

Cedar Valley-Nauvoo Mission Center 2017 Conference Minutes

October 29, 2017 @ Camp Nauvoo

Words of Welcome: Robert Cook

Hymn of Gathering: *Community of Christ Sings #334 – Though the Spirit's Gifts are Many*

Prayer of Invocation: Deb Batey

Greetings from World Church: Apostle Robin Linkhart

Special Recognitions: Robert Cook shared words of thanks to Bobbi Mitchell, Patrick Fairbrother, and Dennis LaRoque for the ministry they have provided to the mission center and wished them well as they focus on other areas of ministry and personal commitments.

Pre-Legislative Discussion: Robert Cook

- Post-conference version of brochure will be posted on the mission center website.
- Robert shared thanks to Rex Sandidge and Gayla Burgess for the ministry they provide.
- Conference 2018 will be held at Cedar Rapids instead of Cedar Valley Grove with housing available at CVG if needed. Conference 2019 will be held at Camp Nauvoo.
- WC financial issues: Tithing plans and pledges were requested over a year ago, but additional funds and monetary support are needed. If you would like to share a donation or pledge to help World Church, contact the Presiding Bishopric directly to let them know so they can include your monies as they discern current financial matters and potential cuts/layoffs.
- Apostle Linkhart shared the following in response to questions/concerns:
 - Apostle Linkhart shared that the Presiding Bishopric is striving to be fully transparent and continually update the Council of Twelve, the WC website, the members, and the World Church Finance Board regarding finances/concerns.
 - The fear that Camp Nauvoo will be sold is not something to be concerned about as WC supports mission-focused properties.
 - The Council of Twelve is in discussion regarding layoffs due to funding issues and will present a proposal to the World Church Finance Board for approval. The Presiding Bishopric is working extremely hard not to resort to layoffs by offering early retirements and are hopeful the initial number of potential layoffs will not be so high; possibly only 20 on a global level. Several leaders have volunteered to take pay cuts or take on two roles to help reduce layoff numbers as well.
 - What is being done to grow the church via a proactive outlook instead of being reactive to lack of funds? Virtual ministry (Forward in Community) was recently launched to meet the needs of LDS Seekers who are geographically isolated. Many other missional-focused ideas are being considered, as well as looking at social media as a new avenue for ministry to meet the changes in society's outlook on church and fellowship.
 - The Kirtland Temple is not being considered for sale at this time, just a rumor.
- Robert Cook shared the following highlights regarding the conference brochure:
 - Page 12-Camp Nauvoo Expansion Project: The 2014 conference body approved the expansion project which included the purchase of a house with three acres, an addition to the lodge, and the construction of a three-bedroom unit for an estimated initial project cost of \$700,000-\$800,000. The loan received from

World Church has been reduced to \$365,000. The house and three acres (Retreat House) has been purchased and improvements have been made. Elected not to build the three-bedroom unit and added six tiny houses instead, which was more cost effective. Hope to finish original proposal approved within the initial budget. To add an additional 60% more floor space to the lodge a six-foot extension was added to the original expansion plans. Additional funds are needed to cover this six-foot extension with the goal to have it completed within the next two years.

- Page 24-CVG Financial Report: CVG sold 23 acres of land, led by Scott Gelande, netting \$83,000, which will allow for significant improvements to CVG.
- Page 31-MC Budget: Line #42, 2018 budgeted column reflects the World Church payroll processing fee that covers the mission center's one paid employee.
- Page 24-MC Budget: Line #57, 2018 budgeted column reflects the cost of the mission center-provided tithing envelopes. These envelopes cost approximately \$1.75 per person, per year instead of \$3.80, the cost of purchasing from World Church. This does not have a negative impact on World Church funds.
- Page 24-MC Budget: There are several funding categories that reflect funds not being used which remain in the budget as a commitment to those items.
- Page 33-Congregational Assessments: Currently exploring a new method of assessing congregations due to the fact that the updating of membership records varies from congregation to congregation. One option is to base assessments on the individual congregation's contribution levels. Additional information will be gathered and evaluated during the 2017 audit process and a vote will be brought forward at the 2018 mission center conference.

