

UUPCC Board Meeting
Nov. 11, 2016
Minutes

Members Present: Executive Director Roger Bertschausen, Richard Van Duizend, Eric Meter, Eric Cherry, Carol Cook, Anne Greenwood, Morgan McLean, Andrew Weber, Diane Rollert, Rick Irwin, Catie Scudera, Ann Gary, Melody Moberg

Also Present: Amanda DiMiele (Recording)

A meeting of the UUPCC Board was held by Zoom video conferencing on Nov. 11, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 11amCST/noon EST.

1. St. Louis Board meeting minutes

The board will revisit the minutes in December after members have had a chance to review them. In the meantime, send any edits or corrections to DiMiele and Bertschausen.

2. Chair Report: Van Duizend

Van Duizend is stepping aside as president, but not away from the PCC. Several members of the board expressed gratitude to Van Duizend for his service, and particularly for his willingness to step into the role unexpectedly at a critical moment.

3. Executive Director Report: Bertschausen

Update on the UUA presidential election: Bertschausen, Cherry, and Rev. Sara Ascher met to figure out how to follow up with candidates. They will ask candidates to sign a statement of support for international engagement. They also want to receive written responses from candidates on three defined questions, but right now Bertschausen, Cherry and Ascher are making sure they all on the same page.

Gary asked if international UU organizations or the PCC itself would take a stand in support of any particular candidate. Bertschausen does not anticipate it, but would be interested to hear if that is something the board would like to discuss.

Bertschausen's report paused when Zsofia Sztranyiczki joined the call (see below).

When Bertschausen's report continued, Cherry shared that Sienes is on the mend. Doctors recommend two months of rest. She is under good care and receiving full support.

In terms of development, the Annual Appeal has gone out, and Van Duizend urges all to give what they can. Bertschausen said that based on his conversation with Ascher and Cherry on Nov. 10, the PCC will continue gently and carefully to explore greater collaboration with the UUA and ICUU. Bertschausen thinks that the UUA's expertise in stewardship may be beneficial to international efforts.

4. **Conversation with Zsofia Sztranyiczki**

Van Duizend introduced Sztranyiczki as Director of the International Women's Convocation (IWC), who is helping to work on the Third Convocation. He invited her to share on the IWC's background, particularly with regard to its history with the PCC.

Sztranyiczki noted that the IWC's relationship with the PCC goes back to 2009, before the former officially formed in 2010. Cathy Cordes helped plan the First Convocation.

IWC is the leading UU organization focused on global women's rights and empowerment. Since beginning in 2010, the IWC has sponsored many gatherings and events, in the Philippines, Bolivia, and in Transylvania, where they held the Second Convocation. That gathering was a great success with over 500 women and men gathered from 12 different countries.

The IWC uses a "Global Sister" Process modeled on community capacity building. This participatory democracy process establishes priorities for the work. Out of this process, they developed a microfinance program, inspired a leadership school for Hungarian women, and many other grassroots projects.

With regard to the Khasi Hills in North East India, the IWC's work goes back to the Second Convocation. Women leaders from the UUNEI launched a leadership development program for UU women in NE India. They identified four priority areas and four target villages:

1. Education
2. Health and reproductive rights
3. Economic development
4. Prevention of violence against women and children

Other outcomes of the workshops included awareness raising, as in the launch of the white ribbon campaign in 2014. On Nov. 25, the International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the UUNEI took a firm stand, wearing the ribbon and reciting a pledge against violence. The campaign has continued every year since. For the first time this year, Seng Kynthei (woman's wing of UUNEI) will hold the program outside the Khasi Hills in a high violence area.

The IWC also started a leadership school in the Khasi Hills in 2015, similar to the one in Transylvania. It held 6 sessions, each focusing on one specific topic. It will conduct 4 more sessions by March of next year.

For the Third Convocation, the IWC invited Reema Nanavaty, the Director of the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) to speak. This is a great opportunity for women and for the PCC to come together, exchange ideas, build resources, and build a foundation for future collaboration.

Rollert asked if the Global Sisters Process was being used in the Philippines. Sztranyiczki responded that they started the program last year in the area of violence prevention. Under Rebecca Sienes' direction, four workshops were conducted. The IWC would like to do more in the future. Finding a replacement for Sienes on the board will help facilitate that.

Van Duizend asked how the PCC can help the IWC beyond encouraging people to attend the Third Convocation. Sztranyiczki thanked the PCC for its support. The IWC would appreciate financial

support for a few leaders from India to attend. Also, in January in the San Francisco Bay Area, they are holding a fund-raising event. Anyone in the area is invited to help with the event.

Sztranyickzi signed off.

Later in the meeting, Van Duizend asked if there were any thoughts with regard to the IWC. Gary is concerned that they want support to bring over panel members and speakers. That seems to fall outside PCC mission. Greenwood suggests that those who are able participate in the January fundraiser do so, not necessarily as board members, but as individuals.

Bertschausen noted one complication. We had agreed with the IWC that the PCC would promote the convocation and encourage North Americans to provide financial support for partners abroad to participate. The challenge with the Indian women that the IWC wants to bring over is that they do not have a North American partner.

Dallas may possibly help, since they are connected to India via the AMBCV. Perhaps they could support board members from the AMBCV to attend? Bertschausen expressed doubt since they are just beginning to raise money to fund their partnership with AMBCV.

5. Treasurer's Report: Irwin

Irwin noted a correction to the restricted accounts from last month: Revenues YTD for the Annie Margaret Barr Children's Village (AMBCV) was reported as \$27,000 and it is now corrected to ~ \$38,000.

Unrestricted accounts YTD show expenses at ~ \$471,000, YTD revenue at ~ \$390,000. That puts us at a loss of about \$80k, which is less than we expected to see.

Total cash will be going down, but that's on restricted accounts, and doesn't have bearing on the unrestricted accounts, which are the ones we want to manage more carefully.

The AA should help with cash flow, hopefully showing higher than average revenues in November and December. However the year ends, it will be stronger than what we had in the budget.

Bertschausen and Irwin will begin working on a projected budget for 2017 later in the month.

6. Follow-up from St. Louis meeting—especially 5 areas of Board commitment

Van Duizend asks each of the groups to meet before the next board meeting. Bertschausen asked to be included in those meetings to whatever extent possible. The next agenda should include report-backs from each group.

7. Youth/Young Adult Initiative update: Moberg

The group met a couple weeks ago and discussed social media suggestions and other communications suggestions. They also discussed the areas members are interested in working on, including (1) ICUU Youth/Young Adult program, (2) Planning a youth pilgrimage, and (3) Using the virtual youth group program in a cluster event (e.g., within the Dallas area).

8. Torda church work

Larry Coburn, longtime supporter and former PCC Board Member, wrote a note last week saying that the Hungarian Unitarian Church (HUC) is working on plans for the 450th anniversary of the Edict of Torda. The church in Torda needs serious repairs. Coburn wonders if the PCC can help with fundraising efforts. Bertschausen has been in touch with Coburn, and will learn more soon.

There is a concern about the PCC supporting a particular congregation rather than a partnership. Coburn's congregation, which is partnered to Torda, is raising funds. Bertschausen will keep the board up to date.

9. Motion to elect Morgan McLean President and Dick Van Duizend VP of Board

Meter moved to elect McLean as President and Van Duizend as VP. Cook seconded. Passed by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 CST/1:10 EST.

**December Meeting Date: Friday, Dec. 9, from 12:00-1:00 pm Eastern via Zoom
(<https://zoom.us/j/889764859>)**