

Wednesday November 18, 2009

Present (for all sessions):

Alistair So *chair*, Timothy Koponen *vice-chair*, Alicia Graham *secretary*, Sally Bingham, Phina Borgeson, Robert Gepert, Holly Hollerith, Tom Hudson, Gretchen Rehberg, Dick Shori, Edward Sisson, Charles Stewart

The meeting began a discussion and brainstorming session of what the committee is interested in and what the committee would like to accomplish during this meeting and throughout the triennium:

Topics to discuss

Food system
Global warming
Chesapeake Bay
Oceans/ rivers (water systems)
Biodiversity
Science Education
Ethics of funding
Personal Privacy (IT)
Nano-technology
Theology of Creation
Liturgy
Energy

What we should do?

Work with other
CCABs
Program of Education
Provide resources

Questions to ask ourselves

What is the church's position about X?
What can we realistically accomplish?
What does the church need from "us?"
Network – revival-retreat
Website
Ecumenical
Transparency issues
Attention Grabber

Other thoughts:

Sally wishes we could make statements. Organize a press conference? Wants more media attention, awareness.

Allie isn't sure that the world is interested.

Tim thought the committee could be best as a resource, he looked at groupings:

Energy/Water/Food
Network
Global Warming
Education/Liturgy/Green Theology

Importance of Energy Audits

A sexton's conference

Perhaps our website could be a clearing house of information

Make use of the DFMS website

How do we make the website something that everyone knows exists?

Would people use our websites?

Give diocese something to put on their own websites

Look at all of the resolutions that involve the environment regardless as if they were referred to us

Elections Brainstorm:

What do we want in our leaders (Chair, vice-chair, secretary)?

1. Time
 2. Willingness
 3. Organizational Skills
 4. Ability to delegate
 5. The three form a “steering committee”
 - a. Lay/clergy chair/vice chair
 6. Secretary: detail oriented
 7. Chair:
 - a. Ability to network (both in scientific community and church)
 - b. Visioning Process
 - c. Site selection for meetings
 - d. In the past helped organize ecumenical round table/engage in dialogue
 - e. Effectively uses 25k budget
 8. Vice-Chair
 - a. The vice-chair can take any responsibilities of the chair, so if the chair is a spokesperson, the vice-chair can
 - b. Coordinates subgroups/accountability
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Session 2:

Elections: Chair Alistair So

Vice Chair: Tim Koponen

Secretary: Allie Graham

Prayer Schedule for the Meeting:

11/18 Compline Chuck Stewart

11/19 Morning Prayer Tom Hudson

11/19 Noonday Prayer Bob Gepert

11/19 Compline: Ed Sisson

11/20: Morning Prayer: Sally Bingham

Agenda for the Meeting:

Discussion of Duties and Mandate:

<http://generalconvention.org/ccab/mandate/135>

Mandate the refers to roundtable:

With the cutting of the budget, how should we represent ourselves at the ecumenical roundtable?

Should we send delegates?
Is this an unfunded mandate?

Other Questions:

Where is God calling this committee?

What are our expenses?

- Meetings, subcommittee meeting

Is the mandate attending the roundtable actually in the mandate?

When are our meeting dates (needed by Friday)

Do we actually want to go to the round table?

How does all of this fit into the strategic plan from the national church office?

Reasons for attending the Roundtable:

Networking

Phina: When working on Product, we've enjoyed the critique of the others in other groups, we wouldn't have that if we didn't get together with the. The theological end of things is very deep on this, just as the activism end is as well. It is in the middle of what we are going to do for GC that perhaps isn't as useful with this. But for resources this is very useful.

Alistair: Perhaps not to be so constrained if we meet the year we have the 15k budget, and it will only be two days of us together, it could dilute us together. Also, the UCC and Methodists only sent a few people on their own. There are about 50 at the ecumenical round table. Theoretically we are supposed to hold it in 2011 or 2012.

Bob: We have the six points, and we are responsible to Executive Council and General Convention, and we can trash the ecumenical round table

Issues:

1. Environment
 2. Publicity/Communications
 3. Theology/liturgy of creation
 4. Science Education
 5. Network
 6. Strategic Plan
- Focus on the issue of water
Food system issues

The environment was listed as a #1 issue. Discussion moved to narrowing this down. Concerns included the need to think practically, and have resources utilized by the church (water, climate change) while not being politically polarizing, letting emotions get in the way of facts or creating "white noise" with something like climate change. Other concerns were finding the middle way between the activist and the scientist.

Discussion then moved to ways to present information in the web format of presenting the information. Four topics (Food Systems, Global Warming, Biodiversity, and Water Systems) would be presented. The site would provide summaries and reviews of both a scientific and a theological readings of the issues. Readings and videos would be under half an hour and would include good science and good theology without being “biased” for a wide variety of audiences (students, preaching, liturgy, etc). The STF Network could be used to find experts in the different fields.

