

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 31, 2001
(Teleconference Call)

The Sub-Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2001, at 3250 Bloor Street West, Etobicoke, Ontario. The Moderator, The Right Reverend Marion Pardy, presided.

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE

Voting Members

Hazel Bigby, Virginia Coleman, Claire Borel-Christen, Sheila Duffin, Ron Holotuk, Jon Jessiman, Joanna MacQuarrie, Lynn Maki, Marion Pardy (Chair), Bill Phipps, Karen Ptolemy-Stam, Sheila Snelling, Jack Spencer, Peter Wesley

Corresponding Members

Steve Adams, Chris Ferguson, Gordon How, David Iverson, Anne Shirley Sutherland, Peter Wyatt

Regrets

Steve Adams, Steven Chamber, Richard Choe (corresponding members)

CONSTITUTING THE MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE

The Moderator constituted the meeting with the following words:

"In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ the only Sovereign head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 37th General Council, I hereby declare this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it to the glory of God."

She began the meeting with a prayer.

OPENING PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Corresponding Members

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Bill Phipps

2001-01-31-0104.PRO

That the corresponding members for this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council be Chris Ferguson, Gordon How, David Iverson, Anne Shirley Sutherland, Peter Wyatt and Cynthia Gunn who would resource the piece of work dealing with The Manual.

Carried

Minute Secretary

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Jon Jessiman

2001-01-31-0105.PRO

That the minute secretary for this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council be Isabela Simon.

Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE

The following corrections were made to the minutes of the November 29, 2000 meeting:

Top of pg. 34, change to: "... with the **Reformed** Church of Christ"

Pg. 35 under ANNOUNCEMENTS, point #1, change to: "On the request of the Executive, **the site for the April 2001 meeting of the Executive of the General Council is still being investigated**"

Title of pg. 30, add: **(Teleconference Call)**

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Sheila Duffin

2001-01-31-0106.PRO

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the minutes of the Sub-Executive meeting held November 29, 2000, with the corrections as noted above.

Carried

THE MANUAL COMMITTEE – CHANGES TO THE MANUAL (GC-1R – GC-2R)

Some wording changes were proposed to the resolution on Formal Hearings before the members of the Sub-Executive. These changes were necessary to reflect the policy changes approved by the 37th General Council. After some clarification on these changes by Cynthia Gunn, the following motion was moved:

Resolution re: Formal Hearings

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Jack Spencer

2001-01-31-0107

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve that sections 075, 077 and 549 of the By-Laws be amended as follows to reflect the policy adopted by the 37th General Council;

075 ~~(a) Initiation. In the event that the parties have not resolved the issue, a Formal Hearing shall be held when requested by any of the parties concerned, or when ordered. A Formal Hearing shall be held by the Session, or Church Board or Church Council, the Presbytery, the Conference, or the General Council with regard to their respective areas of jurisdiction;~~

~~(i) _____ in any case where the Court orders a Formal Hearing;~~

~~(ii) _____ for complaints of sexual abuse (sexual harassment, pastoral sexual misconduct, or sexual assault), when requested by the complainant or respondent; and~~

~~(iii) _____ for all other kinds of complaints, when requested by a party to the complaint, but only if the Formal Hearing Committee decides as provided in subsection (d) that it is in the best interests of the parties to the complaint and of the United Church for a Formal Hearing to be held.~~

[(a) and (b) to be renumbered as (b) and (c)]

[new] ~~(d) For any complaint other than a complaint of sexual abuse (sexual harassment, pastoral sexual misconduct, or sexual assault), a party to the complaint may request a Formal Hearing by giving, in accordance with section 003, a written request to the Secretary of the Court to which the complaint was made. The request shall contain the arguments in support of a Formal Hearing being held. The party requesting a Formal Hearing shall SUCH SECRETARY SHALL, WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE REQUEST, give, in accordance with section 003, a copy of the request to the other party to the complaint within seven (7) days of making the request to the Court. If the other party to the complaint wishes to make a reply to the request, the reply shall be given, in accordance with section 003, to the Secretary of the appropriate Court TO WHICH THE COMPLAINT WAS MADE, and to the party requesting the Formal Hearing within thirty (30) days after the other party to the complaint is deemed to have received a copy of the request for a Formal Hearing. SUCH SECRETARY SHALL, WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE REPLY, GIVE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 003, A COPY OF THE REPLY TO THE PARTY REQUESTING THE FORMAL HEARING. The Formal Hearing Committee shall review the request and the reply, if any, and shall make a Decision either to hold a Formal Hearing with respect to the complaint because it would be in the best interests of the parties and the United Church to do so, or to refuse to hold a Formal Hearing because it would not be in the best interests of either or both of the parties or of the United Church to do so. Notice of such Decision shall be given in writing to the parties concerned and, in the case of a Decision not to proceed with a Formal Hearing, shall include the reasons for such Decision. Such Decision is not subject to Appeal.~~

[re-number existing subsections 075 (c) through (n)]

077 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal. Decisions that are not subject to Appeal are as follows:

[(a) to (k) to remain unchanged]

(l) a decision by a Formal Hearing Committee whether to hold a Formal Hearing.

