

Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry
September 26, 2014
Minutes

Members -

Present: Lyndol Loyd, Mike Fordham, Will Finnin, Andy Foote, Jim Manuel, Melissa Stump, Nathan Adams, Glenn Bosley-Mitchell, Amanda Blount, Allison Manning, Jon Tschanz, Cynthia Sucher, Josh Bell, Drew Dancey, Willie A. Miller, Jr. (teleconf)

Absent: Dick Scheaffer, Sharyn Ladner, Stacey Thompson, Yvonne McShay, Melynn Rust, Patti Aupperlee, Bob Douglass, Allen Johnson, Jim Divine

Ex-Officio -

Present: Tim Smiley, David Fuquay

Absent: Sharon Austin, Mike Crawford, David Allen,

Campus Ministers -

Present: Erik Seise, Christy Holden, Cindy Guiles, Mike Toluba, Beth Bostrom, Narcie Jeter, Derrick Scott,

Absent: Erwin Lopez, Paul Massingill,

Guest - Dan Jackson (Dir. New Church Development)

Motions and decisions in **BOLD**.

Call to Order at 10:31 am

Devotional - Lyndol Loyd

Lyndol has experienced campus ministry from various perspectives since childhood, including as a college student, a campus ministry intern, a Wesley Foundation Director, as a local board member and chair, a member of BHECM, and now as the parent of a college student. In the midst of sending Abigail off to college, God is teaching Lyndol to trust Him more and to parent differently. Passage from Jesus Calling, "Entrust your loved ones to me, release them into my protective care...I detest idolatry even in the form of parental love. ...My presence will go with them wherever they go...this same presence stays with you."

Jeremiah 29:11-14; Proverbs 3:5-6 - Reminder to all of us, what we are doing for college students matters immensely to our students and to their parents.

Introductions

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

MOTION: Melissa Stump

Second: Tim Smiley

MOTION PASSES

Recognition of New Members: Andy Foote, Allison Manning, Sharyn Ladner (unable to attend today)

Orientation and Organization

Review and Commit to Expectations

Members are expected to attend and participate fully. The Board commits to having productive meetings that are respectful of members' time. Today we have 100% participation in terms of attendance or excused absence.

Review and Commit to Committee Assignments

Adaptation of printed agenda. We will spend one hour in working groups followed by thirty minutes of debriefing/sharing.

Executive Director's Report (full report included below)

We now have a spelled-out process for starting a new campus ministry, based on New Church Development process.

NSU/FAU Wesley New Campus Ministry Start

MOTION from Executive Committee: The Executive Committee recommends that BHECM empowers the Executive Committee to review the proposal for a new Wesley Foundation at FAU/Nova Southeastern and make a decision either to search for a new campus minister and to launch this new campus ministry in 2015 or to postpone.

No Second Needed

Discussion: If we moved forward, hoping to have a candidate by third week of February with July 1 start date. New Ministry Line Item is available if we decide to move forward. Executive Committee wants willing BHECM members as participants on task force.

MOTION PASSES

Thanks to conversations with Dan Jackson, we are moving forward in exploring ways to partner with New Church Development as we start new ministries.

FAMU Wesley Re-start

Gratitude to Nathan Adams and Tony Fotsch, local FAMU board members, for their hard work in the handling of the closing of the ministry and handling of assets.

MOTION: The Executive Committee recommends that BHECM authorizes the hiring of a part-time position to help us re-establish this ministry and authorizes the BHECM Executive Committee to approve the part-time job description and salary prior to January.

No Second Needed

Discussion: Question as to long-term commitment of Conference to Campus Ministries as we talk about establishing new ministries that we are committing to support. Questions about timing - is this the right time to do this? Based on resources and persons coming together spontaneously, this seems to be a movement of the Holy Spirit only slightly ahead of the timeline we had originally planned. The goal is to determine the best possible model and approach for ministry at FAMU, based on the information gathered by this potential part-time position.

MOTION PASSES

Executive Director Report continues, full report below.

