. Their resignations were tendered with a recommendation that the Finance Committee be disbanded and that several actions be taken including 1) placing church property decisions, which are a function of the ministry of congregations, with the Committee on Ministry, 2) placing review and recommendation related to grant requests with COM and/or Church Development, 3) place responsibility for financial activities of the Presbytery with the Council and/or a property management team and/or presbytery staff. A further resignation was received this week from Elder Steve Judd which has now made it impossible for the Finance Committee to function, as there is no longer a quorum. Additionally, the Board of Trustees of the Corporation (which is the Finance Committee per Article VII, Section B.1.a of the Presbytery's Standing Rules) no longer has a quorum and no longer has officers due to the resignations of Blackwell, Pain, and Judd.

The Book of Order, G-8.202, provides that the Council shall constitute the Board of Trustees of the Corporation unless the governing body determines an alternative method. With the Finance Committee unable to produce a quorum, Council becomes the Board of Trustees de facto. Following thorough discussion, it was voted to ask Past Moderator Madeleine Brenner to moderate the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, to be held on November 20, 2007. Recommendations to effect changes related to the Board of Trustees and its officers will be presented at that time. The proposed agenda is attached at the end of these Minutes.

It was voted to appoint a Transitional Task Force to plan for an orderly transition for all of the presbytery's financial management issues and Chapter 8, Book of Order requirements in 2008. Elder Loretta Pain and Elder Steve Judd have agreed to assist the Moderator, Randy Butler in this task.

REPORT FROM THE STATED CLERK

Stated Clerk Dennis Hughes reported that the Synod trial for the remedial case against the Presbytery of Seattle, related to payment of per capita to higher governing bodies, has been re-scheduled to January 30, 2008. *It was voted to direct the bookkeeper to deposit money equal to any unpaid Synod and General Assembly per capita balances for 2007, in an escrow account pending the outcome of the remedial case.*

REPORT FROM THE STAFF DESIGN TASK FORCE

Vice Moderator Pete Jones gave a progress report on the work of the Staff Design Task Force. They are in agreement that presbytery should add to its executive staff, either part time or full time, and they are gathering the data to back a pending recommendation.

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Staff Resignation

Interim EP Jerry Poole reported that Jeff Rayner, presbytery bookkeeper, has submitted his resignation effective November 30. Jeff is moving to Arizona in early December. The Personnel Committee has been working on this transition for several weeks.

Adventure of Faith PC Request

A request for authorization to proceed to obtain financing for a loan of \$1.7 million at an interest rate not to exceed 8.5% for the construction of a new worship facility and related parking improvements has been received from the Session of Adventure of Faith PC. Action on this item was postponed until after the Adventure of Faith congregation approves the plan and more documentation is provided to support the request.

Middle Governing Body Grant Proposal

A Middle Governing Body grant proposal for leadership development, prepared by executive leadership of the presbyteries of Seattle, Olympia, Cascades and North Puget Sound, was submitted last August. Copies were distributed to Council. If the proposal is accepted, budget impact for Seattle Presbytery will be \$8,000 annually. The span of the proposal is 52 months.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Elder Tom Fox, COM Chair, was asked to update Council. He reported that the coordinators of the 2007 Ethnic Ministry Team, Elder Cal Uomoto and Rev. Kolinus Buntaran have agreed to serve on COM beginning in January. A recent meeting with them was helpful in developing a process for the ethnic fellowships to use when requesting budget support from Presbytery. Tom also shared with Council that a task force has been formed to assist with fact gathering and evaluating the request from the Seattle First Session regarding property development. The charge to the Task Force was distributed for information and will be included in the Presbytery Meeting Papers.

PRESBYTERY STRUCTURE FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY IN 2008

A draft of the 2008 Presbytery Structure was distributed for discussion. *It was agreed to move the Church Development Ministry Team to the Support and Develop Clergy and Congregations Cluster.*

It was agreed to remove the Finance Committee from the Administrative Cluster and add fiscal responsibilities to the Council, pending approval at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation on November 20, 2007. The Stated Clerk indicated that editorial changes to the Standing Rules will be made after action is taken at the Annual Corporate Meeting.