Call to Order: Robert Cook called the conference to order at 2:25 PM

Seating of Delegates: Gayla Burgess assumed the chair and seated 81 out of 112 possible delegates. Two-thirds vote was clarified as 54.

Conference Secretary: Anita Zahniser nominated Gayla Burgess as conference secretary, second by Lee Ourth. No other nominations received. Vote taken, carried.

Standing Rules: Presented for informational purposes only.

Motion to Approve 2016 Minutes: Dave Loy moved to approve the 2016 conference minutes as presented, second by Dawn Durgin. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Motion to Sustain MC President/Financial Officer: Apostle Linkhart assumed the chair and read a letter from World Church requesting the mission center's support in sustaining Robert Cook as Mission Center President/Financial Officer. Dale Warner moved to sustain Robert Cook, second by Pat Reaves. No discussion. Vote taken, carried. Apostle Linkhart thanked Robert for his example of servant ministry and his wife, Roberta, for the support she shares so Robert can fulfill his responsibilities and ministry.

Motion to Sustain Invitation Support Minister: Apostle Linkhart read a letter from World Church requesting the mission center's support in sustaining Pat Reaves as Mission Center Invitation Support Minister. Dana Nuckles moved to sustain Pat Reaves, second by Jared Poplett. No discussion. Vote taken, carried. Apostle Linkhart shared words of thanks and support to Pat for her dedication to the spirit of invitation and her husband, Randy, for his support of Pat's ministry.

Motion to Sustain Mission Center Leadership: Robert Cook assumed the chair and clarified that Deb Luce has agreed to take on the role of Community Leader replacing Patrick Fairbrother and that Deb will be assisted by Brynn Mathieu. Robert also shared that Wil Wiemann has agreed to take on the role of Youth Ministries Chair replacing Dennis LaRoque. Roger Reid moved to sustain the mission center leadership as presented, second by Bette Williams. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Special Prayer: Evangelist John Robertson shared a prayer for the mission center leadership, pastors, members, friends, and World Church.

Election of Campgrounds Board of Directors: Robert Cook clarified that for the campground elections the committee chairs were asked to recruit and nominate candidates, but that nominations from the floor are also accepted.

Robert Cook, as Chair of the Campgrounds Board of Directors, nominated John Saur for a two-year term and Todd Batey and Dale Warner for three-year terms. No other nominations received. Robert declared the nominees as elected.

Election of Cedar Valley Grove Operations Group: Scott Gelande, as Chair of the CVG Operations Group, nominated Anita Zahniser, Michala Martin, Dennis LaRoque, Kim Crump, and George Barber. No other nominations received. Vote taken. Michala Martin was elected to serve the one-year term and Anita Zahniser and Dennis LaRoque to serve the three-year terms.

Election of Camp Nauvoo Operations Group: Deb Batey, as Chair of the Camp Nauvoo Operation Group, nominated Lynn Poplett and Lee Ourth. No other nominations received. Robert Cook declared the nominees as elected.

Informational Reports: The informational reports on pages 10-15 of the conference brochure were referred to for informational purposes only.

Approval of Camp Nauvoo 2016 Audited Financial Report: Dawn Durgin moved to approve as presented, second by Lois Blythe. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Approval of Camp Nauvoo 2018 Proposed Budget: Roger Reid moved to approve as presented, second by Dale Warner. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Approval of CVG 2016 Audited Financial Report: Dave Loy moved to approve as presented, second by Anita Zahniser. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Approval of CVG 2018 Proposed Budget: David Swift moved to approve as presented, second by Dale Warner. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Approval of Mission Center 2016 Audited Financial Report: Brenda Mitchell moved to approve as presented, second by Roger Reid. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Approval of Mission Center 2018 Proposed Budget: Dale Warner moved to approve as presented, second by Claire Leonard. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

New Business: No new business received or presented.

Adjournment: Bob Richards moved to adjourn at 3:05 PM, second by all. No discussion. Vote taken, carried.

Hymn of Sending Forth: *Community of Christ Sings #186 – Let Us Pray for One Another*

Prayer of Sending Forth: Evangelist Roger Reid

*These should be considered “unofficial minutes”
until they are approved by the Mission Center Council
and Fall 2018 mission center conference.*

*Submitted by: Gayla Burgess, Conference Secretary
10/29/17*