

**Heart of Texas Mission Center Conference Business Meeting
Minutes September 26, 2015
Carrier Parkway Congregation**

Mission Center President Andy Shelton called the Fall 2015 Heart of Texas Mission Center Conference to order at 12:35 pm.

The conference opened with the congregation singing *We Need Each Other's Voice to Sing*. Scott Bushman brought the opening prayer.

Andy Shelton read from a prepared statement that outlined the new USA Mission Field configuration and who will be our World Church Officers. This will be our last Mission Center Conference with Art Smith as our Apostle. The conference rose to express its appreciation for his ministry as our Apostle. Apostle Art Smith expressed his thanks for the recognition.

The chair then recognized Apostle Art Smith who offered greetings on behalf of himself, Presidents Veazey and Murphy, Karin Peter, and Richard Betts.

Secretary

The chair informed the conference that David Watson agreed to serve as acting secretary for the conference.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 27, 2014 and March 15, 2014 Mission Center Conferences, which had been previously distributed and published on the Mission Center web site, were approved as distributed.

Commonly Used Parliamentary Actions

The chair noted that published in the Conference packet was a matrix of commonly used parliamentary rules that would be used for the conference.

Mission Center Financial Officer is *ex-officio*

The chair informed the conference that some research had been conducted on the issue of voice and vote of the Mission Center Financial Officer. As per World Church finding, the Mission Center Financial Officer does have voice and vote at the conference.

Election of Delegates to the 2016 World Conference

The chair asked Linda Rose and Scott Bushman to pass out ballots to all attendees. He then instructed the conference how names would be added and how to use the ballot. Any nominated person must be a member of the Heart of Texas Mission Center.

The chair then took additional names to be added to the ballot. Nominations were added and the chair closed the nomination period. The conference was then instructed to elect up to 20

people to be delegates for the 2016 World Conference. Ballots were collected and election results would be announced later.

Sionito Campgrounds Association Report

The chair called attention to the Sionito Campgrounds Association report that begins on page 25 and audit of the Camp Sionito Campgrounds Association beginning on page 33. The audit is not approved but merely received by the conference.

The chair recognized Nick Sanders, President of the Board of Directors of Camp Sionito, to give the report. Sanders informed the conference that the Roger Smith Pavilion was well under way and was complete enough for use this camping season. The cell tower had been erected but not yet occupied; however, the rent was coming in at \$731.00 per month and the funds would be used to help fund the construction of a sports area. At the annual camp Sionito meeting Mike Thrutchley had been recognized as the 2015 Lifetime Service Award recipient during the 2015 reunions. The nomination forms could be found on page 32 of the conference packet. Sanders then reviewed the audit report for Camp Sionito as found on pages 32 to 34. The report found the financial records to be fairly stated and acceptable by Jonathan Say from Carrier Parkway Community of Christ.

Sanders then introduced the 2015 Camp Sionito DVD which was photographed and produced by Cheyenne Rose. Following the DVD presentation Sanders told the conference that the new double wide unit would be available for visiting reunion ministers and couples or small families in 2016. Three Latter Day Saints stakes rented the camp grounds this year with one having 246 in attendance. This completed the Camp Sionito report.

Camping Committee Report

The chair recognized Ron Saur to make comments concerning the Camping Committee Report. The 2015 Camping Committee Report was included in the packet and found on page 37. The Spec delegation had an unexpected growth in attendance and additional last minute adults and transportation had to be found. A great camping season was held at Sionito.

The chair then recognized all camp and reunion staff as well as those who attended camps in 2015. The 2016 schedule had to be changed to accommodate the 2016 World Conference. Richards Betts will be the guest minister for reunion #1; guest ministry for reunion #2 should be arranged soon. The chair noted that the mission center contracts one of the two seasonal employees who are hired each summer to serve as youth camp staff and that those interested should make contact or apply on the mission center website. They are already looking for camp staff for youth camps in 2016 and if interested please make contact with the Mission Center.

2015 Financial Report

The chair recognized Ron Saur who presented the Heart of Texas 2015 Financial Report. Saur reviewed Balance Sheets, Receipts, Disbursements, Undesignated, Equipment and Operating Reserve Funds. He noted that some later year transfers to correct negative operating totals would be made once Congregational Contributions had been made for the year. He received questions about Abolish Poverty Grants and the conference was directed to page 53 for description and application form. He then described the process. The conference then asked if funding could be allowed for the Grand Prairie Co-Op that Carrier Parkway participated in. Saur informed that

historically the grant funds have only been awarded for congregational programs.