It was voted to approve the Organizational Structure for 2008 and report it to presbytery as required by Article VI, Section B.1 of the Standing Rules

2008 BUDGET PREPARATION

Work continued on the proposed 2008 Budget for Mission and Ministry. Discussion to clarify the assumptions that are used to make budgetary decisions followed. There are several open items to be clarified before the proposed budget is

ready for presentation to presbytery.

PRESBYTERY DOCKET

The agenda for the November 20 Presbytery meeting was distributed.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer by Rev. Jerry Poole, Interim EP, at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Ranta

Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

January 3, 2008 4pm

REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill

Saturday, January 26, 2008 ANNUAL RETREAT – Place TBD

SEATTLE PRESBYTERY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
By Mission Focus
2008

*Seattle Presbytery is called to participate in word and deed
in God's transforming work through the Gospel of Jesus Christ by:*

- ▶ *strengthening the witness & mission of our congregations & members*
- ▶ *building strong partnerships with each other and the larger Christian community.*

To carry out our mission, committees and ministry teams are organized into clusters around their primary responsibilities. Committee members are elected by Presbytery for 3 year terms in rotating classes. Ministry Team Coordinators are elected by Presbytery for 1 year terms. Ministry Team Coordinators recruit and train clergy, elders and laity to participate in Ministry Team tasks.

Support & Develop Clergy & Congregations

We are prayerful partners with clergy & congregations in healthy ministry and assessing God's calling in pastoral searches; a guiding and discerning partner with those moving towards ordination to ministry of Word and Sacrament; and a pastoral partner with those in established calls.

- ▶ Committee on Ministry
Ethnic Ministries
- ▶ Committee on Preparation for Ministry
- ▶ Clergy Care Ministry Team
- ▶ Church Development Ministry Team

Develop Leadership

We assist in the development of the church's leadership by equipping people as they use their gifts in ministry. We communicate, educate, support and provide resources for leadership development.

- ▶ Communications Ministry Team
- ▶ Education Committee
- ▶ Evangelism Ministry Team
- ▶ Spiritual Formation Ministry Team
- ▶ Worship Ministry Team

Enable Dialogue, Witness and Mission

We help congregations, laity, and clergy in many settings to demonstrate God's saving grace, compassion, and justice, and call people to a transforming relationship in Jesus Christ.

- ▶ Representation Committee
- ▶ Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee
- ▶ Mission Development Committee
- ▶ United by Faith Against Racism Ministry Team
- ▶ Vietnam Ministry Team
- ▶ Task Force to End Homelessness

Administrative Support of Ministry and Mission

In order to effectively manage our resources, we coordinate the work of committees and ministry teams to ensure that the Presbytery's mission objectives are being fulfilled, identify leadership, manage and allocate resources, support day-to-day operations, and act as an information conduit.

- ▶ Presbytery Council
- ▶ Personnel Committee
- ▶ Nominating Committee

Serve Connectionally with Synod and General Assembly

Supporting and interpreting regional, national and global mission and ecumenical ministries.

- ▶ Self Development of People
- ▶ Synod Commissioners
- ▶ Presbyterian Women

SEATTLE PRESBYTERY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
Descriptive for 2008

STATEMENT OF MISSION

The Presbytery of Seattle participates, in word and deed, in God's transforming work through the Gospel of Jesus Christ

- *By strengthening the witness and mission of our congregations and members*
- *By building strong partnerships with each other and the larger Christian community*

We seek to embody God's will for the congregations and communities of faith the comprise the Presbytery of Seattle in five primary ways, lived out through the mission and activities of the committees and ministry teams that serve it:

- **Support and Develop Clergy**
- **Develop the Church's Leadership**
- **Enable Dialogue, Witness and Mission**
- **Administrative Support of Ministry and Mission**
- **Serve Connectionally with Synod and General Assembly**

