

Heartland Conference Board of Directors - 5.20.2022



Our Why: Together in Christ's love, we collaborate to reconcile and restore all God's creation.

Our Calling: Empowered by the Holy Spirit we are called to connect, equip and support our faith communities to grow as faithful disciples and responsible stewards, following Jesus' call to extravagantly love all God's children and creation.

Location: Zoom Video Conference

Stated Date: May 20, 2022

Stated Time: 9:00am

Attendance

Voting Members Attending

Rev. Lauren Allen, SONKA Representative

Rev. Diane Carter, NWOA

Rev. Daniel Doty, Vice Moderator

Mr. Tom Hathaway, Moderator

Mr. Jim Henry, Treasurer

Rev. Eric Williams, CSEOA Representative

Mr. Martin Buck, Living Water ONE Representative

Rev. David Brown, Living Water ONE Representative

Dan Weyand-Geise, SONKA representative

Mr. Mark Vaughn, NWOA Representative

Non-Voting Members, Staff, and Guests Attending

Rev. David Long-Higgins, Heartland Conference, Conference Minister

Ms. Rebecca Hoskins, Heartland Conference Executive Administrator

Ms. Jill Frey, Heartland Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries

Rev. Daniel Busch, NWOA Association Minister

Rev. Carl Robinson SONKA Association Minister

Rev. Nayiri Karjian, Living Water ONE Association Minister

Voting Members Not Attending

Mx. MK O'Haver, Conference Secretary

Rev. David Plant, Past-Moderator

Ms. Charlene J. Smith, Living Water ONE Representative

Rev. James Semmelroth Darnell, CSEOA Representative

Rev. Laureen Roe, Disciples of Christ Representative

Rev. Melody Ruffin Ward, Living Water ONE Representative

Non-Voting Members, Staff Not Attending

Rev. Patricia Battle CSEOA Association Minister

→ 9:10 Welcome, Introductions and Covenantal Prayer

David LH began with a request for a moment of silence to remember/contemplate the things that strain our hearts as we are in this season of societal angst, especially given the recent shootings in Buffalo.

God of Love, made known to us in Jesus Christ, our common journey of faith leads us to continue to grow in mutual love. Help us respect each one's place on the journey of faith, while we live into our commitment to be

active agents of social justice. Guide us to extend an extravagant welcome to all as we ourselves are nurtured in the unity of the One Spirit across all settings. Offering our diverse gifts in building God's beloved community here and now, we seek to promote responsible stewardship and sharing of resources which calls us to reach out across the Heartland and to our ecumenical partners. This we seek as we embody God's healing love throughout all creation. Amen.

→ **9:14 Approval of Minutes/Agenda Items**

◆ [April 22, 2022](#)

- Rev. Lauren Allen noted that her name was not in the meeting minutes from April and was in attendance. This correction will be made.

◆ **Action item:**

- **Eric moved Dan WG second**
- **Agenda and minutes (with corrections) were approved**

→ **9:16 [Outdoor Ministry Report](#) - Jill Frey**

◆ Summer camp update

- Numbers are on par to make established benchmarks
- Choir Camp was canceled due to lack of enough registrants
 - More slots were opened for Grands camp that was taking place at that same time
- Still looking for a Dr. but will have health coverage through others
 - She prefers to have a Dr. so if anyone knows someone who might be interested please let Jill know
- Still needs an additional lifeguard
- She reported that the Covid -19 increase has made it necessary to implement the Red Counties plan. You must wear a mask indoors

◆ Property report and request

- New Sign has been installed
- Has a volunteer who will come and clean up the entrance area
- Swimming pool is almost ready to go and should be open by Memorial Day weekend
- Action Items:
 - Bid for Skipper accessible restrooms
 - ◆ Previous bids were too high and they've been seeking new bids
 - ◆ Ed has made a bid that will not go any higher than \$70,000. He hopes to get it done for less
 - ◆ Someone gave money specific for this project and others funds to complete the cost will be taken from the "Hills Are Alive" campaign
 - **Action Item: Skipper Accessible Restroom Project (as outlined above)**
 - **Mark Moved Diane second**
 - **Motion passed unanimously**
 - Road maintenance
 - ◆ Old chip and seal road needs replacing
 - ◆ It is recommended that we re-chip/seal this road rather than asphalt (which is quite a bit more expensive)
 - ◆ \$16,500.+
 - ◆ Monies will be taken from Temple Hills maintenance fund
 - ◆ It was asked, "how long will this last?"
 - It has been a while but no one can remember quite when

