

**Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry**  
**January 23, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Members –**

Present: Lyndol Loyd, Mike Fordham, Allen Johnson, Melissa Stump, Andy Foote, Jim Manuel, Dick Schaeffer, Nathan Adams, Patti Aupperlee, Jon Tschanz, Glenn Bosley-Mitchell, Sharyn Ladner, Allison Manning, Stacey Thompson, Yvonne McShay, Cynthia Sucher, Willie A. Miller, Jr. (CC)

Absent: Josh Bell, Amanda Blount, Drew Dancey, Bob Douglass, Jim Divine, Will Finnin,

**Ex-Officio –**

Present: David Fuquay, Mike Crawford

Absent: Sharon Austin, Tim Smiley, David Allen

**Campus Ministers –**

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

**Guest –** Mickey Wilson (Treasurer, Director of Administrative Services)

**Guest –** Dr. Latricia Scriven

Motions and decisions in **BOLD**.

Call to Order at 10:04 a.m.

Devotional – Mike Fordham

Mike shared his experience of the past several months having been the busiest he could remember and spoke about *busy-ness* being the sign of success in today's world. As Christians, we should remember the experience of Martha and Mary and Jesus. Jesus told us that Martha – who was spending time at his feet, *being* – was *doing* what was most important. He contrasted the importance of *being* with the temptation to be *doing*. Mike's message was that we should take time *to be* and avoid filling our time with staying busy. He recommended reading *Soul Keeping*.

Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Yvonne McShay

**Second:** Melissa Stump seconded.

**Motion passes**

Guest Comments

Mickey Wilson commended the positive relationship between the Conference and BHECM. He noted that the percent of apportionment money budgeted to campus ministries had raised from 10% to 19% of Conference budget (2M of \$19.8M budget). This is markedly different from other Conferences.

The Florida Conference recognizes that campus ministry is the future of the Methodist Church. There is also deliberate inclusion in conference leadership. Florida is the leader in the young adult movement and campus ministries across the country. Jim Manual recognized him for his role in supporting the work of campus ministries during his time as treasurer.

#### Executive Director' Report

David went over a few housekeeping items then began his report. Highlights of his report included the following:

- UM Wesley is in the middle of the search for a campus minister. Six people have submitted information, providing a pool of candidates. Deadline is January 31 with interviews in February.
- Missional Engagement provided Stop Hunger Now grants and we were able to provide grants for four packing events including CCW, Gulf Coast Wesley, FIU-MDC Wesley and Gator Wesley.
- Additionally, we were able to provide \$10,000 in travel scholarships for the national UMC College student conference in Colorado.

#### Report on Executive Committee Meeting via Teleconference

Lyndol Loyd reported that the executive committee had

- Approved a contract with Dr. Scriven to complete a study on re-establishing a Wesley ministry at FAMU and agreed on a stipend.
- Agreed to postpone the effort at FAU-NOVA to allow time to consider approaches with New Church Development. The postponement reflected the bishop's direction to prioritize FAMU first. It was noted that the decision was to postpone a search for a campus minister; the efforts to develop the new ministry remains active.
- Heard an update on the Miami search.

#### Report on FAMU Study

David introduced Dr. Scriven, reporting that she had started her study at the beginning, not the end of January. She will be back in April with a full report, but had been invited to attend today so that BHECM members could meet her. She is a visiting professor in the math department, has an M.Div. and is exploring candidacy. She and her husband, a professor at FAMU, began inquiring about campus ministries shortly after arriving at FAMU, which is how she connected with the district superintendent and then Wesley.

Dr. Scriven said that she is excited about the potential re-launch of FAMU campus ministry. The initial response from students (mostly freshmen) and board and campus leaders has been positive. She has met with Cecil Washington, a coordinator in student services and with Dr. Hudson, the VP of Student Affairs next week. This is happening in conjunction with New Life UMC (only predominantly African-American UMC church in Tallahassee) close to campus that wants to attract new young members.