COUNCIL

The members of the Presbytery Council are the Presbytery Moderator, Vice Moderator, Past Moderator, who serves as the Moderator of the Council, the Moderator of Presbyterian Women, four clergy members-at-large and four elder members-at-large. The Chair of the Committee on Ministry is invited to attend, ex-officio and without vote. The Council constitutes the Board of Trustees of the corporation (G-8.0202) The Council encourages the work of Committees and Ministry Teams, recommends program priorities to the Presbytery, is responsible for the Presbytery's fiscal business, considers and makes recommendations on bills and overtures presented to the Presbytery, nominates persons to serve on the Presbytery Nominating Committee and formulates the proposed docket for Stated Meetings of the Presbytery. The Council meets within the third week prior to Stated Meetings of the Presbytery, usually on Thursday.

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

The Permanent Judicial Commission is the judicial arm of the Presbyterian Church (USA) at the Presbytery, Synod and GA level. It oversees the administration of discipline in its particular governing body, and is comprised of elders and clergy elected by Presbytery to one six year term.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committees are required structures defined in the Presbytery's Standing Rules. Members are elected by Presbytery for three year terms, which are renewable to a maximum of six years. Standing Committees participate in the cluster groups with other committees and ministry teams to fulfill the primary functions of the Presbytery as defined by its Mission Statement.

MINISTRY - Support and Develop Clergy and Congregations Cluster

Serves as pastor and counselor to ministers and congregations, facilitating relations between ministers, congregations and the Presbytery. Oversees clergy in continuing membership in the Presbytery and examinations for membership; makes recommendations regarding pastoral calls, validated ministries, and clergy compensation, oversees churches without pastors, or in pastoral transition, oversight of ethnic ministry fellowships and the Commissioned Lay Pastor program, session visitation, and annual review of session records. . Lay members must be ordained elders. Elder Tom Fox is Chair. **Meets on pre-arranged Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Presbytery offices.**

NOMINATING – Administrative Support of Mission Cluster

Nominates persons to be elected by the Presbytery to fill all vacancies on continuing committees (except the Nominating Committee), the Presbytery Council, boards and other bodies as requested. The Rev. Lee Seese is Chair. **Meets first Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. in the Presbytery offices.**

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Administrative Support of Mission Cluster

Reviews all staff positions of the Presbytery, implements personnel policies and oversees the administration of the Presbytery office. Meets on pre-arranged schedule, generally Wednesdays at 12 noon. _____ is Chair.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY Support and Develop Clergy Cluster

Recommends to Presbytery those who will come under care for the professional ministry and provides orientation, care, and oversight of inquirers and candidates through their theological education and experience. Conducts annual consultations with those under care, grants permission to take ordination examinations, certifies and presents candidates to the Presbytery for ordination examination. Laypersons on this committee must be ordained elders. Rev. Chris Tweitmann, Rev. Dan Baumgartner, and Elder Jay Derr are Co-Chairs. **Meets on the first Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. at Japanese Presbyterian Church.**

REPRESENTATION –Enabling Others to do Mission Cluster

Advises the Presbytery, its boards, committees and other units in implementing the principles of participation and inclusiveness to ensure fair and effective representation in the decision-making of the church. Serves as an advocate and continuing resource to the Presbytery for the representation of racial ethnic members, women, different age groups and persons with disabilities. Consults with the Nominating Committee. Contact: Rev. Arleigh Champ-Gibson and Rev. Donna Whitmore. **Meets on call.**

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Program Committees are established by the Presbytery to provide leadership development, resources, and other support directly to congregations. Members are elected by Presbytery for three year terms, renewable to a maximum of six years.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Develop Church Leadership Cluster

Provides leadership training, Christian Education resources, workshops, special events and assistance to churches for their educational programming. Emphases include: Children's and Adult Education, Youth, Media/Resource Center, YACing Newsletter, Special Events, and Educational Ministries Advocacy. _____ is Chair. **Meets on call in the Presbytery offices.**

