

FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL MEETING * WASHINGTON, DC July 17, 2014 Omni-Shoreham Hotel

PRESENT: Bruce Barlow (A- 14), Roy Halberg (A-14), Dan Jackson (C-14), Phil Bryant (A-15), Clancy Cruise (B-15), Richard Todd (A-16), Michael Saldivar (B-16), Dan Thornton (C-16), Matt Householder (A-17), Greg Serafino (A-17), Randy Weekley (C- 17), Joe Cosentino (B-18), Mark Lingenfelter (B-18), Tim Hodge (C-18), Bartley Sawatski (Exec. Dir-16), Tom Avey (Fellowship Coordinator), and Greg Howell (Rec. Sec.).

ABSENT: David Kennedy (C-15)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the minutes from January at Seal Beach, CA

APPOINTMENT FOR PARTIAL TERM

Tom Avey introduced Tim Hodge to complete a partial 4 year term in Region C. He will need to be ratified by the delegates, but can function at this meeting.

NEW CHURCH APPLICATION

A MOTION PREVAILED to present Grupo Amor Cristiano, in Dublin, OH as a New Church applicant to the Delegate at this Conference in Washington, DC.

CO-OPERATING MINISTRIES—The following ministries have applied and are presented for approval by the delegates

A MOTION PREVAILED to accept the application of Grace Commission Bible Institute of Sebring, FL and present them to the Delegates at this Conference (DC-2014) as a Cooperating Ministry of the FGBC.

A MOTION PREVAILED to accept the application of Vision Alaska and present them to the Delegates at this Conference (DC-2014) as a Cooperating Ministry of the FGBC.

Discussion brought up the concern that all principle leaders are related to the main leader. It was noted that the IRS will be concerned about only family involved. The Committee will decide how communicate so that they are properly governed.

A MOTION PREVAILED to accept the application of G.R.O.W. Orphanages, Directed by Ivaldo Trindade and present them to the Delegates at this Conference (DC-2014) as a Cooperating Ministry of the FGBC.

A MOTION PREVAILED to accept the application of Design Outreach of Winona Lake, IN and present them to the Delegates at this Conference (DC-2014) as a Cooperating Ministry of the FGBC.

They are engineers and designers who have aided *Water for Good* in designing parts and pumps when original manufacturer quit making repair parts. It was noted that the leader is not attending WLGBG anymore, but 4 other board members are FGBC. They will need to be reminded of the need to be controlled by a board that is primarily FGBC. Bruce Barlow will talk with him at his exit interview.

A MOTION PREVAILED to accept the application of Metro Grace in Philadelphia, PA—Jim Brown, President, and present them to the Delegates at this Conference (DC-2014) as a Cooperating Ministry of the FGBC.

RENAMING RAB -- Dave Guiles gave the background of Relief African Brethren. In the 1960's Ken Ashman introduced the idea. At the he was pastor of Wooster and Chairman of the Foreign Missions Board. In 1972, the Resolutions Committee presented and Conference recommended that Foreign Missions (GBFM) would channel funds and partnered with other organizations where GBFM didn't have a presence. In 1973 it was established as

RAB. Dave recapped some recent relief situations. He said to basically ignore the title, because so much relief is happening beyond just Africa.

Dave used this as an opportunity to announce that The Mission is reorganizing globally. We no longer need to organize by geography. So Encompass is making 5 networks: (Directors are in parenthesis) Church Planting (Dr. Paul Klawitter), Church Equipping (Pastor Florent Varak), Community Integration (TBA-Wayne Hannah temp), Compassion Response will take over RAB (Barb Wooler) , --any other initiatives can jump in and help. She will coordinate with other FGBC around the world. Now there is a greater/ stronger connection with other cooperating ministries like CP3 relief/Rehabilitation/development/---essentially renaming RAB (don't tell them, because nobody knows RAB), Mobilization Services (Blaine Horst). Dave states that he expects that most new missionaries will enter through Community Integration or Compassion Response (networks 3&4)

Question: What are the ways to connect/bridge between FGBC members and networks?

--Barb presented to FC, but how do we impact/involve people in the pew? ANSWER: Encompass is going to communicate differently. Encompass has hired Conveca to determine how to communicate better. In the future, communication will involve more video.

