

Approved – February 23, 2010

**Minutes of the Executive Committee of the
General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC)
Of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Conference Call
January 11, 2010 – 11:00 a.m. EST**

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Carol Adcock, GAMC Executive Committee Chair, called the meeting to order with prayer at 11:00 a.m. Mrs. Adcock called upon, Ms. Alejandra Sherman, meeting recorder, to call the roll.

ATTENDANCE

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

Members

Carol Adcock – GAMC Chair
Sue Ezell – Chair, Justice Mission Committee
Tom Gillespie – Chair, Evangelism Mission Committee
Carolyn Knight – Chair, Stewardship Mission Committee
Michael Kruse – GAMC Vice Chair
Carolyn McLarnan – Chair, Discipleship Mission Committee
Doug Megill – Chair, Vocation Mission Committee
Conrad Rocha – Member-at-large
Linda Valentine – GAMC Executive Director, ex-officio

Excused

Esperanza Guajardo – Member-at-large

Executive Leadership Team

Joey Bailey – Deputy Executive Director for Shared Services
Curtis Kearns – Executive Administrator
Karen Schmidt – Deputy Executive Director for Communications and Funds Development

Recorder

Alejandra Sherman – GAMC Staff, Office of the Executive Director

Others

Martha Clark – GAMC Staff, Legal Services
Barry Creech – GAMC Staff, Communications and Funds Development
Marcia Myers – GAMC Staff, Office of Vocation

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING WITH (ACSWP)**

A meeting with representatives from the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) and the members of the GAMC Executive Committee is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 11:00 a.m. Mrs. Adcock sent a communication to Mr. Ronald J. Kernaghan (ACSWP Co-chair) asking for the names of the persons representing ACSWP. At the time of this meeting no answer has been received.

**REPORTS FOR GAMC
FEBRUARY 23-26, 2010
MEETING**

The following reports coming to the February 2010 GAMC meeting were reviewed:

- Form of Government Report (FOG) – The Procedures Subcommittee reviewed the report and found the proposed changes did not require a comment from the GAMC. However, the committee asked Ms. Martha Clark, Legal Counsel, to review the report focusing on changes that could impact the GAMC's administration. Ms. Clark will review the report in consultation with the Office on the General Assembly and will report back to the GAMC Chair.

- Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) - MRTI's report to the 219th GA (2010) needs to be approved by the GAMC. The report will not be recommending divestment, it will instead denounce Caterpillar for their activities. Great Rivers Presbytery has concerns about MRTI's report. They have formally requested time to address their concerns with the GAMC. The committee considered holding open hearings, following a process similar to the one used by the General Assembly, but decided against it. It was decided by consensus to address the issue via Webinar. The chair of the Justice Committee will invite Great Rivers Presbytery to send their comments in writing and she will make sure the Justice Committee reviews the information.
- The Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association (PHEWA) – PHEWA will be meeting in Louisville. They will be focusing on starting the work to redesign the covenant between PHEWA and GAMC.
- Advocacy & Advocacy Committee Review Work Group- The group is scheduled to meet using GoToMeeting technology this afternoon to review their draft report. GAMC will have the opportunity to comment on this report, and they are encouraged to do so. Comments need to be sent to the Review Committee soon. The Executive Committee will review the report by conference call. Ms. Sherman was asked to poll the committee for available dates for the week of January 25.
- Strategic Process – This process will be presented Wednesday afternoon with small group discussion. Members of the Strategic Advisory Group will lead a discussion in their respective committees in the afternoon.
- Election of Chair and Vice Chair will take place during Wednesday's afternoon plenary.
- Election of Committee Chairs is recommended to be the first item of business during the Wednesday evening committee meeting.

**PRE-GAMC MEETING
WEBINARS
ACTION 1-EC-110
*Approved Webinars***

The committee **AGREED by consensus** to hold webinars prior to the February 2010 GAMC meeting. Each Webinar is to be considered a briefing, providing background information so the Council is able to devote specific deliberation on the issues that will be before it when it meets February 24-26. Time for questions and answers relating to clarification will be allowed, but this is not an opportunity for debate or deliberation.

The briefings therefore should happen in the first two weeks of February. Each of these would be about an hour in length. They would be held during the day, but recorded for those who might want to call-in to hear them at another time.

The Executive Committee agreed to offer the following Webinars:

- Two Webinars will be held on Middle East issues:
 1. Briefing on theological papers that will presented to the 219th General Assembly
 - a. Christian and Jews: People of God –Mr. Joe Small & Mr. Jay Rock

- a. „Toward an Understanding of Christian - Muslim Relations”;
– Joe Small and Jay Rock
2. Briefing on Middle East issues:
 - a. MRTI recommendation – Mr. Brian Ellison and Mr. Bill Somplatsky-Jarman
 - b. Report from church partners in the Middle East (Kairos document and other concerns put in context) – Mr. Victor Makari
 - c. Report from the Middle East Study Committee – Mr. Ron Shive, Mr. Victor Makari, and Mr. Chris Iosso

- A Webinar will be held to cover the latest changes to the Employee Handbook.

**FEBRUARY 2010 GAMC
LEADERSHIP DISCUSSION**

Ms. Marcia Myers shared an outline of the schedule for Wednesday’s leadership discussion. It will be a three-part piece with presentations followed by an interactive time for participation. The morning will start with Linda’s introduction to the session, followed by Mr. Jay Hudson, setting the context, then Mr. Gradye Parsons leading a discussion of *The Great Emergence* by Phyllis Tickle (with small group table discussion). The second segment will include a presentation from Ms. Barbara Wheeler on her research on Commissioned Lay Pastors followed by questions and answers. The morning will conclude with the report of the Joint Committee on Leadership Needs (JCLN) (Committee on Theological Education (COTE), Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA), GAMC project). Ms. Valentine will introduce Mr. Clark Cowden and Ms. Barbara Corwin who will present for the committee (GAMC represented on JCLN by Mr. Doug Megill, Mr. Clark Cowden, Ms. Cathy Piekarski). All three presentations will include media presentations.

A GAMC Executive Committee and COGA joint dinner will be held to close Wednesday’s joint session.

**PRE-GAMC MEETING
COMMITTEE CONFERENCE
CALLS**

The committee agreed to continue the practice of having each committee schedule conference calls in preparation for the GAMC meeting. Committee chairpersons are to send conference call dates to Ms. Debbie Gardiner.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010
CONFERENCE CALLS**

ACTION 2-EC-110

Approved list with amendment

The committee **APPROVED** the dates as presented, with the exception of November 3, 2010. The schedule is as follows:

- February 2 -- 3:00 p.m. (Tue) - assign business for February GAMC Meeting
- March 10 -- 1:00 p.m. (Wed) - post-GAMC review
- April 20 -- 3:00 p.m. (Tue) - assign business for May GAMC Meeting
- June 9 -- 1:00 p.m. (Wed) - pre-GA
- September 14 -- 1:00 p.m. (Tue) - assign business for October. GAMC Meeting

A new date needs to be proposed to replace the November 3 -- 1:00 p.m. (Wed) - post GAMC review – because it conflicts with a previously scheduled meeting. Ms. Nancy Hamilton to propose an alternative date.

**General Assembly Mission Council
Executive Committee Minutes
January 11, 2010**

PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Carolyn McLarnan closed the meeting with prayer at 12:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Carol Adcock
Chair, General Assembly Council

Ms. Linda Valentine
Executive Director, General Assembly Council

