

FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHERN CHURCHES

Crowne Plaza Hotel -- Cincinnati, Ohio

Fellowship Council Minutes Thursday July 15, 2010

PRESENT: Tom Hocking (Mod 2010/11), John McIntosh (Mod 2009, V-Mod 2010), Tom Avey (Fellowship Coordinator), Bruce Barlow (C-14), Doug Black (E-11), Nathan Bryant (C-13), Jonathan Carey (C-12), Doug Courtier (E-13), Dan Thornton (consultant), Larry Humberd (E-10), Roy Halberg (W-14), Dan Jackson (E-14), Ron Smals (C-10), Phil Sparling (W-10), Robert Waggoner (E-12), and Greg Howell (Recording Secretary).

071510-1 Approve January minutes with the added revised "A Path Forward" section

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the January 2010 Fellowship Council minutes and ratify the email approval of the added section revising the Path Forward (also included below).

A Path Forward

We, as leaders and fellow-journeymen within the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches of North America, agree that thorough evaluation and dynamic action are necessary to build a vibrant, biblical and God-honoring path forward.

We, therefore, affirm the following principles and direction so that the FGBC, working with Christ-following believers and ministries, might make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ—thus fulfilling the Great Commission to the glory of God!

1. We agree there is a great need for a recognized enduring leadership community within the FGBC. This community must be entrusted with the development—and long-term implementation—of a consistent and clear vision.

2. We agree this vision must be built around the biblical goal of making disciples by meeting spiritual, emotional, and physical needs, planting, expanding and reviving churches and developing leaders.

3. We agree that to accomplish this goal the FGBC must aggressively seek out and nurture relationships among like-minded believers and ministries.

4. In our continued pursuit of biblical truth, biblical relationship, and biblical mission we agree to evaluate and renew our statement of faith, national constitution and the process of joining the FGBC movement. We also agree to reevaluate any other items to allow for clear and culturally relevant understanding and communication of our beliefs and mission.

5. We agree to make a concerted effort to identify and train young leaders within our ranks. This training must provide a consistent and clear pathway of ministry and leadership development. We further agree these pathways of training do not need to be centralized, but will need to be endorsed by the enduring leadership community.

071510-2 Ratify the appointment of Roy Halberg to fill Mike Scricca's (W-14) unexpired term as Western Fellowship Council Representative.

A MOTION PREVAILED to ratify the email approval to appoint Roy Halberg to fill Mike Sciarra's (W-14) unexpired term as Western Fellowship Council Representative.

071510-3 Tom Avey's Housing Allowance 2011 must be set at the last meeting before the end of the calendar year.

A MOTION PREVAILED to set Tom Avey's Housing Allowance for 2011 at \$35,000.

071510-4 Moderator Position

Tom Hocking gave the history of how the path forward and those who have declined to serve as moderator including Jeff Bogue. Tom reported that consultant George Bullard suggested that the FGBC is better positioned to make the necessary paradigm shifts than if we were already in a centralized moderator led situation. Tom also informed that the response from those that were at the June 9th meeting in Cincinnati (the 30 survey responders were invited and about 15 including wives attended) was very positive. Nathan Bryant who was at that meeting reflected that it was positive and that the consensus was that the FGBC wants to continue on with the Commitment to Common Mission.

Tom outlined that there are currently 3 possible options:

1. Continue to search for a key leader to spearhead our network's efforts to fulfill the CCM. That person would be responsible to design a master plan and begin the implementation of the decade of multiplication by designing a master plan, recruiting an advisory team, developing a comprehensive master plan and budget, and begin communicating and envisioning the master plan.
2. Develop an enduring vision leadership team composed of individuals who have demonstrated passion and effectiveness in one of the CCM objectives (church planting, leadership development, integrated ministries) and ask them to take the lead in envisioning and developing implementation plans for fulfilling the CCM mandate. These individuals should be willing to serve until 2020. Tom's suggestion: Pick two-three people (preferably not all ministerial and not all male) for each objective. Allow this group to designate a moderator from their number which the FC would affirm and present to the delegates for ratification. Give that group the responsibility to figure out if, when, and how we should address Jeff Bogue's priorities of refreshing our documents and connecting with the larger body of Christ.
3. "Unleash" the various—even competing—passions in our network by encouraging/empowering leaders of influence to gather like-minded leaders for mutual encouragement and the development and implementation of models for change. [eg. Revitalizing district ministries and mission; refreshing our structural documents; developing CE's and certification for various ministerial designations].