MISSION DEVELOPMENT - Enabling Others to do Mission Cluster

Provide grants and other support, usually in partnership with the ecumenical community, to organizations in mission and ministry within the Presbytery of Seattle area. The Rev. Lynne Faris Blessing is Chair. **Meets on call at various churches.**

SELF DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE – Collaborating with Synod/General Assembly Cluster

Distributes the self-development portion of the One Great Hour of Sharing monies for Seattle Presbytery. Receives and reviews all grant applications. Works with representatives from the community at large. _____ is Chair. **Meets on call.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACEMAKING - Enabling Others to do Mission Cluster

Works for justice and reconciliation in the church and in society. Areas of concern include: aging, differently abled persons, women, children, refugees, housing/homelessness, world hunger, peacemaking, mental illness and those who are rejected, abused, or isolated. _____ is Chair. **Meets first Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Presbytery office.**

MINISTRY TEAMS

Ministry Teams are established by the Presbytery Council to perform tasks in fulfillment of Presbytery's mission and program. Presbytery elects two coordinators for each ministry team, ordinarily one clergy and one elder, to serve a one year term, renewable to an aggregate of six years. Coordinators recruit individuals throughout the presbytery to assist them in fulfilling their duties.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY TEAM – Support and Develop Clergy and Congregations

Recommends where new churches are to be planted and works with funding support. Searches for and coordinates the acquisition of new church sites and organizing pastors. Nurtures each new congregation until chartered and recommends readiness for chartering. Provides support and annual reviews of new church pastors. The Rev. James Kearny and Elder Vivienne Strickler are Coordinators. **Meets _____.**

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY TEAM - Develop Church Leadership Cluster

Advises and guides presbytery communication practices to ensure alignment with our stated Mission & Vision.

Responsible to review and sponsor communications developments and initiatives and to resource our churches with communications related education, materials, and other services. The CMT convenes the *Communicators Fellowship* bi-monthly for lunch and discussion on topics relevant to communication ministry—anyone involved with communication ministry is welcome. The Rev. Dan Oliva and Elder _____ are Coordinators.

EVANGELISM MINISTRY TEAM – Develop Church Leadership Cluster

Helps the Presbytery through leadership and training in witnessing for Christ. Provides opportunities for corporate sharing of the Good News. Provides materials and aids for personal and corporate spiritual growth. Encourages faith sharing in our communities and worldwide. The Revs. Louis Platt and Rev. Matthew Young are Co-coordinators. **Meets on call in the Presbytery offices.**

CLERGY CARE MINISTRY TEAM – Support and Develop Clergy Cluster

Provides a variety of support and study groups for spiritual nurture of the minister members of Presbytery. Rev. Lisa Domke and Rev. Ben Lindstrom are Co-coordinators Team Leaders.

NETWORK TO END HOMELESSNESS – Enabling Others to do Mission Cluster

Advocates for and to serve the homeless. Motivates, educates, and guides congregations to understand the root causes of homelessness, and assists congregations to build partnerships with each other, and to participate with denominational, ecumenical and interfaith efforts, locally, nationally to end homelessness. Elder Inez Allen and _____ are co-coordinators. **Meets on the last Friday of the month, 12 noon, in the Presbytery Offices.**

SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY TEAM – Develop Church Leadership Cluster

Works with congregations to develop spiritual formation disciplines. Rev. Doug Early and Rev. Amy Delaney are Co- Coordinators. **Meets on the 1st Tuesday**, at Wedgwood PC, 1-2pm for prayer together and 2-2:30 for business.

UNITED BY FAITH AGAINST RACISM - Enabling Others to do Mission Cluster

Works to educate and resource churches, ministries and the general community on how to engage conversations on racism in America and the ways of reconciliation, in God's spirit and guidance so as not to provoke feelings of guilt, shame or blame on any group. Encourages action plans to begin to reverse the privilege and discrimination that has damaged whites, immigrants, and all persons of color generation after generation. Elder Glo Ceteznik and _____ are coordinators. **Meets on call.**

VIETNAM MINISTRY TEAM – Enabling Others to do Mission Cluster

This Ministry Team is assisting in joint efforts of several presbyteries and the Worldwide Ministries Division of the General Assembly in the process of establishing a Presbyterian Church in Vietnam. Refer to the Minutes of Presbytery March 19, 2002, for details about the project. Rev. Jane Plantinga Pauw and Rev. Paul Kim are coordinators. **Meets on call.**

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM - Develop Leadership

This Ministry Team is responsible for planning, ordering, and arranging details related to worship services conducted at Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Seattle. The Vice Moderator and Rev. Scott Anderson are co-coordinators.