Session 3:

Norms for the rest of the meeting:

One person speak at a time

Invite everyone to speak

Reasons for keeping Medical data:

For the chair of a committee to hold the files so that if there is an issue they can take care of it, it is still likely illegal.

Divisions into different groups:

Theme groups:

1. Climate change

2. Biodiversity

3. Food Systems

4 Water Systems

Functional Groups

Website/Tech

Editorial

Theological

Ecumenical

Tim moved, Allie seconded: These are the thematic groups and the functional groups for this committee. Unanimously approved.

Technical	Deick, Tom, Chuck, Ed, Allie	Climate Change	Tom, Sally, Tim, HH
Editorial	Phina, Chuck, Tim	Biodiversity	Ed, Alistair, Phina
Theology	Gretchen, Sally, HH, Alistair	Food Systems	Phina, Gretchen,
Ecumenical	Tom, Bob, Alistair	Water Systems	Allie, Chuck, Bob, Dick

For each theme there should be 1) a short theological statement as to why X matters to the church 2) Why the average person should care that this is also about God 3) Places to go for more information 4) Annotated Webliography/Bibliography
Other possibilities are trifolds, videos, and bulletin inserts.

Session 3 agenda

Afternoon:

1pm-5pm: Topical Discussions

Timetable for Triennium

7pm-9pm: Strategic Planning, Network

Visiting other meetings: Outreach and Invitations

Social Justice

Liturgy and Music

Water Break Out session:

What are we interested in?

Drinkable water

Regional water issues

Potable water issues

Better email address for Bob Gepert rrgepert@gmail.com

Climate Change:

Theological statement

Catechism of Creation

IPL

Genesis 1

Sermon collections

Bibliography/webliography & Videos/bulletin inserts/communication

Videos from/by Sally – Preaching for the Planet

KQED shows

Greenfaith – Fletcher Harper

Emergent Church – Inside Out Sunday

Green Jobs Initiative

Lighten Up – video and study guide for parishes

Climate for Change – book by Katherine Hayhoe and Andrew Farley

Hot, Flat and Crowded – book by Tom Friedman

The Bridge at the Edge of the World – Gustavus Speth (Yale)

Concrete suggestions for actions

Bishops make energy audit mandatory – require for new assignments

Show connection between energy conservation and budget

Consider three-phase current for church buildings

Three-phase model – Council of Endowed Episcopal Parishes - áROI

Talk at clergy conferences

Every church join its state IPL (Genesis Covenant)

Garbage Day – see the film Renew

Biodiversity:

Healthy anthropogenic aspect. Speciation perspective
Dominion Theology
Theology of the incarnation
Biophilia
Tim will send more info

Food Systems

What is Organic?
Food diversity
Nitrogen as greenhouse gas
Fuel crops vs food crops
Is it possible to patent and profit from life forms?
Can we do this with people?
Doing this in the theological context for the Eucharist.
How do we understand the role of eating together
How do we understand the role of us as creatureliness in the rest of creation

Water System

This group will do more investigations and come back with a more detailed and narrowed response
Looking at potable water issues
Water issues in different regions
Flow
Religion, ethics, more of water

Cleveland April 30-May 2

May 2011: Be finished

Executive Committee Caucus

Cleveland Conference: The three person Executive Committee will represent the group. Will meet for one day, then join the ecumenical round table.

IPL in 2011: Would try to have the conference and meet before.

2012: Maybe similar to 2010

July 15th 2010: small group work distributed to large group

Labor day 2011 for Blue Book report. Work on it at the F2F meeting.

December 15th 2010 small group work is refined and going to the product task

Gretchen moved: The STF budget will be used to pay the STF committee members membership fee to the Network.

Sally amended (and Tom seconded): Subject to accountability as deemed by the executive committee for one year at a time.

Aye:8

No:1

Abstaining:2

NP: 1
Amendment Passes

Motion:

The STF budget is to pay the STF committee members membership fee to the Network one year at a time Subject to accountability as deemed by the executive committee

Aye:7

No:2

Ab:2

NP:1

Motion Passes.

9:15am Friday November 20.

10 minutes of discussion on Functional group discussion

Group Report backs

Technical:

Please give us feedback by the end of 2009 for what you think of the layout etc
How can we make the network and committee website work together.

Theology

Check thematic theological statement from each group

Ensure they are theologically accurate and continuity

Look at the theology from the science and technology aspect

The four theme groups charge is on their own to come up with the science of their area and the theological area by July 15. By Dec 15th the theme groups are done and are giving their work to the functional groups. At that point in time they have done the scientific, theology, resources etc. The theology committee then looks at the theology statements with a more focused lens to give resources, suggestions, prayer book citations etc. It is not that they are writing the theology for all the four theme groups, etc.

It then goes to the editorial group.

Editorial Report back:

They will make a style sheet

Look for graphics (PUBLIC DOMAIN)

More original photos the better.

Ecumenical

Isn't sure the existing means are the best to have an ecumenical outreach

Suggests searching websites, perhaps linking to them

Include religious groups that do necessarily "agree" with us