Tom Avey reported that Larry Chamberlain said we need to do all three.

The group readily favored the second option. And began to identify team leaders and start with the team—Enduring Vision Leadership Committee (EVLG) and then find the man to lead.

071510-5 Enduring Vision Leadership Committee (EVLG)

The following have agreed to serve or at least dialog with Tom and Tom this Thursday at Conference (in Cincinnati): (*) indicates suggested chairman

Leadership Dev *Tom Julien, Mike Yoder, Bob Fetterhoff, Keith Shearer

Church planting Tim Boal, Neil Cole, *Dave Guiles, Nathan Bryant, Tony Webb

Integrated Ministry *Clancy Cruise, Stephen Joyce

Mike Lee also said he would come to the Thursday night information meeting.

EVLG Job Description

June 15, 2010

Background: In 2008, representatives of the global Grace Brethren community (Charis) gathered to discuss their common commitment to mission. This group produced the "Common Commitment to Mission" which called for a decade of church multiplication, leadership development and integrated ministry. All recognized national ministries in the FGBC have endorsed this document as has the Fellowship Council and delegates at national conference in 2009.

The moderator of the FGBC, Tom Hocking is forming an "Enduring Visionary Leadership Community" of people who are committed to the principles of the "Commitment to Common Mission" and have a strong passion in one of the three areas. Three teams will be formed that together are this "Enduring Visionary Leadership Community": a church multiplication team, a leadership development team and a integrated ministry team.

The Goal: to multiply churches and ministries that make disciples of Jesus Christ, develop effective leaders, love people!

Job Description:

Each team will...

1. Be the voice for the fellowship for their area of passion.
2. Develop "BHAG's" for the FGBC in this area (Big Holy Audacious Goals)
3. Network with like-minded believers and churches to learn from each other
4. Discover and champion existing churches and individuals who are doing effective ministry in this area.
5. Catalyze the development of action steps towards our "BHAGS".

The community (EVLG) will...

1. Meet once during the fall of 2010 to begin this journey.
2. Report to the Fellowship Council in January 2011 on
 - a. Its progress.
 - b. Budget needs.

- c. Recommendations for structural changes.
- d. Projections for how to make each team effective.
3. If possible, make a recommendation to the Fellowship Council for a moderator as well as changes to the role of the moderator by January 2011.
4. Plan the theme and focus of National Conference in 2012 and following.

Individuals will...

1. Serve 3-5 years at the will of the Fellowship Council

The Fellowship Council will...

1. Pay for travel (transportation, lodging, meal) expenses to meetings or expenses for conference calls.
2. Pay for other expenses as approved in advance by the Fellowship Coordinator.
3. Budget \$5,000 for each team for these expenses.

Tom Hocking stated that he is hoping for great strength out of diversity and that a leader will come out of the gathering eventually. He wants to be willing to let the Holy Spirit work through these men to develop the direction and cause a leader to arise. Tom is willing to allow the EVLC to cast vision. Fellowship Council is an administrative group. The connection of EVLC with Fellowship Council would be implementing their ideas.

Discussion included the following comments:

--Tom Avey offered that it will be important for this group to lead beyond just this year. This group will be tasked with mapping out the next decade. So the Fellowship Council needs to approve and empower. (define end task, define the accountability/timeline, and give a list of what not to do.)

--Tom Hocking noted that there is not a whole lot of difference between what the committees will do and what Jeff recommended. Now we have a lot of leaders with "skin in the game". It is important that they not get the idea that the Fellowship Council might squash their ideas.

--Larry Humberd—it should be like we deal with the social concerns committee—FC doesn't approve their resolutions before they are published, we just let them function. We should free them to function and expect them to be respectful of the Fellowship Council.

--Tom Hocking--Most important quality in future Moderator will be that he be on board so that he can go to bat with the Fellowship Council for EVLC. The Fellowship Council needs to be protective of who and how many on the EVLC and supportive back to FGBC.