Congregational Life Events Summary

Ron Saur directed the conference to the congregational life events summary contained in the conference bulletin.

Other Reports and Information

Barbara Mink presented a seminarian's report concerning her second year of enrollment in Brite Divinity School. Barbara thanked the mission center for their support.

The chair directed the attention of the conference to a written description of opportunities for spiritual direction offered by Jeri Grigg. She is available to congregations, couples, small groups, and individuals.

The 2016 Heart of Texas Mission Center calendar has been included in the conference packet and is also posted on the Mission Center website. Changes in traditional timing of camps would be different this year due to dates for the 2016 World Conference.

Information on the Mission Center Leadership Team, boards, and committees was noted in the conference bulletin. The chair recognized those that have agreed to serve and those currently in office at the congregation level as Pastors, Co-Pastors and Congregation Financial Officers. A Missionary Coordinator has not been determined at this time.

Linda Rose provided a brief report on the current status of the Mission Center lot behind the Carrier Parkway church. There have been no offers on the property but several individuals have asked for more information about the property.

A-1: Sustaining of Mission Center Officers

The chair called up Item A-1. Don Rose made the motion to approve the resolution. It was seconded. The chair then read a letter from the First Presidency concerning the appointment of Joe Postnikoff to Heart of Texas Mission Center President. A vote was taken, and the appointment was sustained. The chair then read a letter from the First Presidency appointing Steve Newby as Mission Center Financial Officer. A vote was taken, and the appointment was sustained. The resolution was then voted on as a whole and motion passed.

The chair then recognized Joe Postnikoff to make a statement. Postnikoff thanked Andy Shelton and Art Smith as well as the Mission Center for the opportunity to serve the Heart of Texas Mission Center. The chair then recognized Steve Newby to make a statement. Newby also thanked those involved in the nomination and consideration and looked forward to working with each congregation in the Mission center.

A-2 Sustaining of Mission Center Missionary Coordinator

The chair stated that the conference would not be entertaining a motion for resolution A-2.

A-3: Sustaining of Mission Center Leadership Team

Kevin Mink made the motion to approve the sustaining of the mission center leadership team, which is made up of the mission center president, financial officer, and their counselors. It was seconded. A vote was taken and it was approved.

A-4: Sustaining of Mission Center Council

The Mission Center Council is appointed by the Mission Center President. The Council includes the Pastors and Co-Pastors, the Congregation Financial Officers, and the Leadership Team of Heart of Texas. Mission Center President Andy Shelton has appointed three young adults and four youth representatives to the council (one to be named later). The council members were listed in the conference bulletin. Dan Miller made the motion to sustain the Mission Center Council. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken and motion sustained.

A-5: Sustaining of Mission Center Recorder

The Chair recognized Chris Beck for a motion to approve the sustaining of Mission Center Recorder, Bobbi Newby. It was seconded. A vote was taken and Bobbi was sustained.

Reading from a prepared statement, Andy Shelton expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as mission center president, reminded the members of the conference of the importance of sharing tithes equally according to true capacity between local and World Church, and asked for prayers on behalf of church employees who had lost their jobs, employees whose jobs were expanding, volunteers taking over from full-time employees, and employees whose jobs were changing.

B-2: Election of Sionito Campgrounds Association Board Members

Joe Postnikoff assumed the chair. An election was conducted to fill two positions, each serving three year terms (September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2019) on the Camp Sionito Board of Directors. A list of current board members is found in the conference bulletin.

The terms of office for Michelle Noble and Linda Rose will expire Aug. 31, 2016. The conference elected two board members to fill these vacancies. Each position was presented and voted on individually. Michelle Noble was the only nominee for the first position and was elected. Linda Rose was the only nominee for the second position and was elected. Their terms as follows:

1st 3-Year Term (Sept. 1, 2016– Aug. 31, 2019) Michelle Noble

2nd 3-Year Term (Sept. 1, 2016 – Aug. 31, 2019) Linda Rose

B-3: Sustaining of Camping Committee Members

The chair brought forward the sustaining of the camping committee members appointed by the Mission Center President. The camping committee is made up of members appointed by the mission center presidents of Heart of Texas and Coastal Bend, and the Affiliated Congregations of the Mexico-Texas Mission Center. Laurie Say, John Ellis, and Linda Rose have been appointed to represent the Heart of Texas Mission Center. Vicki Vogel made a motion to sustain these members. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