BHECM members prayed for her, asking God to order her steps to the right people at the right time and to prepare the students.

### Update on FSU Wesley Building Project

Mike Toluba updated the board on the progress on FSU's new building. They are on track to begin demolition and construction this summer. The contractor – Southland Contracting – has a good track record with Leon County school construction. They have agreed to give 100% of contingency fund back to Wesley. The projected timeline has the new building opening next summer. They are trying to build the biggest building possible on the land but not one square foot bigger because of water requirements for a larger footprint. \$2.7 million is the estimated project cost. They had been trying to build for \$2m with \$500K contingency that would fund furnishings and equipment but will now have to raise money for furnishings and equipment. David is moving forward on details of how to receive the draw and other financing logistics.

Mike Fordham recommended pitching fundraising opportunities to parents at Parents' Weekend, which is the second weekend in February. The building will be 15,000 square feet. They are in the process of hiring a director of development to raise money and conduct a \$500K capital campaign. David reported that money had been set aside in foundation a couple of years ago to help with this.

### Finance Report

Dick Schaffer reviewed 2014 and 2015 budgets, then presented the 2016 proposed budget for approval.

**Motion:** Finance Committee

**Second:** Patti Aupperlee seconded.

**Motion passed** unanimously.

### Subcommittee Work Sessions

The group broke up into committees to work on assignments related to the strategic plan. Following lunch, the subcommittees presented reports.

Strategic Planning Committee – Mike Fordham reported that the committee had completed a preliminary walkthrough of BHECM's mission, vision and values and compared them to the conference description of responsibilities to see potential for alignment. The committee will be considering their observations and how to incorporate that as they prepare to develop the next strategic plan.

Property Committee reviewed and is preparing forms for reporting on property. The objective is that they should not be longer than needed. Three years ago BHECM hired a property condition assessment firm that conducted assessments of campus ministry properties. The property committee does not want property reports to stay in a file drawer. Instead, they should be incorporated into financial planning for local campus ministry boards that should take action to prevent routine maintenance from becoming an expensive emergency. Maintenance should not be a low priority. The property committee recommends that BHECM should ask local boards to provide a system to find a way to fund a reserve every year that would align with maintenance reports. We need to set aside funds to catch up.

Lyndol suggested that we recommend to campus ministers that they go back and make boards aware of this direction.

Personnel Committee did not meet but participated in strategic planning committee's break-out.

Scholarship and Communications Committee – Gretchen Hastings, Director of Connectional Relations, met with this subcommittee and reviewed the current and forthcoming conference websites. She shared with the committee how campus ministries might provide stories that could be shared on the conference site. She also demonstrated a Facebook-like application called “ShareIt” that is being developed as a substitute for Facebook when it becomes commercialized.

With regard to branding (gotowesley.org and having a defined Wesley brand), she described the FLUMC philosophy as being a “house of many brands” as compared to a “house of one brand.” This means that Wesley has the flexibility to have its own brand. She encouraged BHECM to be “edgy.”

Nathan reported that BHECM had been able to award four \$500 scholarships.

Finance Committee – discussed how to educate local boards about budget and finance so that they understand system and structure. The committee feels that BHECM might help local boards develop new funding sources – helping them to both understand the system and how to go outside the system.

Church-Related Colleges – The committee looked at an assessment tool developed by David Fuquay that could be used by church-related colleges to report. Committee recommended that the two church-related colleges should report once a year, but felt that the bigger questions about the nature of church-relatedness should be addressed at a higher level than BHECM (i.e. Bishop and Presidents).

Lyndol suggested that it would be helpful if someone from BCC and Florida Southern report at BHECM once a year as campus ministers do.

