

MINUTES
66th ANNUAL MEETING and CONFERENCE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
Held by ZOOM video conference
JUNE 27, 2020

The face to face meeting planned to be held in Portland, Maine was cancelled due to ongoing legal restrictions and health concerns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board of Directors, in agreement with the Leadership Council, chose to hold the business portions of the Annual Meeting and Conference by video conference. Special arrangements and emergency bylaws as allowed by Wisconsin law made it possible for the meeting to take place. Today's meeting will accomplish the business that must legally be conducted by the corporation and other actions requiring a vote by delegates. Written reports usually presented during the meetings and other items of interest are posted on the NACCC website where all can review before or after the meeting concludes.

The 66th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches convened on Saturday, June 27, 2020 at 2:00 PM CDT via ZOOM video conference.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Business Session | Moderator Jim Waechter gave opening remarks and welcomed everyone to the first ever "virtual" Annual Meeting! |
| NACCC Moment | Moderator Jim Waechter explained the NACCC moment which was added to the agenda last meeting where members of National Association churches will talk about what the NACCC means to them. The first speaker today is Rev. Wendy Van Tassell, formerly of Spencer, Iowa now in Holland/Saugatuck, Michigan. |
| Call to Order | Moderator Jim Waechter called the 66th annual meeting of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches to order. This year's theme is "the Great Crossing" a commemoration of the 400 th Anniversary of the Mayflower and the Pilgrims arrival to what is now Massachusetts. |
| Constituting Prayer | The Constituting Prayer was offered by Rev. Seth Jones, chair of the host committee. |
| Introductions | Moderator Jim Waechter introduced the individuals on the "virtual" dais: Vice Moderator Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bacon Hammer; Secretary Judy Campbell; and Parliamentarian Doug Loux. |
| Establishment of Quorum | Kay Miller-Todd from the Credentials Committee reported that 101 delegates were registered, which represents approximately 33 % of the active 306 member churches. With more than 20% of our member churches represented, Moderator Jim Waechter declared a quorum existed so we would proceed with the business of the Association. |
| Approval of Agenda
2020 AM 01
Adopted | The Moderator referenced the published agenda that was made available to all registered attendees by email and posted on the website. He then entertained a motion to approve.
Motion by Rev. Dr. Marty Hall to approve the agenda. |
| Review of Standing Rules
2020 AM 02
Adopted | Moderator Jim Waechter reviewed and explained the standing rules, also sent to registered attendees and placed on the website, pointing out that speakers are limited to one minute and only once on the same question. Motions, new business and nominations were to be received by the NACCC office prior to Thursday, June 25, 2020 deadline.
Motion by Curt Schmidt to adopt the standing rules. |

