

OMA – UCC

February 3-5, 2010 Board Meeting

Moon Beach Camp

The meeting was called to order by Jeremy Force.

Members present: Bruch Druckenmiller, Jeremy Force, Glenn Svetnicka, Kaila Russell, Ryan Gackenheimer, Gaylene O'Brien, Katrina Glenn, Kim Harris, Kelly Burd (interim national staff), and William Bourdon, scribe. Kathy Duckworth had an excused absence.

The November 5th & 9th, 2009 meeting minutes were approved as written.

The following changes needed for board member listings on the website were noticed. We are asking Charles, our webmaster, to make the changes.

- 1) Kim should be listed as a Program Director
- 2) Kamp Kaleo is at 46872 Willow Springs Rd.
- 3) Moon Beach is at 1487 Moon Beach Rd.
- 4) Ryan should be listed as: 1 Church St., Essex Junction VT 05452 Tel: 802-878-5745
- 5) Kaila Russell should be listed as Pacific Northwest Conference Staff

Financial Report

Jeremy passed out Kathy's financial report. After discussion the board has set income line items as: Deering Funds, Program Fees, and Membership Fees. Expense items shall be set as: Program Expenses, Board Expenses, and Administrative Expenses.

Deering Funds

Bruce and Jeremy made a trip to Cleveland and clarified that funds that are not awarded for grants in a given year are kept in the fund and help to maintain the fund balance. We were reminded that the annual distribution from the fund is allocated equally three ways: one-third to help with the national staff person with outdoor ministry responsibilities, one-third to be used at the discretion of the OMA board, and one-third to be given as grants based on the recommendation of the OMA Board to National.

Constitution and By-Laws

After a review of the amended constitution and by-laws a motion was made to post the amended constitution and by-laws on the website and to mail them out at least 60 days prior to the general meeting, which is scheduled for November 2011. (Glenn, please email them to Charles.)

Report from Kelly Burd

Kelly reported that she will continue in the interim position for the next six months and that national is having discussions about the design of a new staffing model for her position. Most likely, the position will be split into two, one for youth and one for young adults. The decision on staffing will be made in July, and she will keep the board informed.

She reminded us that national needs to be reminded that one-third of the Deering funds are going to national and that they are to be used for outdoor ministry staffing.

Kelly also reported on the research that national had conducted. Some of the key points are that churches/programs need:

- To be a safe place for all
- To have opportunities for social service and mission
- To focus on faith education
- To provide ways for young adults to connect outside the local church
- To find ways to network

National was also developing a subscription-based magazine called **VOICES**, and also continues with e-posted service.

If we are able to put a promotional piece for outdoor ministry together for Synod, then our timing is still OK since the decisions will not be made until January 2011. (Jeremy will follow up with Bryan and Ann to see if they still have an interest in working on this project.)

Consult 18

It was voted by consensus that Consult 18 be held at Pilgrim Center in Wisconsin in November 2011.

Membership Contacting Responsibilities

With our smaller board number and 4 new members, we took a new look at how to allocate membership contact responsibilities within the revised structure. Based on the geographical location of members, the following assignments were made:

Ryan and Kathy	New England and Mid-Atlantic
Kaila and Katrina	Western
Kim & Glenn	West Central, plus Slumber Falls
Gaylene and Bill	Southern and Great Lakes, minus Slumber Falls

The role of regional reps will be to maintain contact with member sites and encourage them to attend and find meaning in OMA-UCC programs.

Kathy has sent invoices for membership dues to all past members, and Jeremy is contacting five conferences/program centers who should be part of our association and have not participated in most recent history.

Jeff Puhlmann-Becker

Jeff joined us for lunch and the balance of our meeting.

Jeff reported on the work of the National Council of Churches' Committee on Outdoor Ministry and their major project, the writing of outdoor ministry curriculum. In an effort to hear from end users, the committee is hoping that each denomination will send participants to a September 20-23, 2010 gathering in Denver. The OMA Board allocated up to five scholarships of \$1,000.00 each to attend; the scholarships will be granted by the Chair. One stipulation for receiving the scholarship is that you attend OMA-PG in November and report on the meeting. Names suggested are Jeff, Kaila and June. The Chair will solicit names for attendees in his February-March e-mail and the executive committee will make the allocations.

Consult 18

The dates for the event were set for Sunday, November 6 – Thursday, November 10, 2011. The Consult Planning Team is Glenn (chair), Jeff (site representative), Kaila, Kim and Katrina. Bruce, as board program chair, is ex-officio. The best airport to fly into is Milwaukee, less than two hours from Pilgrim Center.

OMA-PG

The event is again scheduled for the Cleveland office and will take place November 9-11, 2010. Participants should arrive for dinner on the 9th and depart before breakfast on the 11th. Bill will chair the event, Ryan will be working on worship, and Gaylene will focus on hospitality.

The agenda for the meeting:

11/9

6:30	Dinner
7:30	Welcome and introduction activity (Gaylene)
8:30 – 9:00	Vespers (Ryan)

11/10

8:00	Breakfast
9:00	Worship in Amistad Chapel
10:00-11:00	Introductions and Q & A with national staff
11:00	Educational session (Must Do's of Doing Church Camp Well)
12:30	Lunch
1:15	Educational Session #2
3:00	Free time and tours of national office
6:30	Dinner
7:30	OMA Board Q & A and discussion topics
8:30	Communion in the Chapel (Ryan)

November OMA Board Meeting

The OMA Board will arrive in Cleveland on November 8th in time for dinner. We will meet on the morning of the 9th.

After discussion, Jeremy asked us to work on goal setting. The first question we wish to explore is: Are we better off staying the way we are as an association, or should we be having discussions with other associations, i.e. Lutheran/Presbyterian/Disciples? The second question dealt with our presentation of outdoor ministries as an integral part of the life of the church.