**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Indian Nations Presbytery**

**Coordinating Council**

**July 21, 2021**

**Hybrid meeting (Zoom Video Conference, In-Person)**

**Minutes**

**Members present:** TE Rick Baggett; RE Melissa Gill; RE Karen Girdner; RE Blake Harrison; RE Sue Johnson; RE Janet Labude; RE Mark Leidner; RE Martin McNeese; RE Deanna Piercy; RE Julie Spencer;

**Ex-Officio:** RE Charlotte Lovett, INP Moderator; TE Charlie Smith, Interim Presbytery Pastor; TE Abbey Walker, INP Vice-Moderator; TE Scott White, Council Moderator

**Excused:** TE Tracy Evans, Stated Clerk; TE Paul Kirbas; TE John McKinnon, Council Vice-Moderator; TE Mitch Miller; RE Mike Mize; RE Craig Stanley.

**Absent:** TE Jan Burns-Hintze; RE Deborah Kauffman; TE Joe Meinhart;

**Also in attendance:** Sue MacHugh, INP Administrative Assistant

**Call to order, Opening Prayer**

The moderator called the meeting to order with prayer at 1:01 pm. A quorum was declared present.

**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda for the meeting was **approved.**

**Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the May 19, 2021, meeting were **approved.**

**Officer and Staff Reports:**

**CC Moderator Report**

* No report

**Interim Presbytery Pastor Report**

* TE Smith noted the need for hard work ahead, reflecting that churches and pastors have a deep weariness. The $5,000 checks sent to all member congregations have been received joyfully, but the majority of those funds are being spent on immediate needs – often infrastructure – rather than the suggested field of mission.

**Stated Clerk Report**

■ No report

**INP Moderator Report**

■ RE Lovett, noting the resumption of traveling to member congregations by the Interim Presbytery Pastor, said she, too, has begun visiting churches with stops at Bethany, Westlake, Midwest City, and OKC Trinity.

**Committee Reports**

**Committee on Administration:**

■ In a written report, Moderator Craig Stanley noted that COA has placed an investment with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program in order to lower the interest rate on a PILP loan with Covenant Presbyterian Church of Oklahoma City. The investment was a reallocation of funds from the Texas Presbyterian Foundation (in money market, earning zero percent) to the Presbyterian Foundation, which placed the funds into fixed-rate notes.

■ Moderator Stanley also said that with the transfer and sale of Dwight Mission to the Cherokee Nation, all funds that were loaned to Dwight have been repaid.

**Committee on Ministry:**

■ RE McNeese reported on actions of COM at the July 6, 2021, meeting. He said the following ordinations and installations are scheduled:

■ Landon Whitsitt installation, OKC Westminster, August 22, 3 pm

■Chas Gowing, ordination/installation, Pauls Valley, August 28, 2 pm

■Abbey Walker, installation, OKC Covenant, September 12, 1 pm (tentative)

■ RE McNeese also noted that mold problems have been found at FPC Duncan, and that an advisory committee has been appointed to work with the church, including reworking a bank loan taken out by the church. COM has recommended that Duncan stop using their sanctuary until cleanup is complete.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

* **No report**

**Committee on Nominations and Representation**

■ RE Gill said it is not too late to sign up for open positions

**Board of Trustees**

■ No report

**INP Foundation Board**

■ The Foundation, following COA’s lead, approved a motion to change the investment option for the INP Foundation Account from the Texas Presbyterian Foundation’s fixed-income fund to the TPF balanced fund.

**Network Reports**

**Congregational Support Network**

■ RE Leidner said efforts are continuing to make deeper connections with member congregations.

**Care of Pastoral Leaders Network**

■ No report

**Youth Ministry Network**

■ No report

**New Business**

■ A letter from First Presbyterian Church, Oklahoma City, requesting a grant for $145,000 for roof repairs was discussed.

Discussion included denying similar requests in the past, large capital needs as part of long term costs of a congregation, partnering with local congregations, possibility of establishing a policy for guidance, and vision for the future.

After further lengthy discussion, two motions were made by RE Gill:

■ First motion: Coordinating Council will respond to FPC OKC by saying they appreciate the request, it has led to a good discussion, and presbytery will now come up with guidelines to help presbytery make good decisions on such requests. (Seconded by Blake Harrison) **Motion passed**. Coordinating Council Moderator Scott White will draft a letter to be sent to FPC OKC.

■ Second motion: The Coordinating Council calls for the establishment of a Task Force to investigate this issue and come back with recommendations and policy guidelines regarding how to better respond to infrastructure funding requests made by member congregations to the presbytery. (Seconded by Blake Harrison) **Motion passed.** (Members of the task force to be recommended by INP Moderator Lovett, with assistance by Interim Presbytery Pastor Smith)

Details on the task force to be presented at the next Coordinating Council meeting.

**Other new business**

Motion that Coordinating Council approved the use of presbytery funds for a $7 subsidy on a $14 ticket for pastors and congregation members to attend the Indian Nations Presbytery Night at the Ballpark to watch the Oklahoma City Dodgers on Tuesday, August 17th. (Nearly 60 tickets were sold for the event.) **Motion passed.**

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned with prayer by Moderator White at 2:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Carroll Smith

Interim Presbytery Pastor