

# NATIONAL CONFERENCE SECRETARY

May 2018

The National Conference Secretary's Report to this May-June 2018 session of National Conference includes the minutes of the two National Ministry Team meetings (omitting the documents listed as attached to the minutes) that took place this conference year and a summary of the National Executive Committee's work in this past conference year.

The full minutes of all National Executive Committee and National Ministry Team meetings, including all of the supporting documents, are kept in the official National Conference Secretary files, currently housed at Reamstown, St. Paul's.

## Summary of National Executive Committee Work

In accordance with responsibilities assigned to it by the *Discipline* and the National Conference Rules, the Executive Committee of the National Conference continues to meet to monitor situations between Conference and National Ministry Team sessions and take action on emergency situations. The National Executive Committee is made up of the Bishop, the Vice-Chair of Conference, the National Conference Secretary, and the National Conference Treasurer.

Over the last conference year, the National Executive Committee has handled the following situations:

- Sale of the former Muir Church property
- Changes in the National Conference banking relationships
- Ongoing monitoring of legal situations involving the National Conference
- Assisted the Bishop in working with churches that are struggling with their ability to continue in ministry
- Assisted the Bishop in dealing with pastors using EC credentials to serve churches that may not share our ministry values.

## Summary of National Ministry Team Actions

The National Ministry Team met for its regular fall meeting on October 19, 2017 (minutes attached). In summary, at that session of the NMT:

- The Kingdom Extension and Global Ministries Community" budgets were approved.
- The report of the Global Ministries Task Force was approved.

The National Ministry met for its regular spring meeting March 15, 2018 (minutes attached). In summary, at that session of the NMT:

- The Bishop's appointment of Rev. J. Ted Rathman as Global Ministries Associate effective July 1, 2018 was affirmed.
- Changes to the Loan and Investment Committee's policy manual were approved.

**Minutes of the National Ministry Team Meeting**  
**Zinn Commons of Evangelical Theological Seminary**

**Thursday, October 19, 2017**

**9:00 AM**

<b>Opening</b>	The National Ministry Team met in regular session on the above date. Bishop Bruce D. Hill opened the meeting by welcoming the delegates.																		
<b>Word &amp; Prayer</b>	Rev. Kevin Roberts, pastoral representative of the Northeast District, presented a message from Colossians 4 and an opening prayer.																		
<b>Attendance</b>	Each member of the NMT present introduced him or herself to the group and the secretary recorded the attendance (attached). Bishop Hill made note of the new members of NMT and welcomed them.																		
<b>Bishop's Report</b>	Bishop Hill vacated the chair. Rev. Gary Brown, National Conference Vice-Chairman, assumed the chair of the meeting. Bishop Hill presented his report. A written copy of this report was distributed (attached). <b>On motion</b> , the report was adopted. Bishop Hill reassumed the chair.																		
<b>Secretary's Report</b>	Rev. Kirk R. Marks, National Conference Secretary, presented the minutes of the National Executive Committee's August 10, 2017 meeting (attached). The Secretary also presented the minutes from the March 16, 2017 NMT meeting (attached). <b>On motion</b> , the minutes were approved.																		
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	Mrs. Debra Patterson, National Conference Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report (attached) and highlighted some items from the report. <b>On motion</b> , the report was adopted.																		
<b>Housing Allowances</b>	Mrs. Debra Patterson, National Conference Treasurer, presented the 2018 Housing Allowances for National Conference employees: <table><tr><td>Rev. Richard Christman, II</td><td>Church Planter</td><td>\$15,000</td></tr><tr><td>Rev. Bruce Hill</td><td>Bishop</td><td>\$21,000</td></tr><tr><td>Rev. Timothy King</td><td>Church Planter</td><td>\$ 9,000</td></tr><tr><td>Rev. Gary Kuehner</td><td>Associate and DFD</td><td>\$15,600</td></tr><tr><td>Rev. Gordon Lewis</td><td>DFD</td><td>\$10,000</td></tr><tr><td>Rev. Dana Logan</td><td>Chaplain – StoneRidge</td><td>\$ 8,000</td></tr></table>	Rev. Richard Christman, II	Church Planter	\$15,000	Rev. Bruce Hill	Bishop	\$21,000	Rev. Timothy King	Church Planter	\$ 9,000	Rev. Gary Kuehner	Associate and DFD	\$15,600	Rev. Gordon Lewis	DFD	\$10,000	Rev. Dana Logan	Chaplain – StoneRidge	\$ 8,000
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Rev. Keith Miller	DFD	\$12,000
Ms. Patricia Strain	Deputy Director GMC	\$13,500