--John McIntosh offered that we need to be careful not to create opposing forces with EVLC and pastors in the trenches. There needs to be a connection that doesn't discourage the spirit of the "thoroughbred while encouraging the Clydesdale"

--Tom Hocking--This is where the "Town Hall" meeting Monday morning will help get things going. He emphasized the need for Fellowship Council members to help facilitate. The plan is for three groups to meet together then separate, then together again. Each group will brainstorm and add ideas to the projected list and then the groups will change topics (according to the CCM) and add their thoughts to the list.

There will be \$5,000/team available this year (as per job description) for travel and promotion.

Tom asked for suggestion as to "what is the strongest positive message the Fellowship Council can give him to give EVLC candidates tonight.

RESPONSES:

- We are all behind EVLC.
- Fellowship Council will do all the administration work to make it work (with national ministries' help).
- Show us how to make CCM work.

MOTION: whereas we have embarked on this decade of multiplication and in 2020 want to look back as see that we have accomplished the CCM and desire a group of leaders as we start this journey, the Fellowship Council affirms the gifting and willingness of the assembled group to define and champion the path forward for the FGBC pursuit of the CCM. The Fellowship Council is willing to resource them and handle the details so the EVLC can concentrate on the vision.

Discussion included these wording suggestions:

- actualize what they visionize
- Asking them to formulate an encompassing vision. Visionize and provide initial leadership.
- Entrusting them with the vision and leadership for the next decade

Moderator Hocking delegated Bruce Barlow and Dan Thornton to word the directive that he can use with group tonight. Tom intends to present a couple of don'ts:

- don't disparage older declining congregations
- don't feel that they have to any change documents

Before they left to do their crafting, Bruce Barlow informed the Fellowship Council of Tom Julien's fainting and hospitalization this morning then led in prayer for him.

Tom Hocking asked if the Fellowship Council would allow the selection of the next Moderator to be outsourced to the EVLC allowing them to present their person (catalyst or moderator). The Manual of Procedure vests the Fellowship Council with the responsibility of nomination without regard as to origin of names. Consensus was that Tom has the freedom to tell them they can help select the nominee.

A MOTION PREVAILED to ratify the recommendation previously accepted by email: "That the Fellowship Council recommend that the delegates NOT elect a moderator at the 2010 conference to begin serving after conference in 2011. That the delegates be prepared to vote during the 2011 conference for a moderator to start after conference 2011 or to consider alternative structures as recommended by the Fellowship Council."

071510-6 Some previous actions need to be reversed since they are connected with Jeff being the next Moderator.

A MOTION PREVAILED to rescind the Motion from January 30, 2010: "to extend the title 'moderator' to dba Executive Director effective immediately," (since it was tied to Jeff)

071510-7 Terry Hofecker offered to be Moderator since he is planning for imminent retirement and sees the need. Discussion included:

- interesting offer
- he does have the energy and the time if he is working toward retirement
- but might need to see how he plays with others and see him changing
- he as a track-record of being opinionated

071510-8 Town Hall is designed to see if delegates are committed to the EVLC
see presentation and discussion above

Tom Hocking reminded Fellowship Council Representatives of their need to present and involved.

071510-9 What should we do with revision committees' work?

A MOTION PREVAILED to temporarily suspend the work of the revision committees.

Tom Avey passed a card around for the Fellowship Council to sign thanking Charlie Ashman for his many years as Conference Coordinator and Assistant Fellowship Coordinator. Tom will present a plaque with the card and would have made the presentation publicly at this Conference, but Charlie stayed home by doctor's orders.

Tom Hocking announced that Tom Julien is okay. His dizziness was the result of dehydration and cold medicine.

071510-10 Fellowship Council Support for EVLC. Bruce and Dan presented their suggested support statement which was further reworded by the Fellowship Council.

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the following support statement:
Whereas the FGBC has embarked on this decade of multiplication and will want to look back in 2020 to see the Commitment to Common Mission strongly accomplished; the Fellowship Council is entrusting you, the ELVC, to define and champion the vision and leadership for the next decade. The Fellowship Council also pledges to pray, protect, support, and provide resources for the formulation of the vision.

071510-11 Cooperating Ministries Recommendations

Phil Sparling will move on conference floor

--VISION OHIO GO2 Church Planting recommend removal of "provisional" status

--Serve and Send (CPR3 and NextChurch) There was discussion about why they are combined since they somewhat unrelated. The answer is that they are both under Dan O'Deens who is doing this full time now and he wants them together.