FSU Wesley Building

Introducing Mike Toluba

Presentation of Proposed Plans for FSU Wesley

Financial Plan for the FSU Wesley Facility - already unanimously approved by Cabinet, approved by FSU Wesley Board.

FSU will still need to do fundraising for parking and other needs, but not to build the building.

MOTION - Resolution below

Details included below in "FSU Wesley Facilities Resolution" - amended from the original for specificity of "they"

MOTION PASSES as amended below

BHECM is very encouraged and grateful to see the cooperation between different Conference departments including the Cabinet and New Church Development in finding a solution to this issue.

Finance Report

Shared by David Fuquay, Dick Scheaffer excused absence.

Report from Selected Committee Working Groups

Strategic Planning - Mike Fordham

Need to align with new Conference SLT report; reported on goals that have been met - full-time Executive Director; starting new campus ministries; strengthening local boards and campus minister compensation.

Personnel - Melissa Stump

Looked through processes and documents, including Personnel members in hiring and evaluation as well as connecting with current campus ministers as liaisons.

Communications - Cynthia Sucher

Working on branding - website URL (gotowesley.org), publications, tag line, "Every Student. Every Campus. Every Generation", next step - share best practices among campus ministries

Property - Jim Manuel

Every campus ministry getting assessments from Property Condition Assessments identifying "life safety issues," deferred maintenance and a timeline/budget for ongoing maintenance. In 2015 we will start requiring a Parsonage Inspection Report from every unit with parsonages to keep local boards looking at their parsonages. Also looking to acquire parsonages for local units that currently don't have them.

Scholarship - Nathan Adams

We have awarded one scholarship and the working group will decide on another recipient this afternoon.

Break for lunch until 12:55 pm

Conversations with Campus Ministers

Erik Seise - USF Wesley

Transition to Sunday morning worship has gone well. Students interested in ministry. Small groups ministering with Oak Grove UMC every other week. Getting more new people checking out the ministry. 20-30 students in and out of Wesley building every day. Great response to intramural sports. Weekly dinners on Wednesday sponsored by local churches followed by small group time. Small group conversations based on sermons. Leaders rising up for small groups and Sunday morning worship. Sunday morning worship is a paradigm shift - 65-70 students consistently. 30 students attended leadership training. Possible training based on Stephen's Ministry materials. Challenges/obstacles: hard decisions about who can serve where/when, how to handle disagreements between students, A/C not working for fundraiser tonight, helping local board see value of new Sunday morning based model, fundraising. Fundraiser tonight is guests of local board, mission chairs of local churches and parents of students. Partnering in "color run" with Kappa Delta tomorrow morning. Tomorrow night is open mic community time. How can BHECM partner with you? Support message that Wesley is not in competition with local churches. Erik has a vision for campus ministry on campuses throughout Tampa Bay. Erik's growing in recognizing when to evaluate/critique and when to just participate / be present. In the next year Erik wants to report to us: being commissioned as a Provisional Elder, taking sufficient paternity leave. Prayers for: growth at campuses through Bay area, preparing student leaders for ministry.

Mike Toluba - FSU Wesley

FSU Wesley has a similar weekly rhythm to local church, good support from local churches. 309 at first worship service, over 800 at BBQ. Five mission trips this year. Partnership with Homeless Coalition - monthly birthday party for homeless kids funded by Wesley. Challenge to communicate everything that's going on to the students - video announcements and social media. Challenge to cook for so many students in small kitchen. Possibility of community resources in new building. Students are proactively serving. Ministry equips and empowers students for ministry. Challenges: fundraising strategies for the future. How can BHECM better support? Mike feels very supported by BHECM. Mike's from Indiana, Pennsylvania, Kansas - wife is from Georgia. Considers Savannah his hometown. This is Mike's third position serving as a Wesley Foundation Director. Family is settling in well, wife, Kathy, is OT. Mike meets monthly one-on-one with staff. Mike is looking for small group community for himself as well as prioritizing his family time. Hope to be able to upgrade student housing in the future. Mike feels that there is a good team in place to navigate the building transition. FSU Wesley strongly values diversity, and Mike is happy to be helpful with FAMU however possible. Hope to report in a year: hope the building project is underway, more connected with students on campus, several staff members are getting close to moving on which would open the door to dream some new roles. Prayers for: selling house in Kansas, future for Kathy's parents.

