

**Minutes
Justice Committee of the
Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
The Brown Hotel, Louisville, KY
April 16, 2015**

APRIL 16, 2015 The meeting of the Justice Committee of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
CALL TO ORDER was called to order and opened in prayer by the Vice Chair, Susan Osoinach at
1:30PM on Thursday, April 16, 2015 at The Brown Hotel in Louisville, KY.

ELECTED Those present for all or a portion of the meeting were:
MEMBERS
PRESENT

James R. Ephraim, Jr.	Kears Pollock
Susan Osoinach	Noelle Royer
Cecil Corbett	Kathy Terpstra
Mary Jorgenson	James E. Foucher Jr.
	Joseph Morrow

EXCUSED Lindsay Harren-Lewis
ELECTED
MEMBERS

CORRESPONDING Raafat Zaki, Ray Roberts, Kerri Allen
MEMBERS

OTHERS Sara Lisherness – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry
Hunter Farrell – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry
Bill Somplatsky-Jarman – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice
Ministry
Barry Creech, Mission Agency Staff,
Cristina Pitts – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry
Champak Srinivasan – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry
Tonia Trice – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry
Shannon Beck, Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry
Lonnie Oliver – Mission Agency Staff, Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministry
Greg Allen-Pickett – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry Office
Pat Cole – Mission Agency Staff, Communications
Chris Iosso – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry
Laurie Kraus – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry
Cynthia White – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace, and Justice Ministry
Frank Dimmock – Mission Agency Staff, World Mission Ministry Office
Trina Zelle – Mission Agency Staff, PHEWA
Ruth Farrell – Mission Agency Staff, Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry
Jewel Jones – Mission Agency Staff, Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministry

WELCOME Members, guests and staff were introduced.

**COMMITTEE
ACTIONS:**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to **RE-ELECT** James R. Ephraim, Jr. as Chair and Susan Osoinach as Vice Chair for the year 2015-2016

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA
ITEM B. 100**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to **ADOPT** the agenda with amendment.

**MINUTES OF
THE JUSTICE
COMMITTEE
ITEMS B. 101**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the Justice Committee Minutes of April 24, 2014.

**CHANGES TO
PDA MANUAL OF
OPERATIONS
ITEM B. 103**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the following recommendation:

That the Justice Committee recommend to the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board the following amendments to an action of the General Assembly Mission Council from May, 2012 and reflect such changes in the PDA Manual of Operations

- 1 The amount allocated by PDA to Mid Councils for Initial Response Grants for immediate needs in the community following a disaster will ordinarily be up to \$7,500.**
- 2 The amount allocated by PDA to Mid Councils for Church Damage Assistance Grants following a disaster that puts the ministry of the particular church at risk will ordinarily be \$5,000 with no more than \$25,000 ordinarily being allocated to a Mid Council in a calendar year.**
- 3 Exceptions to this policy will be made with the support of the PDA Advisory Committee, which shall generally be secured by conference call. Exceptions to these amounts will be reported to the Justice Committee and the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board at their next stated meeting.**

Discussion: Laurie Kraus presented the recommendation to the Justice Committee. James Ephraim, Noelle Royer and James E. Fother Jr. commended the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance ministry on the work done during the Boston snow storms and the Boston bombing.

**MISSION
RESPONSIBILITY
THROUGH
INVESTMENT
PROXY VOTING
ITEM B.102**

The Justice Committee **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the following recommendation:

That the Presbyterians Mission Agency Board, in reference to Mission Responsibility Through Investment proxy voting recommendations.

- 1. Affirm the proxy voting recommendations of the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) contained in the 2015 Shareholder Resolution Directory.**

2. **Request the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation/ New Covenant Trust Company and the Board of Pensions to vote proxies on the shareholder resolutions submitted to companies in which they own stock in accordance with the recommendations listed in the 2015 Shareholder Resolution Directory.**
3. **Urge the middle governing bodies, related institutions, congregations and individual members of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to give serious consideration to the proxy voting recommendations when they vote on shareholder resolutions**

Discussion: Several members of the board asked Bill Somplatsky- Jarman questions on communication through the church and collaboration with other denominations. Bill also informed the committee that MRTI is in the process of interviewing a new staff person.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Jinishian Memorial Program United States Advisory Committee and Governance Commission Minutes, October 2014 (B. 200)
- B. Educate A Child, Transform the World Campaign Update. (B. 201)
- C. PHP Advisory Committee Minutes – October 8-10, 2014 (B. 202)
- D. Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) Updates. (B.203)
- E. Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) Update Fossil Fuel Companies and Climate Change Referral 15-01. (B. 204)
- F. Ministry Highlights from Presbyterian Health, Education & Welfare Association (PHEWA) and the PC (USA) Disability Concerns Consultant Program. (B. 205) – Trina Zelle spoke to the committee regarding the Presbyterian Criminal Justice Network (PCJN) Conference in Indianapolis, IN and travel to the Synod of Trinity.
- G. PDA Advisory Committee Minutes – October 8-10, 2014. (B. 206)
- H. Black Lives Matter (B. 207) – Lonnie Oliver presented a PowerPoint regarding Black Lives Matter.

ADJOURNMENT James Ephraim Closed the meeting in prayer at 5:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Ephraim Jr., Chair

Shannon Beck, Resource Staff

Bill Somplatsky-Jarman, Resource Staff

Tonia Trice, Recorder