

NOTES – August 9, 2011 Meeting – 2 p.m. (EST)
UMAC Board of Directors

Present: Sandra Brands, president; Neill Caldwell; Carolyn Dandridge; Dan Gangler; Jane Horstman; Christie House; Royya James; Cate Monaghan, vice-president; Greg Nelson; and Linda Rhodes, treasurer.

Worship – Greg Nelson.

Minutes of the May 10 and July 12 board meetings were reviewed and adopted.

Treasurer's Report – Linda reported that she has deposited the \$7,152.13 in UMAC funds entrusted to her when she took office, to a "drop box" accessible through a UMCom line item. The drop box/line item was the solution when Linda was not able to establish a bank account due to lack of a tax ID number for UMAC and articles of incorporation or organization.

Linda still had not been given a password to view account information on line, however; Royya said she will follow up on that.

Sandy said she believes there is still around \$1,100 in the old Keystone Credit Union account, though she has not received a statement recently. She will proceed to close that account and have all funds sent to Linda or to the drop box.

There was discussion about the account used before Keystone, which had its files destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita – and the question was raised as to whether funds were left in it, and if so, how to access them. Carolyn stated that the account in Louisiana definitely was closed out when the Keystone account was opened.

The board approved reimbursement of \$149.94 to Neill Caldwell for mileage (294 miles at the IRS rate of .51) while researching sites for the 2012 annual meeting.

Nominating Committee Report – The committee (consisting of UMAC's jurisdictional representatives – Greg Nelson, Neill Caldwell, Kathryn Witte, Suzy Keenan, and Paul Black) will present a slate of candidates for offices that need to be filled at the 2011 annual meeting. Discussion quickly revealed a lack of clarity as to which offices those *are*, and as to which By-laws are in effect.

There was discussion about what actually was enacted at the 2008 annual meeting, when an amendment to the By-laws was proposed. It was Cate's recollection that action on the By-laws was deferred. The question was asked: "Did Art McClanahan (who was secretary at the time) take Minutes at the 2008 annual meeting?"

Cate pointed out that the By-laws posted on the website may not be the current ones, since they conclude with the statement, "These By-Laws, as amended, shall be effective upon adoption by vote of the membership meeting on November 17, 1990, at San Antonio, Texas."

Dan told the Nominating Committee that as soon as new By-laws are adopted at the 2011 annual meeting, those rules will apply and will govern the 2011 election process.

Greg and Neill will begin working on a slate to present to the membership.

2011 Annual Meeting Planners – Neill reported that the keynote speaker will be the Rev. Lorenza Andrade Smith, a DREAM Act activist who engaged in a hunger strike following her arrest in November 2010. Her current appointment is to a homeless population. He also gave a rundown of the scheduled workshops and their leaders.

Neill will write a story about the keynote speaker and workshops.

He said a flyer is 90% finished, and promised to send it around.

Karla was to work on vendors/exhibitors. Royya said she will contact Karla and try to take that off her hands.

Hotel Albuquerque has requested references from hotels used as sites of previous annual meetings, and completion of a direct bill application. Royya reported that references have been obtained from the hotels in Providence and San Francisco, so far. Karla has the direct bill application. There was discussion about whether direct bill is necessary; in previous years we have pre-paid incrementally, beginning with a deposit. Sandy recommended that we pursue this option with the hotel in Albuquerque. Royya agreed to contact Karla about making a percentage deposit instead of using the direct bill option. Karla will then contact the hotel to ask if that will be possible.

The registration fee for the annual meeting needs to be set. Greg offered to send Neill a formula for arriving at a fee.

2012 Annual Meeting – Neill reported on discussions with various Hyatt hotels in the Washington, D.C. area – with the Crystal City facility looking very favorable. However, the labor disputes involving the Hyatt Corporation will have to be resolved before UMAC can enter into a contract. Neill said he is engaged in dialogue with Hyatt executives and will keep the board updated.*

Proposed Legislation for General Conference – Sandy has written the rationale for UMAC's petition to General Conference. Cate is sending it to Royya so that UMCom can use the same rationale.

Awards Competition – At Dan's suggestion, Cate agreed to send a daily email giving a countdown to the entry deadline, along with a notification that there will be no extension of the deadline – no exceptions.

Vision and Mission of UMAC – Dan said his committee's work continues; he has nothing more to report at this time.

Linda and Sandy agreed to talk the following day about closing the Keystone account.**

Royya called attention to a "Resolution on Civil Discourse for 9/11" adopted by the Religion Communicators Council (RCC) Board of Governors, and said she would send it around. The RCC is encouraging its members and faith groups to adopt similar resolutions on civil discourse.

Dan asked who will be printing the awards certificates. Neill offered to work with Matt Brodie to determine whose print shop can best provide this service.

Dan questioned who will serve as emcee at the awards gala. Others on the call thought the emcee was going to be Steve Horswill-Johnston, but Dan said that is not the case; he is producer, not emcee. Christie said Tara Barnes, on the Global Ministries staff, has talent for that and has offered to help. Cate recommended that the awards team accept Tara's gracious offer and find a way to utilize her gifts.

Next Meeting – The next UMAC board meeting will be **via Adobe Connect**, on **Tues. Sept. 6, 2011 – at 2 p.m. Eastern / 1 p.m. Central / noon Mountain / 11 a.m. Pacific.**

Addenda:

*On Aug. 12, Neill reported:

[from] my meeting yesterday with Hyatt World Sales Director Fred Reichelt ... the Hyatt Regency Crystal City is NOT on any boycott list. The Hilton Crystal City next door is on the list that the union wants people to avoid. But the Hyatt we are considering is fine; in fact, it's not even a union hotel. So we're good on that point.

Fred rolled out the Crystal City hotel General Manager, Sales Manager and several other staff members to shake my hand and tell me how much they want our business and how they will look after us.

I also explored the area a little bit. Within a short distance (5-minute walk at most) of the hotel are 35-40 restaurants, shops, and a Metro station. There are probably a dozen other hotels in that Crystal City area, plus headquarters for Boeing, General Dynamics, etc. (Calvary UMC is also within this neighborhood near the hotel.) They also run a shuttle around in that area and to the Metro stop, in case you don't want to walk – plus a shuttle back and forth to Reagan National Airport next door. And if we do a service project, they're interested in opening that up to hotel employees as well, because they already have a program established where hotel workers spend a morning stocking a food pantry, things like that.

**On Aug. 10, Sandy reported:

I talked to Darlene at Keystone United Methodist Federal Credit Union. She is faxing all the paperwork to Linda so Linda's name can go on the account. There's also a credit card with a \$10,000 limit associated with this account. Linda will have signing privileges once she returns the paperwork as will the president. We could use it to secure some of the hotel, I suppose. However, it isn't activated; I will try to activate it today. If that doesn't work, let's just tell Darlene to close it – and if we make a decision to keep an account there, issue new cards.

According to Darlene, the balance in the Money Market account is \$20,556.41. The balance in the regular account is \$56.55 I wonder if we should leave some of that money as a reserve in the account. The statements have been going to Steve [Hustedt – treasurer last year]; all information goes to him. Once we get everything changed over to Linda's name, we can make a decision about closing the account for good or keeping it as a reserve.

Cate replied:

My own preference would be to remove all monies from Keystone and close those accounts – simply because they have not been responsive in any way. I think we could be better organized with all our funds in one account (which right now is just an UMCom line item). If we vote at the annual meeting to incorporate, we'll be able to transfer everything to a bank with branches everywhere.