Campus Ministers' Committee – Campus ministers expressed a desire that there be additional attempts to gain clarity about performance during site visits. They suggested having conversations with students and perhaps viewing video testimonies from students that go beyond numbers as metrics. They also suggested having a conference-wide gathering for students from across the state with ministries sharing the responsibility for convening. They recommended more engagement from BHECM members with local ministries. Mike Toluba suggested including BHECM members at an annual gathering should that occur.

### Conversations with Campus Ministers

#### Derrick Scott CCW

Derrick said that he loves the opportunity to do campus ministry in NE Florida. The biggest change is that Community Night used to be the biggest outreach at UNF for more than 10 years. Now it happens every other Tuesday night and there are now weekly Wednesday night worship gatherings. Everything else flows from worship. On the Tuesday nights they are not at UNF, they hold Community Night at JU. They are also holding worship at JU on Monday nights. They are in the process of developing a presence at Flagler College and expect to have a student organization there by the end of February, with monthly events around Flagler and hoping to go to weekly meetings by fall.

He described the multi-campus ministry. The administrative offices operate out of Derrick's house (a parsonage from Avondale UMC). They cook all food for gatherings on Sundays at Swaim Memorial UMC, a small church with which they have excellent relations. CCW stores supplies at another church and have a separate storage unit for band equipment. They are in conversation with Grace UMC to store things for Flagler and use their kitchen.

Lyndol asked whether there was consideration of budgeting for travel reimbursement. Derrick responded that there was no firm commitment, but he was trying to work with staff and students. CCW sometimes pays for miles for car pools of 3 or more. It is not a budgeted line item until CCW is able to secure sustaining funds. A looming need is to have intern housing. They need people/boots on the ground to be a multi-campus ministry. Derrick envisions three intern homes across NE Florida that interns share. He does not foresee a Wesley Foundation building off campus in future. Instead, Derrick sees cultivating communities on campus that are connected with each other. Believes that there is a need to consider parsonage going forward, especially if BHECM moves in the direction of having an elder be campus minister. Permanent meeting space at UNF is a continuing challenge. Derrick believes students at UNF may need to lift their voices to get a permanently assigned space. There are 20 religious organizations, all of which are having room issues, while non-religious groups seem to get "free passes."

On a personal level, Derrick said that he has added some discipline to his life around daily devotionals and a devotional day a month. He understands that personal and spiritual health are important. He has obtained a reduced rate for a Christian personal trainer. His goals for the local board are to have more committed, campus ministry engagement. He said that fundraising fell in 2014. In 2015, CCW needs to increase resource base. Derrick feels that he will need to lead board in that direction rather than having board lead him. He believes that CCW needs to talk to churches about putting CCW into 2016 budget. He said CCW will be creating other revenue by creating other products, such as mission tee shirts, which will be used to raise money for scholarships for trips. Campus to City Wesley will be going to Cuba in May. He said that there was a two-week Giving Tuesday effort that raised more than \$10K, of which students gave \$1500.

His biggest prayer request was for intern housing.

BHECM member comments – Recognized CCW's two pressing challenges – intern housing and fundraising. Brought up the Young Adult Missional movement, wondering if there might be any housing possibilities for internships there? Members appreciate his sacrificial spirit. Can we reimburse him for travel? Can this be included in budgeting process? Observed that Derrick is ministry-oriented and needs a strong board to help. Dick Schaeffer noted that CCW has a budget item for travel reimbursement, but it all goes to students. BHECM recommends that David follow up/continue to work on putting reimbursement into ministry expectations. Conversation continued about the possibility of a parsonage for sale that might address CCW needs. Further general discussion about the need to connect with districts re. possible parsonages. NE DS is trying to address CCW need. Further discussion about getting the issue of parsonages issue in front of Cabinet.

Christy Holden, Florida Gulf Coast University

Some FGCU students going to Cuba with Derrick's group.

