

PRESBYTERY OF HUDSON RIVER
Presbytery Meeting
January 30, 2018

The Presbytery of Hudson River met in stated meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2018, at First Presbyterian Church, Monroe, New York, and was convened at 10:00AM with prayer.

Note: "MSA" = moved, seconded, approved.

"MA" = moved, approved, motions coming from committees, needing no second.

MWS=Minister of the Word and Sacrament; RE = Ruling Elder, CRE = Commissioned Ruling Elder.

PHR website: www.hudrivpres.org with a link to Hudson Happenings.

Call to Gather the Presbyters for God's Business

Moderator Peter Surgenor

Declaration of a Quorum

Moderator Peter Surgenor

Moderator Peter Surgenor declared a quorum was present.

Voting on the Docket

Motion: to vote on the Docket and Consent Agenda. (Attachments I & II). **MSA**

The AA/EEO guidelines were followed during the search process for all of the Teaching Elders and CREs listed in the Committee on Ministry report (Consent Agenda).

Introduction of New Ruling Elder Commissioners

The Moderator welcomed Ruling Elders who were attending as first-time commissioners.

Seating of Corresponding Members

MOTION: to seat for 2018: Brian Breault (UCC) Holmes, Noelle Damico (UCC) Presbytery Communications Director, Richard Witt (Episcopal) Rural and Migrant Ministry Director, Jennifer Kottler (Disciples of Christ-UCC) Gavin Meek's wife, Jerry Wondra, (Reformed Church in America). **MSA**

Minutes Readers

MWS Bruce Baker and RE Lisa Niven (Irvington)

Welcome from First Presbyterian Church of Monroe

Bronc Radak

MWS Bronc Radak welcomed presbytery to First Presbyterian Church.

Worship (Attachment III)

Betty Tom led worship. The offering was dedicated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and totaled \$1053.00.

Necrology Report (Attachment IV)

Installation of Moderator Keith Brokaw and Moderator-Elect Lori Knight-Whitehouse.

Committee on Representation and Nominations

Heather Benedict

The Committee on Representation and Nominations recommends the following:

MA the following resignations:

RESIGN

RE Dean Neely Budget, Finance & Property/Trustees, 2019

MA the following elections, with no nominations from the floor,

ELECT

RE Bill Doescher Budget, Finance and Property Committee, 2020

RE Eugee Whyte B, F & P/T, 2020

MWS Peter Surgenor B, F & P/T, 2019

RE Ruth Duncan Personnel, 2020

RE Stephen Lynn Synod Mission and Ministries Commission

The committee's work for the future includes filling 2 positions for COM.

Council (Attachment V)

Gavin Meek

The attached report has information regarding the Council's work.

The presbytery's theme for worship this year is inclusivity.

Hudson River University will be on March 17, 2018. (Attachment VI)

Communications Report

Noelle Damico

Noelle asked for feedback on the new presbytery website, and gave instructions on navigation through the pages.

General Presbyter Nominating Committee

Laurie McNeill

The Minister Information Form is online and there are six applications thus far.

Stated Clerk's Report (Attachment VII)

Susan De George

- The minutes of the December 5, 2017 stated meeting of the Presbytery were read by MWS David Mason and RE James Ferguson (Calvary, Newburgh). They recommend approval.
MOTION: to approve no action needed for Redressing an Imbalance of MWSs and REs at this time. **MSA**
- Statistical Reports online close on February 7, 2018. They can be completed early to avoid the end of year rush. They need to be approved by session.
- Save the date: the annual **Clerk of Session workshop and minute reading** will be part of the March Hudson River University that will happen on **Saturday, March 17th 2018** beginning at 11 am and going until 3 pm at the Stony Point Center. Session records for 2017 will be examined at that gathering, including the minutes and roll books.

The Stated Clerk Annual Report is attached. (Attachment VIII)

Grants Committee

Cathryn Surgenor

Challenge to Change applications are due by March 15, 2018.

Erin Moore spoke about Chester's Challenge to Change Grant and what they have accomplished.

Budget, Finance & Property/Trustees

Thomas Buchanan

- Thomas presented the 2018 budget for a vote. Moderator Keith called the question, to vote.

MOTION: to approve the HRP 2018 budget. **MA** Yes votes-all but one.

- The Mission and per Capita 2017 year-end reports are attached. (Attachment IX)
- 12:30 PM Blessing for the Meal.

Reconvened at 1:30 PM

60 Second Announcements

Memorial Minute for the Rev. Dr. Ronald John Sloan by Laurie McNeill. (Attachment X)
Keith offered prayer for the announced events.

Committee on Ministry

Erin Moore & Lisa Niven

- Glen Reichelderfer was introduced and spoke about his Statement of Faith and something he is excited about in his new position at First Presbyterian in Mahopac.
- Gary Murphy, First Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Valley spoke on behalf of Rev. Shawn R. Zanicky for her retirement service. A Standing Ovation ensued.

Moderator-Elect Lori Knight-Whitehouse assumed the chair.

Greenbush Administrative Commission (Attachment XI)

Richard Spierling

The final session meeting was on October 17, 2016. October 23, 2016 was the final service after 212 years of its existence. Sale of the property was finalized this month.

MOTION: to release the AC with many thanks for their work! **MSA**

Harrison Administrative Commission

Bruce Baker & Dan Love

MOTION: to approve the revised terms of the report of the Harrison Presbyterian Church as outlined in the attachment. (Attachment XII)

MOTION: to use a paper ballot. **MSA** Yes-52; No-15

Faith and Order Committee

Robert Trawick

Overture One on parental leave: **MOTION:** to approve **MA**

Overture Two and Three: **MOTION:** to approve "Paid parental Leave" (Attachment XIII)

MA, with the following amendment:

Change the language to be added to the Book of Order in both overtures from "paid family leave" to "paid parental leave" in order to more accurately correspond with the rationale presented. (Attachment XIII)

Interim General Presbyter's Report

Gavin Meek

- Gavin gave thanks and appreciation to everyone involved in the life and ministry of this presbytery.
- We need to keep in mind those pastors who are struggling financially, and keep up with the cost of living increases.
- We have good relationships with each other, but some rancor and stress is coming into our midst. We need to work at these issues.
- Ordinations and installations are not well attended.
- Be pastoral always in all your emails! It is a big part of your ministry.

New Business

None

Attendance Proclamation

63 Teaching Elders and CREs
44 Ruling Elder Commissioners
21 Visitors, officers & staff
128 TOTAL

Motion: to adjourn at 3:07. **MSA**

With no further business before the body, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 3:07PM. The next stated meeting will convene on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at the Stony Point Center, 17 Cricketown Road, Stony Point, NY, 10980, at 10:00AM, with registration at 9:30 AM.

Minister of the Word and Sacrament
Susan De George
Stated Clerk

Ruling Elder Wendy Spierling
Journal Clerk