**On motion**, the housing allowances were approved.

The NMT stood at recess for a tour of the David A. Dorsey Archaeological Museum.

**Thursday, October 19, 2017**

**10:55 AM**

**CNT** Bishop Hill presented the report of the Conference Network Team (attached). He gave a verbal report on the CNT's meeting yesterday. During that time the working of the new structure was positively evaluated. He also presented the included action item, regarding the District Field Director position for the Northeast District. The CNT is recommending that Rev. Paul Miller, who is currently serving as acting DFD for the Northeast District under the Bishop's appointment, be affirmed as the permanent DFD for that district.

**On motion**, the recommendation was approved.

**On motion**, the CNT report was adopted.

**Conference Support Team** Mr. Kevin Henry, Executive Director of the National Conference, presented the Conference Support Team's report (attached). Kevin verbally highlighted a number of items in the report.

**On motion**, the Conference Support Team report was adopted.

**L & I Committee** Mr. Kevin Henry, presented the report of the Loan and Investment Committee (attached). He highlighted that loan money is available to churches and loan applications are available from Shirley Long at Church Center. The fund is sufficiently capitalized such that no additional certificates will be offered for sale at this time. The maximum amount that may be borrowed from the Fund is \$500,000.

**On motion**, the report was adopted.

**Church Health Community** Rev. Dr. Gary Kuehner, Church Health Associate, presented the Church Health Community's report (attached). Gary described the availability of church health resourcing from this community. Rev. James Price, DFD for the Schuylkill District, shared about the work he is doing in church revitalization with three churches in his district. Gary highlighted the "Show Me Health" testing instrument that is now in the hands of every pastor and lay delegate.

**On motion**, the report was adopted.

**Global Ministries Community** Rev. Randall Sizemore, Global Ministries Associate, presented this report (attached). Rev. Sizemore presented an opening statement describing the nature of this report to the NMT and gave some highlights and updates. **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**GMC Budget** Rev. Sizemore and Kevin Henry presented the GMC budget (attached). **On motion**, the budget was adopted.

**On motion**, the National Ministry Team stood at recess for lunch.

**ETS** Dr. Tony Blair, president of Evangelical Theological Seminary, brought greetings and an update from the seminary. He described some of the struggles the seminary is having and the conclusion of the partnership discussions with Huntington. He described the changes that have come to the marketing strategy of the school. New programs and new degrees are coming on-line. The covenant between the EC Church and the seminary is under revision as a result of the denomination's restructuring. The seminary board configuration will no longer require majority EC membership.

**On motion**, the report was approved.

**Global Ministries Task Force** Bishop Hill introduced Rev. J. Ted Rathman, chairman of the GMC Task Force, who presented the GMC Task Force's report (attached) and gave some verbal highlights on the process and the resulting recommendations. He and Rev. Sizemore answered some questions about the potential restructuring. **On motion**, the report was adopted. Bishop Hill outlined the process and timeline to implement the recommendation on the GMA position.

**Kingdom Extension Community** Rev. Leslie Cool, Kingdom Extension Associate, presented the Kingdom Extension Community's report (attached). He highlighted some upcoming training events and opportunities for local church pastors and leaders. He highlighted the need for churches to understand themselves and their communities to bridge that ministry gap. He also talked about the vision for churches to form accountability affinity teaching/learning groups. **On motion**, the Kingdom Extension Community's report was adopted. Les also presented the 2018 Kingdom Extension budget (attached). **On motion**, the budget was approved.