D-7: 2013 Camping Committee Audit

Don Rose moved to approve D-7, the camping committee audit. It was seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

D-6: HTMC Audit

Scott Bushman moved to approve D-6, the HTMC audit. It was seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

D-1, D-2, D-3, and D-4: Endowment, Equipment, Undesignated Earnings, and Operating Reserve Funds

The chair called attention to items D-1, D-2, D-3, and D-4. These resolutions pertain to funds not covered in the operating fund budget. With no objection, the conference considered these four resolutions as a whole. A motion for all resolutions was made Nick Sanders. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

D-5: 2015 Mission Initiative Based Operating Fund Budget

The chair recognized Steve Newby who made a motion to approve the 2016 Operating Budget and a second was received. The chair then recognized Ron Saur to present the Mission Initiative Based Operating Fund Budget for 2016. After brief discussion the vote was taken and the motion carried.

Announcement of the Results of the Election of Delegates to the 2016 World Conference

The chair then received the results of the delegate elections conducted earlier. The names of delegates and alternates were read. Those elected will represent the Heart of Texas Mission Center at the 2016 World Conference in Independence Missouri. The following is a list of delegates, in alphabetical order, and alternates, in vote order:

DELEGATES:

Chris Beck
John Ellis
Kim Hogue
Mariana Medeiros-Shelton
Cathy Miller
Dan Miller
Barbara Mink
Kevin Mink
Kathy Minton
Bobbi Newby
Steve Newby
Joe Postnikoff
Pat Pratt
Linda Rose
Laurie Say

Al Shanks
Charlotte Shanks
Lynda Sanders
Andy Shelton
Terry Shelton

ALTERNATES:

Nancy Hadsell
Dirk Rose
Joy Rathbun
Linda Siy
Marge Whitaker

Recognitions

The chair recognized Steve Newby, who recognized Ron Saur for 9 years as Mission Center Financial Officer and presented him with a token of the mission center's appreciation. Ron expressed appreciation for the opportunity and the plaque.

Art Smith then assumed the chair and recognized Andy Shelton for 7 years of service as Mission Center Congregational Support Minister from 2008 to 2013 and Mission Center President from 2014 to 2015 and presented him with a token of the mission center's appreciation.

Consideration of Priesthood Calls

The chair informed the conference that they would be considering two priesthood calls and informed the conference that without objection all individuals who are not members of the Heart of Texas Mission Center would be extended the privilege of voice, but not of vote. The conference then sang hymn number #235, *Come and Fill Our Hearts with Your Peace*.

The chair then called attention to Resolution E-1, the consideration of the call of Steve Newby of Willow Creek to the office of Bishop. Vicki Vogel made a motion to approve the resolution. It was seconded.

The chair recognized Art Smith, as a representative of the calling officer, to share testimony of Steve's call to the office of Bishop. Art shared a testimony of the call. The chair then recognized Steve Newby to speak to his testimony of the call. Steve spoke to his appreciation of the conference and the World Church for this call and opportunity to serve the church. The chair then asked if others wished to share testimonies. Several spoke of the call and the deep commitment of Steve to office of Bishop. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

The chair then called attention to Resolution E-2, the consideration of the call of Jeri Grigg of Carrier Parkway to the office of Evangelist. Kim Hogue made a motion to approve the resolution. It was seconded.

The chair expressed greetings to Sister Dorothy Eggering, SSND, as well as several other guests present to support Jeri in her ordination.

The chair recognized Art Smith, as the calling officer, to share testimony of Jeri's call to the office of Evangelist. Art shared a testimony of the call. The chair then recognized Jeri Grigg to speak to her testimony of the call. Jeri spoke of her appreciation to the conference and the World Church for this call and opportunity to serve the church. The chair then asked if others wished to share testimonies. Several spoke of the call and the deep commitment of Jeri to office of Evangelist. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

Appreciation for Conference Support

The chair recognized Carrier Parkway for hosting the conference; Pat Pratt and Dan and Cathy Miller for coordinating lunch and snacks; Art Smith for his leadership and class, and for his continued ministry and support; Lu Ann Long for serving as pianist for the conference; Ron Saur for preparing the conference booklet; and to David Watson for serving as secretary.

Adjournment

After providing instructions to participants in the ordination service which followed the business meeting, the chair entertained a motion to adjourn by Don Rose. It was seconded. A vote was taken, and the conference was adjourned until September 24, 2016, or at the call of the Mission Center President.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Watson
Conference Secretary