

Pacific Mission Action Council Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2007

Present: C. Brophy, T. Chan, G. Edwards, C. Fenske, H. Freeman, J. Hillmann, P. Hoffman, M. Mancini, G. Mohr, R. Newton, D. Reese, M. Schmid, M. Seilnacht, E. Vallejo, J. Whaley

1. Meeting called to order by G. Edwards, Chairman at 1230, with the opening prayer given by C. Fenske.
2. The October 27, 2007 minutes were approved as written.
3. G. Edwards noted that J. Bestul was moving to Circuit 18, from 17 where he is currently the MAC representative. She noted a new Circuit 17 rep will be needed.
4. A few minutes were spent "going around the table" so everyone could introduce themselves as there were several new members to the Pac MAC.
5. A short report was given by G. Edwards and Rev. Reese regarding the discontinuance of the Liberian Ministry, led by Tuma Johnson at Grace in Pittsburg, including:
 - a. T. Johnson refused to complete his education requirements that were a part of the agreement for his leadership of the ministry and the financial support being provided. He did not complete the last four required classes.
 - b. When T. Johnson left, the mission went with him.
 - c. The group still uses Grace's facility but has no other relationship with the Grace, the District or Synod, including financial backing (formerly \$2250/month).
 - d. However, E. Krueger is still working with T. Johnson to determine what could still be done.
 - e. From the Pac MAC's perspective, this mission should be a low priority.
6. Mission reports were provided in both written and verbal form. It was noted that neither the Nehemiah or Mosaic missions provided reports. The following are from the verbal mission report discussions:
 - a. J. Whaley and J. Hillmann provided input on the Mosaic project, including:
 - 1) Progressing through the planning stages, with regular planning meetings being held.
 - 2) Two dinner presentations have been held (January and May 2007), where Rev. Tesema presented what Mosaic was about.
 - 3) The planners are struggling with which model to use for the church.
 - 4) The board thought it would be a good idea for Rev. Tesema to attend the next meeting and report on their progress. J. Whaley stated he would talk to him on the presentation and general input for the board.
 - b. The board discussed potential reasons why it is difficult for the missions to provide status reports to the board. A primary idea was the need to write it in English, not their primary language and that this can be an intimidating process. T. Chan suggested that they could provide it in their

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native language and we could have it translated. Rev. Vallejo noted that it is best for them to provide it in English as this helps improve their English skills. The discussion ended with no real consensus on what to do.

- c. The Prince of Peace Chinese reports settling into a Monday night ministry for restaurant workers. It was noted that many Chinese restaurants are closed on Tuesday.
7. G. Edwards spoke on the recent Southern MAC meeting that was a conference call, instead of a face-to-face meeting. A copy of the meeting notes was provided to the Pac MAC members by email prior to today's meeting. Topics discussed:
- a. What should the educational component of the new MACs be? Some insight was given on training for local congregations on mission work and where the programs are going.
 - b. The Southern MAC believes that although not everything is the same from region to region, there is a significant commonality that should be taken advantage of.
 - c. There was also discussion on the Christian Life Ambassadors program. C. Fenske made some comments on the initial progress of the Ambassador program in our region, including 19 churches were represented at the first meeting.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that we should pursue working with the Southern MAC to pursue their ideas on working together on specific programs. Our MAC will be represented by M. Seilnacht, Rev. Schmid, J. Whaley and C. Fenske. G. Edwards will contact the Southern MAC chairman, R. Rice, about our participation and schedule a meeting time.

8. As a part of the prior discussion, President Newton provided comments from a Paul Borden presentation and in general, including:
- a. Pastors and congregations must be moved to a mission focus.
 - b. A new model is required, where we gather around the Word, not the pastor.
 - c. Revitalizing the church and how this can be done, including training.
 - d. Providing resources to congregations to get into missions.
 - e. How can the MACs help broker this activity?
 - f. During the revitalization process it awakens the church on whether they are focused towards themselves or outwards to others.

