



**BGM Executive Committee  
June 26-27, 2017**

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Site:** DoubleTree by Hilton  
1000 NE Multnomah Street  
Portland, OR 97232  
Ph: 913-234-2100

**Housing:** DoubleTree by Hilton

**Officers:** Judy Fackenthal, President  
Josue Gómez-Menendez, Vice President  
Paul Higgins, Budget Review Officer  
Don Ng, Past President  
Lee Spitzer, General Secretary

**Committee:** Felipe Candelaria, Puerto Rico  
Zina Jacque, Metro Chicago  
Tasha Wilson, Rochester/Genesee

**Chaplain:** Kay Farley, Rocky Mountains

**Parliamentarian:** Dennis Johnson, West Virginia

**Staff:** Alan Musoke, Associate General Secretary/Treasurer/CFO  
Kathy Jachowski, Administrator

**Monday, June 26, 2017, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.; Sellwood Rm.**

The Executive Committee gathered at 6:00 p.m. in the Sellwood room of the DoubleTree for dinner.

**Tuesday, June 27, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Sellwood Rm.**

**BGM EC 461            CALL TO ORDER**

ABC President Judy Fackenthal called the meeting to order.

## **BGM EC 462            DEVOTIONS**

Kay Farley, BGM Chaplain, lit the Christ Candle as a reminder of the powerful presence of Christ in our meeting and led devotions.

## **BGM EC 463            CONSENT AGENDA**

*A motion was made by Zina Jacque and seconded by Tasha Wilson to adopt the proposed agenda dated June 26-27 and to approve the minutes of the March 9–11, 2017 meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Atlanta, GA.*

Motion passed.

## **BGM EC 464            REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY**

Lee Spitzer shared his report (see attached report). Lee shared that it has been “27 days since becoming General Secretary.” He went on to say that the OGS staff is wonderful. Since becoming General Secretary there have been many issues needing to be addressed and that the “National Family has been like a local church that has not had a senior pastor for a long time and then finally there is someone to give the issues, concerns, needs and decisions that need to be made.”

In terms of the Board of General Ministries and the Executive Committee, Lee is eager to see how “God will work among us as friends” and he wants to “become buddies.” Lee also wants to invite the leaders of the BGM to join him when he visits in their regions. Lastly, Lee wants to address United Mission right away.

## **BGM EC 465            REPORT OF BUDGET REVIEW OFFICER (See Report attached)**

### **1. OVERALL**

- a. the year-to-date financials show a net gain of \$81K primarily due to the Biennial which has a gain of \$139K. *This is only a snapshot of the Biennials Profit and Loss statement for the end of April. The revenues and expenses will change when the August statements are generated and all financial information has been entered in the Biennial Profit and Loss statement.*
- b. Net revenue compared to last year is down (\$248K). The primary reason for the decrease in revenue is ABCUSA Departments which had a decrease of (\$214K). Net revenue is determined by subtracting the Biennial from this year and last year since there was no Biennial in 2016.

### **2. DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

The Development office had a loss of (\$86K). Revenues realized by this department flow through other departments.

### **3. WOMEN IN MINISTRY**

Revenue is up \$15K. This increase is 32% above last year.

### **4. UNITED MISSION**

Total UM is \$2,404,022. This is a decrease of (\$191,286) from the prior year. This represents a reduction of 7.37%.

## **BGM EC 466            UNITED MISSION**

Discussion on UM. Tasha Wilson shared the three pronged strategy for BGM consideration referred to as ACT on UM.

Lee shared his initial strategies for United Mission suggesting that it is not about rolling out programs and adaptive change, it is about what is the whole reason for OGS to exist. “Is the story compelling to people to want to give? There needs to be a missional narrative.”

Also, Lee shared that he would be making staffing changes and he would begin a search for two associate General Secretaries: one for fundraising and one for mission. Lee wants to build a team with vision that can tell a missional narrative.

Lee suggested that depending on church budgets for UM no longer works. Lee wants to “update the website to allow for people to give online to UM, leverage the relationship with the Executive Regional Ministers to promote UM with quality material, and find new money.”

***A motion was made by Zina Jacque and seconded by Tasha Wilson to restructure the United Mission to a missional narrative as outlined by the General Secretary in consultation with the Executive Committee.***

Motion passed.

## **BGM EC 467                    588 REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING ISSUES**

### ***Building Issues***

The developer wants to enter a joint venture with us and there is a sense of urgency among the partners of a need to move. A “staff-driven” process for ABHMS brought to the NEC the possibility that they could purchase a building within walking distance of the mission center. Three options were presented: 1. ABCUSA organizations to buy jointly, 2. ABHMS to purchase the property to expedite and later entities to buy shares. 3. ABHMS to purchase property and other entities lease. A decision was made for ABHMS to buy the building and for the others to lease. IM felt it would not have enough space in size and limited windows; therefore, making this building space not feasible for them. Their board decided to look elsewhere and is leasing their own space a half mile away from the other building. ABF also decided to find space elsewhere. Two prior announcements went out regarding this decision. A Letter of Intent dated May 5 and signed May 16 stated that ABCUSA intended to lease this space from ABHMS. (See attached letter)

The Executive Committee will review the building issues with BGM for further discussion.