<p>Approval of Minutes 2020 AM 03 Adopted</p>	<p>Minutes of the 65th Annual Meeting held in Cleveland, OH, June 2019, were previously read and approved by the 2019 Minutes Certification Committee: Claudia Kniefel, J.R. McAliley and Ariel Castillo and were posted on the NACCC website.</p> <p>Motion by Secretary, Judy Campbell to accept the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting.</p>
<p>Minutes Certification Committee 2020 AM 04 Adopted</p>	<p>The Moderator announced three people he had asked to review this year's minutes.</p> <p>Motion by Rev. Dr. Don Olsen to accept the appointment of three volunteers, Patricia Smith, Rev. Patrick Hunt and Curt Schmidt, selected by the Moderator as the 2020 Minutes Certification Committee to review the Annual Meeting minutes before they are distributed.</p>
<p>Introduction, Vote and Welcome to New Churches accepted into Membership 2020 AM 05 Adopted</p>	<p>Executive Director, the Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum reported that the Leadership Council recommends two (2) churches to be accepted into membership.</p> <p>Motion that the following churches be accepted into full membership in the NACCC as recommended by the Leadership Council: (motion 2019/20 LC 019) First Congregational Church, Orchard, IA and First Congregational Church, Westfield, MA.</p>
<p>Installation of New Churches</p>	<p>The Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum performed the installation ceremony with a member or a representative for each new church affirming their desire to join the NACCC.</p>
<p>Reports:</p>	<p>Moderator Jim Waechter explained that due to the abbreviated agenda for the virtual meeting, the leaders of boards and committees would not be delivering their reports during the call. Instead, written reports and video presentations from many leaders are on the website where all can review before or after the meeting.</p>
<p>Nominating Committee Report All nominees elected</p>	<p>Beth Borland gave the report of the Nominating Committee, reading the list of nominees for each position.</p> <p>She then moved that the entire slate of candidates be elected as nominated.</p> <p>Moderator – Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bacon Hammer, Madison, WI – 2 yr term Vice Moderator – Rev. Art Ritter, Novi, MI – 2 yr term Secretary – Rev. April Barrett, Portland, MI - 1 yr term Treasurer – Jeffrey H. Dillon, Franklin, WI - 1 yr term Historian – Rev. Dr. Mary E Biedron, Farmington Hills, MI - 1 yr term Youth Representative to the Leadership Council - Patrick Stewart, Marshalltown, IA – 1 yr term Ministry Council Representatives to the Leadership Council – 1 yr terms Growth Ministry Council: Mary Brooks Prendergast, Rev. Dr. John Tamilio, III Mission and Outreach Ministry Council: Jamie Bonnema, Janet Wilson Vitality Ministry Council: Rev. Sarah Gladstone Terlouw and Rev. Justin Neier) Annual Meeting and Conference Committee – Member-at-large Rev. Garry Fisher, South Bend, IN – 3 yr. term Corp Board of Directors – Rev. Dr. Beth Bingham, Sherman Oaks, CA - 4 yr. term Congregational Foundation Representative on the Board of Directors Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere, Demorest, GA – 1 yr term Growth Ministry Council – 3 yr. terms Mary Prendergast, Pomona, CA Rev. John Tamilio, III, Beverly, MA</p>

Mission & Outreach Ministry Council – 3 yr. terms

Colleen Murray, Gahanna, OH

Rev. Jamie Bonnema, Maple Hill, KS

Vitality Ministry Council – 3 yr. terms

Rev. Sarah Terlouw, Saugatuck, MI

Rev. Justin Nierer, Jackson, MI

Moderator Jim Waechter asked if any additional nominations had been received. **As there were no other nominations received before the deadline, he declared the nominations closed and all nominees elected to these uncontested positions.**

Election to fill vacated term
on the AM&C Committee
Nominee Elected

Following the election of Rev. Art Ritter as Vice Moderator, the balance of his term as Member at Large on the Annual Meeting and Conference Committee was now vacated. Moderator Jim Waechter asked if there were any nominations to fill the remaining year of that term.

Beth Borland nominated **Kay Miller-Todd** to fill the remaining year of the vacated term of **Member at Large on the Annual Meeting and Conference Committee.**

Moderator Jim Waechter again asked if any additional nominations had been received. **As there no other nominations, he declared the nominations closed and the nominee elected to this uncontested position.**

Election of Nominating
Committee
Nominees Elected

Moderator Jim Waechter announced that two nominations for two open 3-year positions on the Nominating Committee had been received. The following names were placed in nomination for the **Nominating Committee:**

Rev. Wendy Van Tassell, Saugatuck, MI

Liz Philbrook, Yarmouth Port, MA

Moderator, Jim Waechter, asked if there were any additional nominations for the Nominating Committee. **As no other nominations had been received before the deadline, he declared the nominations closed and both nominees elected to these uncontested positions.**

Ratification Board of
Directors' Actions
2020 AM 06
Adopted

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bacon Hammer presented the list of Actions of the Board of Directors from June 2019 through June 2020 that require ratification which appear on pages 1 - 3 of the "Actions of the Board of Directors" in the delegate documents. Pages 4 & 5 of the document list procedural motions that do not require ratification in regular type, and motions being presented for consideration separately in Italics.

Motion made that the Association delegates ratify the actions of the Board of Directors from June 2019 through June 2020 (motions 2018/19 C 043; and 2019/20 C 003, C 018 - 022, C 027, C 033 - 034, C 036 – 037, C 039 - 040, C 042) which require ratification and are not being presented separately.

Ratify Leadership
Council Actions
2020 AM 07
Adopted

Jim Waechter presented the list of Actions of the Leadership Council requiring ratification. Those actions appear on pages 1 and 2 of the Leadership Council Report in the delegate documents. Page 3 lists procedural motions that do not require ratification in regular type and motions being presented for consideration separately are in Italics.