COUNCIL MINUTES
PRESBYTERY OF SEATTLE
Presbytery Offices at Beacon Hill
November 29, 2007
Approved – December 12, 2007

Present: Randy Butler, Moderator	Kathy Lueckert	Staff: Dennis Hughes, Std Clerk
Madeleine Brenner, Past Moderator	Karen Cunningham	Jerry Poole, Interim EP
Pete Jones, Vice Moderator	Tobin Wilson	Barbara Ranta, Assoc Std Clerk
John Foreman	James Kearny	Heidi Francis, Communications
Loretta Pain, Council member-elect		

Excused: Kay Stelter, Bonnie Clark, Deb Sunoo, Fred Choy

The meeting was convened at 4:00 pm by the Moderator with prayer. A quorum was present. The purpose of this special meeting was to finalize the 2008 Presbytery Mission and Ministry Budget and to consider a loan request from Adventure of Faith PC.

2008 BUDGET

The following **assumptions** have emerged from the experience of living into the Presbytery's Mission Statement. These have been affirmed as the basis on which mission and ministry budget decisions are to be made.

1. The Presbytery's mission is to support the mission and ministry of member congregations, which arises out of their own worshipping communities.
2. The Presbytery does not initiate mission for congregations. Presbytery's role is to be a resource, partner, guide and encourager in strengthening the witness and mission of our congregations and in the building of partnerships between them.
3. The Presbytery's budget funds those things that Presbytery must do – Committee on Ministry, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Church Development, Mission Development emerging from congregations, Leadership Development, and Administrative Support.
4. Other entities in the Presbytery's structure (ministry teams and program committees) are self sustaining and self supporting. Block Grants to cluster groups and administrative print support from the Presbytery Office are available to them.

The concept of Block Grants was discussed for the Develop Church Leadership and Enable Others to Do Mission Clusters. It is expected that this process will encourage cluster groups to work together to fulfill their mission, and to provide accountability for effectiveness and beneficial outcomes in how funds are used in support of mission.

The Develop the Church's Leadership Cluster of the ministry teams and committees, supported by their Council Liaison will negotiate together for expending allocated funds in service of their charge to Develop Church Leadership in their particular areas.

The Mission Development Committee (MDC) has agreed to manage the block grant to that cluster. They have worked with this model for several years as they have administered grants to congregations and other entities for emerging mission. They are now being asked to broaden that scope to include the other ministry teams and committees of the cluster. The Mission Development Committee will establish criteria for grant applications, create and communicate the application process and a follow-up reporting and assessment process. Entities within the Enable Mission Cluster will use this process to request funding for their particular projects. The MDC sees their work in this plan as two fold: (1) to provide a grant process with accountability and expectations for healthy outcomes, and, (2) to provide a "greenhouse" effect, supporting and encouraging congregations and entities of the cluster group in new and exciting ways "to participate in word and deed, in God's transforming work through the Gospel of Jesus Christ." It is recognized that the concept of block grants to cluster groups will require a year for transition and adjustments will be made where needed.

Funding of the Vietnam Ministry Team Rev. Tobin Wilson, Liaison to the MDC, was asked to lead a task group to review the Presbytery's funding mechanism in support of CLP Binh Nguyen's work as Coordinator of Reconciliation to Southeast Asia. Binh's work is overseen by the Vietnam Ministry Team, whose goals are to (1) help the Vietnam Presbyterian Church seek official status and become self-sufficient; (2) to help in the reforming of the education system; and (3) recognizing Vietnam's influence to other SE Asian countries, to be a catalyst for change in Southeast Asia by helping Vietnam. This work has been supported by the Presbytery Mission Budget and by donations from several congregations for many years. The Moderator appointed members of this task force to include a member from the Committee on Ministry, Rev. Paul Kim, Coordinator of the Vietnam Ministry Team, and a representative from Mercer Island PC. Tobin Wilson will make contacts to identify who from COM and Mercer Island will serve.

