

MINUTES SIERRA NEVADA MAC

**July 18, 2006
Conference Call**

PRESENT Ron Arnold, Vic Maslowski, Jack Scheuermann, Gloria Stillman, John Hamilton, Buster Hunsaker, Steve Barckholtz

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING PRAYER The Conference Call was begun at 10:00am and called to order as members dialed in. The meeting was opened with prayer.

REVIEW OF 2007 GRANT REQUESTS Five Grant requests for 2007 have been received from: River of Life, Dayton, Faith/Bethany, Yerington/Hawthorne, Spanish Springs/Our Saviors, Sparks, Christ, Battle Mountain, and Immanuel, Ely.

Lengthy discussion proceeded over each proposal individually with a list of questions developed. These questions will be communicated by Steve Barckholtz to each congregation by Thursday, July 20. The deadline for reply is August 20, 2007. Response will be requested to be electronic to speed the communication process. As the responses are received, Steve will forward the information to the members. The next meeting to continue the discussion will be held at St. John, Fallon, at 10:00am, on Saturday, August 26.

When the time came to discuss the Grant Proposal from Our Savior's, Sparks for the Mission Start in Spanish Springs, Ron Arnold recused himself.

QUESTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL GRANT REQUESTS

Faith, Yerington & Bethany, Hawthorne

- The 2007 Proposed Budget includes both \$1500 for "Rent" and \$9375 for "Debt Service." Please explain why both categories are necessary.
- Assuming the purchase of the building is completed and the relationship with the Episcopal Church changes (Faith now rents to them), shouldn't there be a "Rental Income" projection? If so, how much would you project? Based on what factors would you develop your monthly fee?
- The Proposal says lay leaders will be developed—How? What intentional means/plans are to be used for this development?
- Under the long-term funding section, there are currently no other sources listed. What efforts are being made to locate, identify and secure other long-term funding—beyond the Mission Grant from the CNH District?

- At the visit in June, there was much discussion about potentials and possibilities in Hawthorne. The Grant Proposal does not make any mention of efforts to develop these avenues of ministry in Hawthorne. Why not?
- Assuming the building is purchased and the proposed addition is made—What plans are being established to service this debt?
- Beyond the debt service, what outreach and mission specific reasons are there for the Grant Request to be larger in 2007 than in 2006 (2006- \$12,816, 2007 less debt- \$17,649)?
- A projected goal of 5% worship increase is numerically equivalent to 1 person. How does this minimal increase warrant a larger Grant?
- What is the specific timeline for Faith and Bethany to become self-supporting ministries?

River of Life, Dayton

- The overwhelming sense of the ministry is that a great work is being done through recovery ministries! However, Dayton is rapidly growing with other populations than those in need of alcohol, drug and gambling recovery. Beyond monthly “welcome” mailings, what specifically is being done to develop the mission among persons not in need of recovery help?
- What is being done to reach “Dayton CA” and to include the other areas of town and development in the ministry?
- How does River of Life plan to grow from a relatively specialized Human Care-oriented ministry to a more all-encompassing ministry?
- Should the Grant be filled at less than \$56,000, what plans does River of Life have to make up the difference to \$95,000?
- What efforts are being made to locate, identify and secure other sources of funding—both long-term and short-term—beyond the Mission Grant from the CNH District?
- According to the numbers submitted, Dayton’s average household income is \$56,734. Why/how is a compensation package that is 68% above the local average justified? Especially since the majority of the package is to be met by this Grant?
- Several mentions are made of “...that go deeper...” in reference to worship, preaching, people attending, etc. What does this mean?

Immanuel, Ely

- What income, or at least expense offset, is received from Round Mountain? If none, how can they help bear the added expense of mileage, time, etc., being incurred?
- The “Community Description” addresses a different and changing person arriving in White Pine County. What avenues are being explored to reach these groups? What kinds of adaptations in outreach are being made to reach this Hispanic population? Are different ministry approaches being considered? If so, what? If not, why not?
- No other sources of long-term funding are presently identified. What efforts are being made to locate, identify and secure other sources of funding—both long-term and short-term—beyond the Mission Grant from the CNH District?
- Also, an observation was made that \$50,400 for a total compensation package might be considered very low.

Our Savior's, Sparks- Spanish Springs

- Is the development of the MCTF on track for the 11/06 goal? And for the job description goal of 12/31/06?
- The total mission costs for the half-year of July-December 2007 are \$63,100. Is the projected full-year 2008 cost then to be about \$125,000? If so, what plans are there to address finding funding from additional sources for this ministry?
- The Budget identifies \$15,000 from Synod, \$2000 from Circuit and \$6000 from Other Sources. Please explain and give details about these sources. What plans are there to secure these funds?
- Along this same line, what plans are there to locate, identify and secure other sources of funding—both long-term and short-term—beyond the Mission Grant from the CNH District?
- With the presupposition of being self-supporting in five years, is there a financial plan for accomplishing goal in place?
- Is the goal of 02/07 for establishment of a Call Committee on track? Will these people be the same or different from the MCTF?
- How is the “ownership” of this vision developing among the congregation at Our Savior's?

Christ, Battle Mountain

- What is the long-term vision for ministry at Christ Lutheran Church, Battle Mountain?
- How does a one-year vicar move the ministry toward that long-term vision?
- The October 30 Long Range Planning Meeting details advantages/disadvantages to pastor and vicar. What other alternatives have been researched and discussed (i.e.: Lay Deacon, restructuring Dual Parish arrangement, etc.)
- Has any conversation about the feasibility of Christ as a vicarage site (especially keeping in mind the educational goal of the Seminary) been had with the St. Louis or Fort Wayne Placement persons?
- Why would Christ, Battle Mountain provide a “good” vicarage as part of the development of a pastor?
- The Budget provided is a budget for funding the vicar position. Please provide the entire operating budget for the ministry. Also, how does Christ plan to contribute toward the funding of this position?
- The population of Battle Mountain is approximately 3000 and six-ten other Christian churches are already present in the community. Are these other churches “healthy”? What makes a “professionally” staffed Lutheran Church necessary in what might statistically be considered a “crowded” market?
- Recognizing the “student/intern” competency of a vicar, as well as the short-term nature of the vicarage, how realistic is the list of “Vicar's Responsibilities”? What plans are being developed to protect the vicar from burn-out, culture shock, and/or discouragement?
- What plans are there currently being employed to develop lay leaders in the congregation?

- Assuming a “convertible vicar” comes for 2007-2008 and is then called to serve at Christ from 2008 and beyond, what plans are being developed to fund the position after this grant expires?
- What steps are being taken to locate, identify and secure other sources of funding—both long-term and short-term—beyond the Mission Grant from the CNH District to help fund this ministry?
- Why is the goal of doubling worship attendance from 16 to 30 in one year under the leadership of a student reasonable?

ADJOURNMENT The Conference Call adjourned at 12noon..

Respectfully submitted, Steve Barckholtz, St. Mark, Elko