Following President Newton's input, there was active discussion on this topic, including:

- a. The royal priesthood and education and training materials on this.
 - b. The Mission floor committee will bring the royal priesthood topic to the synodical convention floor.
 - c. The CTCR has never really weighed in on the royal priesthood and mission of Christ.
9. The Mission Festival was discussed and what could or should be done this year as planning would need to begin immediately if a festival were to be held at a similar time as last year. Discussions included:

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- a. How does the Mission Festival fit into the new MAC? It was agreed that it still does.
 - b. Lay people need to become involved in this effort.
 - c. C. Fenske commented that last year's planning committee did review what went well and what didn't with last year's.
 - d. Discussion on creating a DVD on each mission for distribution.
 - e. Should we recruit more mission minded people from outside of the Pac MAC (e.g., college students)?
 - f. How can the Mission Festival operate within President Newton's mission vision as the Mission Festival should highlight them so people become more aware.
 - g. Discussion on having a mission/community event the day of the festival and the results of the one from last year.
 - h. Should the festival be held next year instead, after the MAC reps meet so that a better definition of where we are going is in place? The general consensus was that the festival should still be held this year.
 - i. The festival should have an educational piece.
 - j. After a thorough discussion it was agreed that the festival would be held on October 6th at Good Shepherd, Hayward. The planning committee will be chaired by T. Chan and have as members: Rev. Mohr, Rev. Meese, H. Freeman, Rev. Vallejo and C. Fenske.
 - k. The first meeting will be Wednesday, July 11th from 1000-1200. It was suggested that missionaries should be invited to attend.
10. The board then discussed what's next for our MAC, i.e., what should we be pursuing. The primary topic was whether the MAC Board should still process grants or should someone else take on this role, including the potential for District staff taking it back. Some comments:
- a. The Southern MAC has decided to continue processing grants.
 - b. Someone needs to step up to grant processing as the packages should be submitted by the first part of September to be processed in time by the District Board of Directors.
 - c. If you take away the grant processing from the MAC does it take away its significance?

At the end of the discussion, it was agreed that for at least this year, the Pac MAC would continue to process grants.

11. With the decision made to process grants this year, the following was discussed:
- a. What does the new grant form look like? It was expected that the new form would include additional questions that point to the MACs new direction; to get them thinking in the new direction. G. Edwards noted that she had expected a new form from district staff, but had not received one.
 - b. The MAC agreed to use the old/current form, but to include the new ideas in the cover letter that would accompany the package.
 - c. Is there a new selection criteria?
 - d. There were extended discussions on the MAC knowing what estimated funding would be available from the District Board of Directors. For many MAC members it is critical to have at least a ballpark awareness of what would be available, otherwise, the grant process could be meaningless if

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the requested funds differ significantly from what's available. If the MAC knew a rough estimate of what was available at the beginning of the grant review process, educated decisions could be made. Comments from this discussion included:

- 1) Rev. Hoffmann will voice the MAC's concerns on knowing the available funds prior to evaluating the grants to the Board of Directors but was doubtful they would have any estimates prior to our evaluations.
- 2) Rev. Reese offered that the staff should be able to provide the cost to run the office, i.e., admin costs. From this the BOD should be able to provide the amount left that would be allocated for missions. He also noted that we need to communicate to the people in the pews how lives are being affected by the missions.
- 3) T. Chan asked the question on who develops the funding strategy for missions. J. Whaley responded that it varies. He also noted that the staff does not help with grant writing.
- 4) M. Seilnacht commented the grant process could be two parts:
 - A letter of intent stating they would be requesting funds
 - The actual budget request
- 5) How many grant requests involve worker salaries, i.e., how many could be impacted by funding cutbacks?

With the closure of discussions, it was agreed that G. Edwards would write the cover letter, including forward looking comments and send to the normal distribution requesting grant packages from those needing support. The packages are to be returned by September 1st. The next MAC meeting will be held on October 19th to review the packages, with a conference call to be held prior to the October meeting to surface and grant package concerns.

12. C. Fenske distributed a copy of President Newton's notes to G. Edwards regarding the direction of the MACs.
13. G. Edwards closed the meeting with prayer at 1555. The next scheduled meeting will be on October 19th at 9:30 AM. It will be a half day meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Hillmann