IDENTITY INITIATIVE - Dave Guiles shared a recap of the presentations at FOCUS retreats and the 3-4 truth clusters and that Africa has already submitted their 3rd & 4th truth clusters.

The Global Task Force meets in Atlanta July 28-31, 2014. The next round of FOCUS retreats begins Sept 2014. The Pacific Northwest District will begin the 2nd cycle having been the last of the 1st cycle. We are not changing the Statement of Faith (it is part of FGBC Constitution) but working on a new document --Commitment to Common Identity that will have Global parts (like our resolutions). We probably won't come up with something everyone will love--but we will learn how to think and act globally. So there will be a double outcome. All will be equals at the round table and this is an exercise that helps us (like learning to dance together—Dave said he doesn't even know how to dance, but it makes a good analogy). The 4th truth cluster will not even be a topic for FOCUS 2015 or 2016. The responsibility of 4th cluster rests on Fellowship Council's shoulders.

Cluster 4 should begin with the ministerium. Dave Guiles will meet with AGBM exec board right after this presentation. He reiterated that we are not changing The Statement of Faith (that is the label of a 1969 document, a historical document). But we will be reorganizing and adopting something else (which potentially could replace the Statement of Faith). How we choose to express what we believe (tiers, baskets, clusters). What's our core? Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible.

Periodically we have to sit down and determine what keeps us together? These things have to be talked about. The recent issue of Grace Connect has several great articles about who we are and how the Initiative will help us determine how to describe and communicate our identity. You can get Grace Connect by email--every leader, member should read. The Fellowship Council needs to determine how to fund the North American representatives to Charis in 2015 which will cost about \$10,000.

MEMBERSHIP FEES need to be increased to help fund the Conference expenses and provide for the Identity Initiative.

A MOTION PREVAILED to increase the Membership Fee \$ 0.60 with an additional \$0.40 temporarily for one year (2015) to fund the Identity Initiative and especially our (North American) delegation to the Charis gathering in 2015, for a total of \$1.00.

Discussion included: Who is paying for Dave Guiles? Is it the Fellowship Council's responsibility or Encompass? Should we fund and look like North America is influencing decision making? It was suggested that we get as

much as we can for \$10,000 and give the excess to Encompass to help offset Dave's expenses? We will decide in January what more we can do especially if Brotherhood Mutual provides a kick back.

TOM AVEY'S HOUSING ALLOWANCE--It was decided by consensus that we designate \$35,000 for Tom's housing Nov 1, 2014-Oct 31, 2015.

UPDATES

1. Conference 2015 will be at Newark airport just 2 train stops from Penn's Station. It will be at the Marriott, seems to be the best facilities for our conference. The dates will be July 23-26 New York City (really New Jersey) Theme: Flinch Conference (all about risk). New York is a good city to discover risk. Speakers will be "Riskologists." It will be family friendly but not much as DC is. New York is safer than it has been. Rates will be \$125/night and you don't need a car. Tom & Bartley shaved a night off to save costs. This is a good way to have a family vacation. Like DC and recent Conferences, the rooms cost the same 3 days before and 3 days after.

2. Conference 2016 Looking at Vancouver, BC and Orlando, FL and other possibilities. They are definitely keeping young families in mind.

3. FOCUS retreats Pacific Northwest has moved to be in September, the rest will keep their same schedule. The planners understand that FOCUS needs to be a refreshing time not just technical.

4. Tom Avey noted that we need Brotherhood Mutual funds to continue. He stated that we need churches to sign up to be insured by them. And the FGBC receives a dividend in years that there are limited claim losses. There was no dividend this year because of some large claims. We are very thankful for the partnership and good coverage for our member churches.

5. Tom Julien would like to have regional prayer directors.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WOMEN OF GRACE USA --Mrs. Viki Rife was introduced as the new Executive Director of Women of Grace USA. She shared that she is passionate about helping women understand their power of influence and mentoring. She also shared that they are celebrating the 75th anniversary of Women of Grace. Janet Minnix retires as Executive Director after 17 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory M. Howell
Recording Secretary