Adjourned with prayer at 3:25 pm

BHECM Executive Director Report

Rev. David Fuquay

September 26, 2014

New Wesley Foundations:

Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton

Background:

NSU - I have been in conversation with Rev. Mark Caldwell, senior pastor of FUMC-Fort Lauderdale about establishing a campus ministry at Nova Southeastern University. The president of NSU is United Methodist and an alumnus of the Virginia Tech Wesley. He wants to see a United Methodist presence at NSU as they become a more residential-based university. He is a member of Mark Caldwell's church. Mark has convened a number of exploratory meetings with pastors and lay people in the area.

FAU - The Florida Conference shared an ecumenical campus ministry at FAU for many years led by an associate pastor of FUMC-Boca Raton. That ministry ended in the late 1980's. More recently, FAU was one of several universities considered for a new campus ministry launch when we began our strategic planning in 2008. At that time, the church was interested in getting involved but they did not follow-up. When FIU-MDC Wesley became a reality, we let the plans drop on our end as well.

Multi-Site Vision – Being only 30 minutes apart, it makes sense to think about a multi-site campus ministry with FAU and NSU. Marcus Zillman, former Wesley Foundation Director at UM Wesley is the new senior pastor at FUMC-Boca Raton near the FAU campus. His presence at that church gives us new connections in finding support for a campus ministry at FAU. Brett Opalinski, Senior Pastor at Christ Church, also has multiple connections to FAU, even though his church is in Ft. Lauderdale.

Recent Developments:

On Tuesday, May 6, I met in Boca Raton with Mark Caldwell, Marcus Zillman, Paul Massingill, Craig Nelson (DS of South East District that includes NSU) and Gary Spencer (DS of Atlantic Center District that includes FAU). Possibilities for a ministry at both sites were discussed, and there is a commitment from all involved to start a campus ministry on those campuses.

On Monday, Sept 22, I met in Fort Lauderdale with Mark Caldwell, Brett Opalinski and several other pastors and lay people from the area. I distributed an information packet and worksheet (attached to this report) to begin developing a new campus ministry launch proposal.

We are scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, October 28 to review their work and develop a preliminary vision statement and proposal.

Next Steps and Action Needed:

With the proposal for a new Wesley Foundation launch being developed on October 28, we would need to review the proposal and make a decision prior to our BHECM meeting in January. In order to launch a new ministry in the next conference/academic year, we need to begin our search for a new launch campus minister in December with interviews in late January.

I ask for a motion to empower the BHECM Executive Committee to 1) review the proposal for a new Wesley Foundation at FAU/Nova Southeastern, and 2) make a decision on whether we are ready to move forward or not. Any decisions made by the Executive Committee shall be reported at the January 23 BHECM meeting.

Florida A&M University**Background:**

The Wesley Foundation at FAMU was launched in the 1980's and was a strong ministry presence on that campus for over two decades. Due to property and leadership issues, the ministry declined and was ultimately suspended by BHECM in the fall of 2011. The intent was to allow 3-4 years to pass and then explore the potential and possibilities for re-launching the ministry with a clean slate.

The original plan was to begin a consultation in January 2015 involving representatives from FAMU, the Florida Conference, FSU Wesley, and our national higher education staff members, including those who relate and provide resources for historically black colleges and universities. The goal of the consultation would be to develop a preliminary vision and proposal for United Methodist ministry at FAMU.

Recent Developments:

In late April 2014, Bob Gibbs (DS of North West District) met Latricia Scriven, who was moving to Tallahassee with her husband over the summer. Her husband will be on the faculty at FAMU in philosophy and ethics. She just graduated from Gammon and they both wanted to be involved in a meaningful ministry in and around FAMU. She has plans to begin candidacy in the fall. They have experience in doing campus ministry in a volunteer capacity.

In July, Bob Gibbs met Dr. Chandra Clark, Assistant Professor of English and Modern Languages at FAMU. She is an active United Methodist and has just become a candidate for ordained ministry. She is also very interested in the re-development of a United Methodist ministry at FAMU.

