

Pacific Mission Action Council Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2007

Present: T. Chan, G. Edwards, C. Fenske, J. Hillmann, G. Mohr, D. Reese, E. Vallejo

1. Meeting called to order by G. Edwards, Chairman at 0930, with the opening prayer given by G. Mohr.
2. The June 19, 2007 minutes were approved with one correction.
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 review of the Mission Festival on October 6, 2007 included the following:
 - a. G. Edwards reported that President Newton was pleased with the festival.
 - b. Thanks were given to those at the meeting who participated in the organization and preparation which contributed significantly to the overall success.
 - c. It was noted that more groups had booths this year, including more missions.
 - d. The general consensus was disappointment in the lack of participation by local congregations and the fact that two mission counselors were not present.
 - e. Comments were made on how to improve the publicity and participation, included:
 - 1) The congregation's pastoral support is required due to their influence over what the congregation does.
 - 2) The council should look into getting the Festival on the upcoming circuit convocation agenda's as a means of informing the pastors and lay leaders of the congregations to the purpose of the Festival. C. Fenske will work to have a Festival presentation placed on circuit convocation agendas.
 - 3) President Newton should personally invite pastors and/or write them, encouraging both their and their congregation's participation.
 - 4) The publicity and preparation should be started shortly after the Festival occurs to allow the adequate time to publicize and prepare for the next Festival.
 - f. The council agreed that our region has a geographical advantage over the other regions as we are closer together which should allow better participation as no one has to go too far.
 - g. The council agreed that non-mission groups (e.g., Thrivent) should be charged a nominal fee (\$100 suggested) to for their table space to help offset the cost of the Festival.
 - h. The council discussed the idea of not only presenting/show casing the missions in our region but to also provide materials and presentations on how local congregations could do the same. D. Reese stated he would lead the effort to make this happen. G. Mohr and T. Chan will help him.
 - i. Concerning next year's Festival, which the council agreed should be held and for the foreseeable future:

Pacific Mission Action Council Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2007

- 1) The agreed date was October 4th, noting there could be some conflicts with other annual events including: "Women of Faith", Fleet Week and LWML Sunday.
 - 2) G. Edwards would ask M. Schmid to chair the Festival committee.
 - 3) Other committee members would include: C. Fenske, E. Vallejo, G. Mohr, T. Chan and D. Reese.
 - 4) It was agreed the Festival would have only one worship service, with education and training sessions on starting a local mission taking the second service's place. In addition, the council agreed President Newton should be the worship speaker. C. Fenske will work with the District Office to schedule his time.
- j. G. Edwards will write a thank you card to Helen at Good Shepherd in Hayward for her assistance at the Festival.
5. C. Fenske noted she would increase the minute's distribution to include PAC circuit counselors.
 6. There was a short review of the mission reports that had been emailed to the council and also handed out at the meeting. It was suggested that a standard format be provided to the missions so that basic information would be provided in the report. For example, similar to the grant request, the church's name, the contact and the group being served. This would help facilitate the report review process. The council also note their thanks to those who provided reports as they are informative as to the progress and issues.
 7. Pastor Tesfai joined the meeting and provided a brief presentation on the South Bay Mosaic Ministries, including:
 - a. Thanks to the council and Circuit 18 for their prayerful support of their mission.
 - b. Provision of a brief history of Mosaic, based significantly on conversations with Pastor Gibson on the need for an intentional multi-cultural church in the Silicon Valley.
 - c. He noted that the mission took a major hit to its initial plans when Pastor Gibson took a call to another church in southern California as his church was the primary sponsor for Mosaic and Gibson a major proponent for the mission.
 - d. Another impact was an expectation to have other Circuit 18 churches provide families to participate in the startup not being fulfilled. Although other churches have provided various support, this facet has not occurred.
 - e. Concerning the opening date of the church and general status:
 - 1) The plan was to have the church opening by the first of 2008, but due to noted issues, the start will be in the March/April 2008 time period.
 - 2) Pastor Tesfai and Chan both acknowledged that is better to put off the start and be ready then to start to early and not be prepared. You only get one chance when people come to the church and you need to be ready for them.