- ◆ David B asked if we could get a sense of which will be best in the long run (chip/tar or asphalt)
- ◆ Eric asked how it holds up with the freezing and thawing of the winters in Ohio
 - Marty reported finding on Google that tar/chip roads last about 10 years
- ◆ David B stated that since we have a good proposal should we proceed with the tar/chip project. Could we perhaps approve the tar/chip proposal unless the Property committee finds that the cost of asphalt is a better over the long haul
 - **Action Item: Road Maintenance Project**
 - **Motion to approve the tar/chip bid unless it is found that the asphalt process is better in the long run for maintenance and cost effectiveness. If it is found the asphalt bid is better that will come back to the Executive Committee for final approval**
 - David B Moved Eric second
 - Motion passed unanimously

→ 9:44 Committee Updates

- ◆ **Annual Gathering** (Thursday and Friday) September 22 and 23, 2022
 - “Rising Up” is the theme this year
 - An in-person gathering with an online option
 - One cost will cover either way folks choose to attend
 - The Many will be our musical guests
- ◆ **Constitution Review Taskforce**
 - Holding ongoing meetings
 - First revision has been done
- ◆ **Nominating Committee Formation**
 - Trying to be a little more intentional and taking some time to consider who we are calling and working toward more diversity

→ 9:46 Quietly Courageous Reflections

- ◆ The groups went into 10 minute breakout rooms to address one or more of the questions below
- ◆ Breakout Rooms - Questions formed from Chapters 3 & 4 of *Quietly Courageous*
 - Rendle contrasts linear change (problem->solution->action) with non-linear liquid modernity (Condition->Complex interactions->learning). Where do you observe liquid modernity related to church and the world and what is the learning you are discerning? (page 63 ff)
 - A non-linear approach connects the organization to its realistic pain; helps the organization capture its possibility; challenges the organization to step out of its box; accompany the organization into its subsequent chaos; and support the learning and reordering that will come from the work. How do you see any of these at work in our shared life in the Conference? Which might we embrace more intentionally? (Page 68)
 - If we were to look at the conference and its constituent parts as an energy map, where there was already movement, where there were already differences being made, where there were already experiments and initiatives building up, and where there were already people excited by their purpose, what would we notice? (Page 87)
 - What is already present? Where is God already at work?
 - What would it mean for us to consider stewarding potential instead of just stewarding “property”? (Page 90)
- ◆ The group reconvened at 10:00am and each group gave a synopsis of their discussion

→ **10:05 Treasurer's Report** - Jim Henry

- ◆ [March Financials](#)
- ◆ Jim went over the report
 - There were no questions at this time

→ **10:15 Conference Minister's Report**

- ◆ There has been significant giving for Ukraine through SARA - \$75,085.09 to date has been given
- ◆ At the end of the linked report is a list of current Networks as well as leadership of each
 - The website will soon have portals for each network
- ◆ David LH also highlighted the Disaster Relief/Mission portion of his report
- ◆ There will be a "NOLLAU to You" conference coming to the HC soon!
- ◆ David LH preached the baccalaureate at Heidelberg University and was the recipient of a Doctor of Humane Letters!
- ◆ Network Updates:
 - Leadership Roundtable Updates
 - Carl reported that in SONKA they are parentering churches for collaborative ministries to build gaps in ministries. It's challenging because congregations haven't done it this way before.

→ **10:25 DOC Regional Board Report** - Laureen Roe

- ◆ Laureen Roe was not present for the meeting but Tom encouraged all to read her report

→ **10:26 Next Meeting Dates**

- ◆ **June 24, 2022?** (Forego July)
- ◆ **August 19, 2022**
- ◆ Question about when to meet at Tempel Hills
 - Let Jill know if you want to go for an individual retreat and we are looking to perhaps have a BOD retreat at Tempel Hills in October some time.