071510-12 2011 Budget

Budget for 2011

For the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.

	2011 budget	2010 budget
Revenues		
Membership Fees	\$ 140,000	150,000
Conference Income	75,000	100,000
Focus Retreats	25,000	25,000
Donations ***	50,000	50,000
Other Income	1,000	1,000
Total Revenue	\$ 291,000	326,000
Expenses		
Program Services		
Conference	\$ 105,000	140,000
Focus Retreats	50,000	50,000
Supporting Services		
Fellowship Council ***	40,000	40,000
General Administration	96,000	96,000
Total Expenses	\$ 291,000	326,000
Excess	\$ -	-

Fellowship Fee Schedule

Current Schedule

Attendance Ranges	Fee	If paid by May 15
-25	\$ 50	47
26-50	\$ 105	100
51-100	\$ 265	250
101-200	\$ 525	500
201-400	\$ 1,050	1000
401-800	\$ 2,100	2000
801-1600	\$ 4,200	4000
1601+	\$ 8,400	8000

*** Includes requested new funds from GBIF for expenses related to new moderator term and strategic (IE Commitment to Common Ministry) initiatives in 2010

Tom Avey explained that he removed the anticipated membership fee change. A significant part is a rework of fee schedule. Tom asked, "Do we need to go that way, and do we need to now?" The purpose is that it creates smaller increments which top out at \$5000, which is the same as nat-orgs contribute. It was changed from a per member fee because attendances vary. But this changes is because some churches went over the range just a couple people and their fee doubled.

MOTION to recommend budget with alternative fee schedule

Discussion: makes it look like Fellowship Council doesn't know what they are doing.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION PREVAILED to recommend the 2011 budget with the current fee schedule continued and to discuss changes in the fee schedule based on Membership and Finance Committee recommendations after January 2011 meeting.

QUESTION about Tom's salary—did it go down? Tom answered that General categories allow latitude. But the main reason the salary section is such is because it is Charlie's last year.

071510-13 New church that applied since the Winter meeting

Iglesia Vida Nueva: Grandview, WA was accepted by Pacific Northwest Fellowship in 2009 and thought that automatically made them a national member church. It came to light when they were working on 501(c)(3) status in order to hire a pastor from out of the country. They can't be under the FGBC blanket exemption without national membership.

A MOTION PREVAILED to waive the application deadline and recommend membership of Iglesia Vida Nueva in Grandview, Washington into the FGBC.

071510-14 EQUIP4 Update—Tom Avey has a team working tracks and classes including: Cheri Boehm, Larry Orme and Ken Bickel. The plans are to have it at Wooster offering some Bild classes & certification training. Also Randy Smith Great Commission Bible training (on DVD—so churches can offering it at their church & other Leadership training. The EQUIP4 is to facilitate Logo ideas EQUIP4 (for),: Multiplication, Leadership, Integration. It is scheduled for the last week of July

071510-15 CE is announcing split youth conference next year since Operation Barnabas will be in the West Momentum West Jun 12-16 East July 11-17 Tom Avey cautioned not to advertise these dates until locations were established.

071510-15 FOCUS Retreats Tom Hocking asked Dan Allen and Tony Webb to do FOCUS retreats this year and they have agreed.

071510-16 Winter Meeting

John McIntosh has invited Fellowship Council to have the Jan 2011 meeting at Simi Valley, California. Tom has scheduled it to be Jan 26-29, beginning on Wednesday and ending on Saturday so can go home in time for Sunday if want to.

071510-17 Town Hall Meeting

Tom Hocking reviewed the format of the Town Hall meeting Monday – it will be at the Charis Café Jeff Bogue will share Sunday night. And then Monday Tom, Tom, and Jeff will share the mess we are in. Fellowship Council members need to facilitate in the groups. Be sure that you are in a group without other FC or EVLC members. Look for people in your group who are already involved in leadership development or have programs or proposals. Send a runner up to add to the computer on the screen Groups won't move, but computer screen will and group will add to it. Each leader will have an envelop with 20 response forms. What have you learned, what concerns, what suggestions? 3 check boxes. And at the bottom of the form requests for personal commitments.

Tom Avey reminded that tonight (Thursday) is the Ministry Fair and Fellowship Council Reps need to be greeters. He urged to especially connect with first time attenders and new pastors.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory M. Howell,
Recording Secretary