Pacific Mission Action Council Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2007

- 3) He noted that they are at a critical time and support is required, especially prayerful support.
 - 4) They will conduct preview services prior to the official opening.
 - 5) A part time worship and music leader needs to be hired soon to assist with preparation to open.
 - 6) They recognize five ministry areas that need to be ready (see grant request for details) prior to opening.
 - 7) D. Reese noted he could provide a contact from his area for the music leadership. He also noted the idea of churches having a monthly special offering that could go towards this and other missions.
- f. Pastor Chan provided a prayer of support for Pastor Tesfai and Mosaic.
8. G. Edwards then provided the following highlights from the "Big MAC" meeting held this week:
- a. The Northern region MAC rep was not able to attend.
 - b. President Newton's message related to the older brother of the prodigal son and how it relates to us on the MAC. The message "all that I have is yours" from the father to the son and more importantly from God to us was emphasized.
 - c. There is still a disconnect between the district and churches, which the MAC was supposed to improve. The council noted that they feel this is also the case at the circuit/church level.
 - d. It was felt the MAC reputation took a hit when full funding could not be provided last year.
 - e. President Newton will make the final funding decisions, with MAC simply forwarding recommended grant requests.
 - f. The MAC focal points would be the covenant congregation and transformation to mission. For the covenant congregation, the emphasis would change from "how do I grow" to impacting the community. For the transforming church, the "big jump" change is recognized as too difficult with the incremental change a better method.
 - g. Mission counselor Hartman will be putting together the transformation plan, whose objective is to have 50 churches using the process in the next five years.
 - h. Pastor Krueger will be creating the training for the apostolic church plan.
 - i. The document "MAC REVISITED: A Guideline for CNH District Mission Action Councils" was handed out. This provided a summation of what was presented at the Big MAC meeting.
9. The council reviewed and made recommendations and comments on the following grant requests:
- a. Our Savior Lutheran Church, Fremont, Chinese Outreach
 - 1) After a short review, the council recommended the requested \$20,000 be granted.
 - b. Good Shepherd, Hayward, Eritrean Outreach
 - 1) Group is working with Good Shepherd in Hayward, including usage of their facility for six months, at which time the program will be evaluated

**Pacific Mission Action Council Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2007**

- 2) There was concern over the lack of education in their leader and the council was told that Pastor Tesema would be overseeing the program and mentoring the leader. As long as the oversight is provided, the council has no issues.
 - 3) It was noted that Grace, Hayward may also be a potential site for hosting the ministry, but that would be a future decision.
 - 4) The council recommends the requested \$9000 be granted.
- c. Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, San Francisco, Chinese Outreach
- 1) The council had extended discussions, primarily not over the amount being requested (\$1400), but whether the MAC was the appropriate funding source. Would another source, such as Thrivent, be more appropriate.
 - 2) There was concern that this type of request could set a precedent that the MAC did not want to deal with.
 - 3) Although there would be some outreach, the council felt this was not a true mission activity.
 - 4) After the discussion was complete, all agreed to recommend, "No" to this request.
- d. Good Shepherd, Hayward, Hispanic Outreach
- 1) After a short discussion, the council recommended all \$28,000 be granted.
- e. St. Paul, Mountain View, Hispanic Outreach
- 1) The council noted the excellent progress that was being made.
 - 2) The question was asked of Pastor Vallejo as to whether they could be self-sufficient by this time next year. He stated it was unknown at this time.
 - 3) G. Edwards is going talk to J. Whaley about encouraging Pastor Smith to work closely with Deacon J. Cervantes to develop and understand the vision for the mission.
 - 4) After a short discussion, the council recommended all \$20,000 be granted.
- f. Mosaic (Mt. Olive), Milpitas, Multi-Cultural Church Planting
- 1) The council had an extended discussion on the amount of money being requested under "Ministry Development Expenses" as many of the values appear to be high for a church that is still in the developmental phase.
 - 2) The council would like to see a better breakdown of the costs to better understand their magnitude.
 - 3) After extended discussions, the council recommends \$46,000 be granted to the Mosaic mission. Examples of the cost concerns were \$5000 for cell phone, computer, internet/website and Mosaic Gathering costs at \$10,000.

In general, the council has concerns on how the ministries would be sustained over the long term, i.e., what happens when the grants go away. The council has not seen a plan from the missions that show how this will occur. The council is asking President Newton and the mission counselors provide feedback to the council on this concern.

10. Future MAC was discussed, including the next meeting:

**Pacific Mission Action Council Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2007**

- a. The council agreed to meet before the announced MAC Conference on March 8, 2007 in Sacramento.
 - b. The proposed date would be either February 1st or 4th with the 1st being preferred as the 4th is the week of Ash Wednesday. Some proposed agenda items would be:
 - 1) A presentation on the education and training materials from D. Reese would be given. These are the materials that would be used at the 2008 festival.
 - 2) The council would do some visioning on what the MAC council is supposed to be doing. The consensus was it should not be simply grant processing but more active roles in the local church of our circuits, but this needed to be discussed and then implemented.
11. G. Edwards closed the meeting with a prayer from T. Chan at 1245. The next scheduled meeting will be either February 1st or 4th, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Hillmann