**Ministerial Development Community** Rev. Jeffrey Byerly, Ministerial Development Associate, presented his community's report (attached). He reviewed the "profile for pastoral ministry" and explained its significance for the ministry development process. He explained the current strong state of our relationship with the seminary and the reasons for its status as our preferred seminary. He highlighted the key significance of the divergence of callings and gifting described for the church in Ephesians 4 and answered questions on the MD Community's vision for operationalization of this ministry model. **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**Missional Alignment Community** Bishop Hill presented the Missional Alignment Community's report (attached) which outlines the constituent groups of this community and each group's work. The Heritage Committee is working on better organizing and housing the archives. He highlighted the work of the Prayer Mobilization Team and Rev. Michael Campbell gave a brief overview of the work of the Spiritual Warfare Advance Team (SWAT). **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**District News** A number of district representatives gave reports on various district level ministries and activities, prayer requests and celebrations.

**Adjournment** Rev. Robert Dunbar closed the National Ministry Team meeting with a word of prayer. **On motion**, the meeting was adjourned.

**Upcoming Meetings**

The next meeting of the National Ministry Team is scheduled for March 15, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk R. Marks, Secretary

**Minutes of the National Ministry Team Meeting  
Zinn Commons of Evangelical Theological Seminary**

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**9:00 AM**

- Opening** The National Ministry Team met in regular session on the above date. Bishop Bruce D. Hill opened the meeting by welcoming the delegates and describing the business of the day.
- Word & Prayer** Rev. Randall Sizemore, Global Ministries Associate, now in the last months of service in that position, presented a message from 1 Samuel 21, Psalm 55 and Psalm 57. He also offered the opening prayer.
- Attendance** Each member of the NMT present introduced him or herself to the group and the secretary recorded the attendance (attached).
- Secretary's Report** Rev. Kirk R. Marks, National Conference Secretary, presented the minutes from the October 19, 2017 NMT meeting (attached). **On motion**, the minutes were approved.
- Bishop's Report** Bishop Bruce Hill vacated the chair. He appointed Rev. Jeffrey Byerly to serve as *chairman pro tem* of the meeting and Rev. Byerly assumed the chair. Bishop Hill presented his report. A written copy of this report was distributed (attached). **On motion**, the report was adopted with appreciation. Bishop Hill reassumed the chair.
- Treasurer's Report** Mrs. Debra Patterson, National Conference Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report (attached) and highlighted some "bright spots and positive indicators" in the report. **On motion**, the report was adopted. The Treasurer reminded the NMT that the Finance Committee will meet next Friday, March 23, 2018 to begin the process of formulating the 2019 NC budget which will be presented to National Conference in May. She asked for the Team's prayers for that meeting and process.
- CNT** Bishop Hill presented the report of the Conference Network Team (attached). **On motion**, the CNT report was adopted.
- Conference Support Team** Mr. Kevin Henry, Executive Director of the National Conference, presented the Conference Support Team's report (attached). Kevin verbally highlighted a number of items in the report and encouraged everyone, including local church treasurers, to attend the pre-conference meetings. **On motion**, this report was adopted.

The NMT stood at recess for 15 minutes.

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**10:50 AM**

**L & I Committee** Mr. Kevin Henry presented the report of the Loan and Investment Committee (attached). **On motion**, the narrative section of the report was adopted.

**On motion**, the changes to the L & I Policy Manual (attached) were approved.

**Church Health Community** Rev. Dr. Gary Kuehner, Church Health Associate, presented the Church Health Community's report (attached). Gary drew attention to and outlined the new training event on church revitalization described in his report. Gary also reported that subsequent to the writing of the report, Rev. Robert Valentine has replaced Rev. Stephen Holubec as chair of the Christian Education/Youth Network Leadership Team on the Church Health Community. Saturday, September 22, 2018 is the date for the upcoming EC men's event. **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**Global Ministries Community** Rev. Randy Sizemore, Global Ministries Associate, presented this report (attached) and gave some highlights and clarifications on the confidential nature of some of the material in the report. **On motion**, the report was adopted. Rev. Timothy King led the Team in a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for Randy's service and future ministry.