The focus there is on service and engagement. There is good networking with other people on campus allowing her to do things she couldn't. Christy volunteered to coordinate a campus wide Stop Hunger Now event, which was very successful. There were about 100 participants – students, local churches, Mrs. Bradshaw (wife of FGCU President). The ministry was appreciative of BHECM grant. She has been able to connect with service learning and campus engagement. Professors have begun funneling students to ministry because of that event. 85% of the Wesley students have done an international trip right now. Seven are exploring calls to ministry or missionary fields. This commitment does require a great deal of individual pastoral care time. There is no campus office space. Estero Methodist Church allows her to use desk when necessary. There is a "Zone" at Student Union. She noted that the speed with which tools for campus ministry change is more rapid than when she was a church pastor. She has a part time assistant director whom she pays a minimal amount per week. She has had about 27 to 28 in worship in fall. Some come to small groups, total perhaps 50. Now have had the same room for a semester.

Reservations for space a challenge. Transitioning from being "The Island of Misfit Toys." This year a Christian couple came to them following an accident and now leading Imagine No Malaria effort.

On the personal level, she is trying to find the right stride of balancing the urgent and emergent. She wonders what the benchmarks should be for a new campus ministry. Are they growing fast enough? She also has realized how little local churches know about Wesley ministry and wants to try to reach out to churches. "This is real, not just grownup youth group. "She was frustrated that New Church Development decided to sell property right across from campus without considering or knowing about Wesley or Wesley's need for campus presence. The travel from home to campus is lengthy. She has volunteered to serve as president of United Campus Ministries on campus.

Prayer requests for transition with worship and leadership structure. Prayers, too, for stabilization.

BHECM Member Discussion – Is there a way to suggest goals/benchmarks? Personnel Committee will check to see whether there are existing goals. Suggested asking David to help board perhaps set goals. Building awareness of Wesley.

Suggestion is that Christy should be guided to focus on what is working. Discussion compared Derrick's experience that began without a worship service but community nights, to FGCU, which has begun with worship. With regard to property, committee members expressed the need to address communication within conference office. How does communication work? Wesley should be treated as a new church at FGCU. How can we improve communication?

*(Clarification after the meeting: property was sold by District Committee on New Church Development and was not handled within the conference office.)*

### Erwin Lopez – CFL Wesley

He has been transitioning back after two months off. Believes he is working more efficiently, but sometimes hard to balance. He is rising earlier, using ear phones, listening to audio books, working out and having more devotionals.

Loves change, trying new things. CFL Wesley is going on to campus now, using the free speech lawn, to hold worship services. They have done this the last two weeks and they have had more in worship attendance than ever – 80 students. They had had 35 to 50 to 65 to 55/60 and 15 to 17 students in community groups. Four students discerning calls to ministry. They are going on mission trips. The main thrust of CFL Wesley is support of college students and intentional spiritual growth. Small groups are all different – Freshley; spiritual gifts. Stopped City Life Club. Each community group wants to do a service project each month. Community food and outreach. 15 to 20 students participating in service projects.

Shared negative experience with worship leader that became a learning experience.

What will this year require of you that last year didn't? Open-mindedness from students re. moving from EPIC as a location to campus. They are considering options with possibly needing to go back to EPIC location. Codes prevent signage, but might be able to use mobile signs. Another option would be to try to find a permanent location on campus.

Vessel, the new young adult church begun at University Carillon, is somewhat frustrating. University Carillon had been providing food, but CFL Wesley has been providing pizza for the students who've attended worship on the lawn.

Prayer request for ministry, Charity and parenting.

BHECM Member Discussion – Acknowledged Erwin for moving to the lawn and commented that it was very John Wesley-like. Members complimented him for being transparent and vulnerable.

Members asked whether there was a need to have a conversation with Pastor Joe MacLaren, sensing definite frustration on Erwin's part.

Lyndol commented that he had confirmed with Erwin that the move to the lawn was related to the desire to get out on campus to reach students and not a retreat from the Carillon location. There was discussion about the experience with the worship leader as being a teachable moment about becoming a more engaged leader.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.