## **BGM EC 468                    PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

See attached document.

## **BGM EC 469 CREDENTIALS & CAUCUS COMMITTEE**

Josue Gómez-Menendez, chair, called to order the meeting of the Credentials & Caucus Committee.

### **Changed Relationship Report**

The Executive Committee received the Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches. (See attached report)

***A motion was made by Zina Jacque, seconded by Don Ng to receive the Report of Changed Relationships of Local Churches (1205.1:06/17) dated November 9, 2016 – June 15, 2017 and to forward the report to the Board of General Ministries.***

Motion passed.

Paul Higgins shared the Caucus Annual Reports and Requests for 2018 Funding (see enclosed documents).

*A motion was made by Zina Jacque and seconded by Tasha Wilson to recommend to the General Secretary a budget of \$51,594 for 2018 for American Baptist Caucuses, approving funding for all caucuses requested, less a 10 % reduction for those who did not segregate program and administrative expenses in their funding requests.*

Motion passed.

Suggestion was made to have an educational session in November 2017 to discuss funding and partnership.

#### **BGM EC 470            BGM OFFERING**

*A motion was made by Tasha Wilson and seconded Zina Jacque that the offering collected at the BGM plenary session on Wednesday, June 28 during the morning worship be designated to American Baptist Women in Ministry in memory of Whitney Shiner, husband of Pat Hernandez.*

Motion passed.

#### **BGM EC 471            STANDING RULES**

See attached document for full details of recommended changes to be taken to BGM for acceptance, which are:

SR 14.4.5 to provide that (1) the inter-caucus president does not need to be an individual caucus president, and (2) if the inter-caucus president is unable or unwilling to perform one or more assigned functions, the vice president shall be deemed the acting president for such purposes.

SR 17.1 to add Kachin Baptist Churches USA as an AMO and to delete the American Baptist Computer Center.

SR 18.12.5 to amend the definition of "Independent director" to conform to the revised New York statute.

SR 18.12.7 - new section added - definition of "Affiliate" to conform to the revised NY statute and to list the American Baptist Historical Society as an affiliate.

*A motion was made by Zina Jacque and seconded by Tasha Wilson to present the BGM standing Rules amendments each individually contingent on the passing of the bylaws at the business meeting to be passed.*

Motion passed.

#### **BGM EC 472            EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES**

##### **Future BGM Dates:**

**November 16-18, 2017** – King of Prussia, PA (Executive Committee dinner on Nov. 15)

**November 16, 2017** – Celebration Service for the Mission Center 2:00 PM

**June 13-15, 2018** - Green Lake, WI (Executive Committee dinner on June 12)

**November 9-11, 2018** - King of Prussia, PA (Executive Committee dinner on Nov. 8)

**Future BGM Exec. Comm. Dates:**

**November 15-16, 2017** – King of Prussia, PA

**March 8-10, 2017** – TBD

**June 12-13, 2018** – Green Lake, WI

**September 13-16, 2018** – Omaha, NE

**November 8-9, 2018** - King of Prussia, PA

**March 14-16, 2019** – TBD

**June 2019** (Biennial TBD)

**September 12-14, 2019** – Denver, CO

**BGM EC 473            ADJOURNMENT**

**Next meeting of the BGM Executive Committee:** September 14-16, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Submitted by



Rev. Dr. Lee B. Spitzer  
General Secretary

LBS/kj

**Documents attached**

*BGM EC Proposed Agenda: June 26-27, 2017*

*BGM EC Roster: June 2017*

*BGM EC Minutes: March 9-11, 2017(1002:3/17)*

*BGM Minutes: Nov. 17-19, 2017 (1001:11/16)*

*BGM Minutes: May 8, 2017 (1001:0517)*

*Report of BGM Director to ABHMS*

*MMBB Report*

*Board of General Ministries Reports: ABCUSA Office of the General Secretary and Associated Ministry Organizations*

*Rhythms of the Spirit Report*

*Summary Report: Baptist Talk Commission, Creation Justice Network Task Force, FNECU*

*Transformed by the Spirit Updates*

*Burma Refugee Commission*

*General Secretary's Report*

*Board Role Document*

*Year to Date Financials*

*ABCUSA Financial Statements and Report of Independent Certified Public Accountants; December 31, 2014 and 2015*

*ABC President's Report*

*Caucus Reports*

*Report of Changed Relationships, November 9, 2016 – June 15, 2017 (1205.1:6/17)*

*Conflict of Interest Statement*

*Proposed Amendments to the ABCUSA Standing Rules*

*Letter of Intent dated May 5*