**Kingdom Extension Community** Rev. Leslie Cool, Kingdom Extension Associate, presented the Kingdom Extension Community's report (attached). He highlighted some upcoming training events and gave updates on events that have taken place since the writing of the report. He also reported on progress in the planning of a "virtual church." This report resulted in a significant discussion on the movement of church plants to chartering and the "how" and the "what" of measuring ministry success. **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**Ministerial Development Community** Rev. Jeffrey Byerly, Ministerial Development Associate, presented his community's report (attached). Glenda Dunbar gave a testimonial of her and her husband's positive experience at PAC this past January. Jeff also highlighted the needs described in his report for some help in some areas. Jeff is looking to recruit both a Learning Community Assistant (a new position) and a Coaching Assistant to replace Rev. Charles Walker. On May 3, the MDC will be holding a dialogue meeting to discuss the Ephesians 4 "APEST" model of ministry with anyone who is interested. Restoration ministry, overseen by Rev. Gary Brown on the MDC, has been exciting and is much needed in our ministry ranks at this time. **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**On motion**, the National Ministry Team stood at recess for lunch.

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**1:00 PM**

**ETS** Mr. James Ehrman, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs of Evangelical Theological Seminary, brought greetings and an update from the seminary. Jim described some changes that have come to the seminary in distribution of administrative responsibilities. He also described some programming changes that have come to the seminary: the school has added the MA in Bible degree and the ThD program with six specialization streams. He also described the work the school is doing on financial sustainability and increased online programs. Dr. Kenneth Nafziger spoke on the ICL program. The seminary now offers credit for those who complete ICL and then move into an MDiv program.

Bishop Hill reported that a new “Enduring Covenant” document that describes the relationship between the seminary and the EC Church has been developed by Bishop Hill and Dr. Blair. The seminary board has already approved this covenant and it will be voted on by the denomination at National Conference. **On motion**, the report was approved.

**Missional  
Alignment  
Community**

Bishop Hill presented the Missional Alignment Community’s report (attached) which outlines the constituent groups of this community and each group’s work. The Heritage Committee is working on better organizing and housing the archives in the soon-to-be-renovated ground level of Church Center. The Faith and Doctrine Committee has a full agenda of projects on hand. He highlighted the work of the Prayer Mobilization Team and the work of the Spiritual Warfare Advance Team (SWAT). **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**Benefits  
Corporation**

Mr. Kevin Henry, Executive Director of the EC Church, gave a verbal report from the Benefits Corporation and highlighted the procedure for the operation of the Manna Fund, encouraging all retired pastors to submit applications. **On motion**, the report was adopted.

**GMA  
Search**

Bishop Hill presented the report of the Global Ministries Associate Search Committee (attached). He verbally outlined the search process. The committee has presented the Bishop with a unanimous recommendation from the search committee. Bishop Hill then reported that he has appointed Rev. J. Ted Rathman to the position of Global Ministries Associate effective July 1, 2018, subject to the NMT’s affirmation. Bishop Hill outlined Rev. Rathman’s background and qualifications for this position. **On motion**, the NMT affirmed the Bishop’s appointment.

**National  
Conference  
Preview  
District News**

Bishop Hill presented a written report giving a preview of National Conference 2018’s theme and schedule (attached) and gave some verbal highlights. **On motion**, the report was adopted.  
A number of district representatives gave reports on various district level ministries and activities, prayer requests and celebrations.

**Adjournment**

Rev. Jonathan Brown closed the National Ministry Team meeting with a word of prayer. **On motion**, the meeting was adjourned.

**Upcoming  
Meetings**

The next meeting of the National Ministry Team is scheduled for October 18, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Kirk R. Marks, Secretary