Motion made that the Association delegates ratify the actions of the Leadership Council from June 2019 through June 2020, (motions 2019/20 LC 004 - 008, LC 012

– 014, LC 016, LC 018) which require ratification and are not being presented separately.

Financial Report

Association Treasurer Jeff Dillon presented a slide show of the Financial Reports, explained details and assumptions and related information from the recent Financial Audit. The NACCC applied for and received a PPP loan through the Cares Act from the Small Business Administration. During this time of COVID 19 concerns, many challenges remain.

Introduction and vote
On proposed Budget
2020 AM 08
Adopted

Treasurer Jeff Dillon presented the proposed 2020 - 2021 Operating Budget of the Shared Ministries Fund, the Center for Congregational Leadership and Ministry Council budgets as recommended by Board of Directors action (2019/20 C 028) and moved its adoption by the delegates. He also presented a "Post Budget" update of possible changes related to forgiveness of the SBA PPP loan and savings/costs of cancellation of the face to face meeting. Expected savings could significantly reduce the proposed budget shortfall.

Motion by Jeff Dillon, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to approve the 2020/2021 Shared Ministries (\$138,620) deficit budget, and approve CCL and the Ministry Council Budgets as recommended by the Board of Directors and presented by the Treasurer.

New Business
Resolution submitted by
Cadman Memorial CC
racism and social justice
2020 AM 09
Adopted

A resolution was submitted before the deadline from delegate Sandra Clipper, on behalf of Cadman Memorial Congregational Church, Brooklyn, NY. The Cadman Memorial Church calls for the NACCC to address the current global issues of racism and social justice. Secretary, Judy Campbell read the resolution into record. A copy of the resolution had been emailed to all registrants and posted on the NACCC website.

Motion by Sandra Clipper, Cadman Memorial Congregational Church, Brooklyn, NY that the NACCC adopt the following resolution.

Resolution: Cadman Memorial Congregational Church requests that the NACCC acknowledge and address the current global issue of racism and social justice.

The Congregational Christian Churches have a history of social justice. Evidence of this has been exhibited by members and member churches who showed empathy, activism and the love of Christ by providing stops and provisions on "The Underground Railroad" during slavery.

As members of The National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, we request that next twelve issues of the 'Congregationalist' have an article on racism to awaken the consciousness of all member churches about the issue. Churches and regional associations can also submit articles denoting how they have been led to support the movement of social justice and equity in our society and culture.

Prayer in support of
our Congregations

Moderator Jim Waechter introduced Rev. Lezlie Austin-Kennedy, Cadman Memorial Congregational Church, Brooklyn, NY to offer a prayer in support of our congregations.

Recognition of Retiring
Leadership

Moderator Jim Waechter offered thanks to the many officers and other members of leadership who are completing terms and retiring from their positions. The list included Jim Waechter, Judy Campbell, Will Lange, Don Olsen, Barbara Dabul, Beth Borland, Joyce Acree, Edith Bartley.

Installation of NACCC
Leadership

All elected officers and Board and Committee members present on the call were sworn into their positions by Executive Director Michael Chittum.

NACCC Moment	Outgoing Secretary, Judy Campbell, spoke about her relationship with the NACCC.
Closing Remarks	Moderator Jim Waechter gave closing remarks. This is his last meeting as Moderator. Great plans had been made to hold the 66 th Annual Meeting in Maine and commemorate the 400 th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower and the Pilgrims at Plymouth. That was not to be. He hopes that the plans will be revisited for a future meeting. He gave thanks for allowing him the opportunity to serve the NACCC over the past four years as Vice Moderator and Moderator. He thanked Executive Director Michael Chittum and the NA staff for all their assistance and reminded everyone that there will be a “virtual” church service held tomorrow.
2021 Host committee Presentations and Benediction	2021 Host committee chair Jami Backell gave a short video presentation on Spokane and invited everyone to attend the 2021 AM&C “in person” in Spokane, WA She then offered the closing prayer.
Adjournment 3:50 PM CDT	Incoming Moderator Rev. Dr. Cindy Bacon Hammer declared the business meeting adjourned.

Judy Campbell
Secretary

Read and approved by the Minutes Certification Committee:

Patrick Hunt, Berea, Ohio
Curt Schmidt, Bound Brook, New Jersey
Patricia Smith, Berwick, Iowa