Quick Summary of Mission Support to the 2007 Budget A quick summary of churches who are supporting the 2007 mission budget was reviewed. Income of \$174,000 from congregations was projected for 2007. Through October 31, 2007, 67% (\$115,984) has been received from 25 congregations. Of these 25, 10 churches pledged to support the budget. Of the \$116,000 given by these 25 churches, 5 churches have given \$70,400 (61%). Of these, 1 church has given \$34,500 (30%). Of the 10 churches who pledged, 2 have completed their pledge. The remainder have contributed 50-75%, except for one church who has contributed less than 10% of their pledge so far. An additional 3 churches pledged support to the mission budget but have not yet contributed.

2008 Budget Approved It was voted to recommend that presbytery approve the proposed budget for mission and ministry expenses in 2008 in the amount of \$817,428. Of this, \$644,428 is projected for administrative support, \$131,000 for supporting and developing clergy and congregations, \$5,000 for developing church leadership and \$37,000 for enabling others to do mission. Income to support the budget is projected from \$613,495.25 in per capita apportionments, \$25,000 from per capita reserves, \$5,000 from Ordination and Installation Offerings, and \$174,000 in mission pledges from congregations.

Budget Process Review It was agreed to docket time for discussion of issues related to the presbytery's budget structure and budget process at the Council's Annual Retreat on January 26, 2008.

COUNCIL / BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Corporation of the Presbytery of Seattle, meeting on November 20, 2008, voted to amend the By Laws of the Corporation to provide for the Council of the Presbytery of Seattle to constitute the Board of Trustees of the Corporation. Officers of the Corporation, effective November 20, 2007 through December 31, 2008, were elected as follows:

Rev. Randy Butler as President
 Elder Peter Jones as Vice President
 Rev. Karen Breckenridge as Secretary

Acting in concert with this new reality, the following items were considered:

Adventure of Faith Loan Request (See Council Minutes November 1, 2007) The Congregation of Adventure of Faith PC has voted to approve the request for permission from Presbytery to borrow up to \$1.7 million at an interest rate not to exceed 8.5% for the construction of a new worship facility and related parking improvements. Because time is of the essence, Presbytery voted on November 20, 2007 to empower the Council to act on behalf of the Presbytery to authorize Adventure of Faith's loan request, subject to review and endorsement by the Committee on Ministry and the Council.

Documentation related to the request has been reviewed by the Council and is in process of review by the Committee on Ministry. After a time of discussion, ** it was voted to approve the request of Adventure of Faith PC, when the way is clear.* The Committee on Ministry meets on December 6, 2008.

New Request from Marcus Whitman PC

The Highline School District has submitted a request to the Session of Marcus Whitman PC for an easement to put a bus lane/driveway through the church property to provide access to Parkside Elementary School (scheduled to be torn down and rebuilt beginning June, 2008). Council recommended that the Session submit the documentation provided by the Highline School District to the Presbytery's attorney for review and recommendation and for advice on all issues related to the granting of such an easement, including but not limited to compensation for costs including reimbursement of legal fees, as well as liability and maintenance issues related to the easement.

It was reported that a Congregational Meeting to approve this request has not yet been scheduled and the Council recommended that meeting not be held until the Session/Board of Trustees has received the advice of the attorneys.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED with prayer by Rev. Jerry Poole, Interim EP, at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Barbara Ranta
Associate Stated Clerk

COMING MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

January 3, 2008 4pm
Saturday, January 26, 2008
March 13, 2008

REGULAR MEETING - Beacon Hill
ANNUAL RETREAT – Mercer Island PC (Confirmed)
REGULAR MEETING – Beacon Hill