On August 12, I met in Tallahassee with Bob Gibbs, Mike Toluba, Latricia Scriven and Chandra Clark to discuss strategies for re-starting the FAMU Wesley Foundation. We discussed a number of ministry models that may be effective at FAMU but concluded that we did not have enough information to discern the best approach.

Next Steps and Action Needed:

Chandra Clark has requested a meeting with Dr. William E. Hudson Jr, Vice President of Student Affairs at Florida A&M University. At that meeting, we will ask about the needs of students on campus and how the United Methodist Church can best serve students, faculty and staff at the university.

Bob Gibbs and I have discussed how important it is to re-start FAMU Wesley in the right way. We noted the need to do careful assessment and analysis, build a strong, strategic board, and find the right person to lead us on campus.

We would like to hire Latricia Scriven part-time beginning in January to complete the assessment and identify student leaders and board members. Clear benchmarks would be set for her work over the spring semester, with monthly status reports and on-site visits as the work develops. The goal of her work would be a full vision and strategic plan for the ministry which would include a full-time campus minister for FAMU.

I ask for a motion to 1) authorize the hiring of a part-time position to help us re-establish this ministry, and 2) authorize the BHECM Executive Committee to review the part-time position description and salary prior to January. All actions of the Executive Committee and Executive Director will be reported at the January 23 BHECM meeting.

Other Notes:

Campus Minister Retreat – May 27-30: Our campus ministers gathered at Dayspring Episcopal Retreat Center near Bradenton for our annual retreat. We had sessions with Janet Earls - Congregation Vitality Specialist, Kylie Foley – Imagine No Malaria, Becky Williams – COSROW talking about Sexual Assaults on Campus, and Rwth Fuquay – Clergy Excellence who led a spiritual formation session.

Campus Ministry Institute - June 23-27, Atlanta, GA: Many of our campus ministers participated in the inaugural Campus Ministry Institute focused on Discipleship of College Students. Narcie Jeter and I served on the design team for the event, Derrick Scoot and the CCW band led two of the worship services, and Tim Wright made a presentation on how they make disciples on the campus of FSC.

NEXT: National United Methodist Student Event: November 7-9, Denver, CO

NEXT makes space for college-aged United Methodists to imagine and plan how they could be God's agents of change in the church and the world. Students will hear conversations and discussions about issues facing our world and be challenged to imagine and enact alternatives. Travel scholarships have been made available to students and campus ministers from the Florida Conference.

FSU WESLEY FACILITIES RESOLUTION

Whereas FSU Wesley Foundation is a strategically important ministry of the Florida Conference, developing a new generation of Christian leaders for The United Methodist Church;

and whereas, two separate professional engineering assessments determined that the FSU Wesley Foundation building and the Chapel of the Upper Room cannot be renovated and must be demolished, leading BHECM to set a 2018 deadline for vacating those facilities;

and whereas, repair and maintenance costs over the next three years are expected to be \$250,000, raising the urgency for immediate action on demolition and new construction,

and whereas, the FSU Wesley Board and BHECM have determined that the current location is an ideal setting for campus ministry and efforts to find new suitable location were not successful;

and whereas, an 2013 feasibility study 1) affirmed the missional importance of the ministry, 2) affirmed the strategic importance of their current property and 3) concluded that a capital campaign run by FSU Wesley could expect to raise the needed amounts;

and whereas, construction of a building to meet the needs of the ministry would cost no less than \$2.5 million;

and whereas, the Conference Treasurer has determined that line of credit in the amount of \$2.5 million could be extended to BHECM for construction of that facility,

Let it be resolved that the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry and the FSU Wesley Foundation receive a line of credit from the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church of up to \$2.5 million with the understanding that FSU Wesley, supported by BHECM are responsible for paying the interest on the line of credit;

Let it further be resolved that the Cabinet of the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church set aside 10% of all closed church property sales to pay the principal portion of the line of credit not to exceed \$2.5 million.

Approved by BHECM on _____

BHECM Chairperson: _____