549 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal. Decisions that are not subject to Appeal are as follows:

[(a) to (k) to remain unchanged]

(l) a decision by a Formal Hearing Committee whether to hold a Formal Hearing.

Carried

A request was made that The Manual Committee recommend to the General Council that a definition of the term "Party" be made and that it be a broad rather than a restrictive definition.

ARCHIVES ENDOWMENT FUND REQUEST (GC-3)

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Bill Phipps

2001-01-31-0108

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the disbursement of \$15,000 from the Archives Endowment Fund to pay The United Church of Canada share of the cost of external basement waterproofing of the Birge-Carnegie Building where the United Church/Victoria University Archives is housed.

Carried

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – NOMINATIONS (GC-4 – GC-6)

Task Group on Policies and Procedures

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Jack Spencer

2001-01-31-0109

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint the following persons to the task group on Policies and Procedures related to Pastoral Relations and Ministry Vocations:

Chair: Charlotte Caron (O) (SK)

Janet Sigurdson (O) (ANCC)

Susan Butler-Jones (O) (SK)

Pegi Ridout (O) (HAM)

Stewart Russell (O) (MAR)

Linda Thompson (L) (TOR)

John Sang Oh (L) (TOR)

Jesse Doyon (O) (TOR)

Ross Boden (L) (TOR)

Frank Meadows (O) (LON)

Carried

Change Team – Volunteers

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Hazel Bigby

2001-01-31-0110

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint the following persons to the Change Team (Volunteers)

GCO – Jim Christie (O) (M&O)

DMC – Lynn Maki (O) (ABNW)

DWO – Marion Pope (O) (TOR)

DFIN – Bill Steadman (O) (MTU)

MPE – Linda Murray (O) (MNWO)

EMC – George Takashima (O) (ABNW)

Carried

Anne Shirley Sutherland expressed the difficulty that the Human Resources Committee are having finding a chair for this group. She asked the Sub-Executive for their thoughts with regard to having the facilitator of this group act as the chair too. It was agreed by the Sub-Executive that it was important to have a chair for this group because of the unique role that person would have in the group. It was also felt that the chair needed to be someone not from the current membership, but someone who was not associated with any of the Units.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Sheila Duffin

2001-01-31-0111

That the chairperson and Division of Communication representative be appointed to the Change Team (Volunteers) and approved by the Sub-Executive by an e-mail ballot.

Carried

Claire Borel-Christen requested that Jesse Doyon be in touch with COPERMIF for information on the concerns of the Francophone Constituency so that he can bring a broader view to the table of the task group on Policies and Procedures related to Pastoral Relations and Ministry Vocations

Foundation Task Group

Motion: Bill Phipps/Peter Wesley

2001-01-31-0112

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint the following people to the Foundation Task Group:

Tom Alton (L) (HAM)

Hubert Norman (L) (N&L)

Martha ter Kuile (O) (M&O)

And that the balance of the Membership of the task group be approved through e-mail balloting of the Sub-Executive.

Carried

Motion: Bill Phipps/Lynn Maki

2001-01-31-0113

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint Susan Short (L) (MAR) to the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee.

Carried

David Iverson reported that, contrary to the highly speculative article related to the Residential Schools talks with the government in the National Post, no deal has been made and that conversations with the Federal Government still continue. At this time, there is nothing new to report and when there is, the Executive will be the first to know.

ADJOURNMENT

After a blessing, the moderator declared the meeting of the Sub-Executive adjourned.

Moderator, Marion Pardy

General Secretary, Virginia Coleman

RESULTS OF THE E-MAIL BALLOT

On April 4, 2001, an e-mail ballot went out to the Sub-Executive of the General Council with the following motion:

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Jon Jessiman

2001-01-31-0114

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint the following people to the named groups:

Foundation Task Group:

Chair: Kay de la Ronda (ABNW) (L)

John Durfie (TOR) (L)

Jackie Knowles (HAM) (L)

Roger Snelling (M&O) (L)

Volunteer Change Team:

Chair - Gerry Hopkirk (L) (MAR)

DCO - Jim Cairney (O) (TOR)

Carried