

**SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC  
JUBILEE FUND MEETING  
MINUTES  
Zoom Conference Meeting  
Monday, September 10, 2018 10:00 AM**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Moderator Julius Jackson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and the meeting opened with prayer by Moderator Julius Jackson.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDER:**

Sarah McHenry was appointed recorder for this meeting.

**ATTENDANCE:**

The following individuals were on the line for the conference call:

Rev. Harold Bennett  
John Etheridge  
Julius Jackson(Moderator)  
Sarah McHenry  
Karen Thatcher  
Veronica Thomas  
Frances Turner  
Margaret Washnitzer  
Janice Wells

**QUORUM:**

A quorum was established for the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF DOCKET:**

The docket was approved as presented.

**MINUTES:**

The May 7, 2018 Minutes were approved with the correction of the spelling of Margaret Washnitzer's name.

**BUSINESS:**

- The report from grant recipients Davie Street Youth Leadership Development and Dulatown Presbyterian were reviewed. Davie Street Youth Leadership Development had funds left over from their grant. Their request to continue to work under that grant was allowed. There was no report from the Black Presbyterians United.
- This committee will have a face-to-face meeting in Richmond, Virginia at 10 am on October 29, 2018.
- The moderator gave information on the time table for grant applications to be awarded in 2019.

The Jubilee Fund Committee will probably use the same forms for the application as were used in 2018. Those forms can be viewed on the Synod website. Late November 2018 or early December 2018 are possible dates for applications to be in to the Jubilee Committee and the final award decision of the committee made in February 2019. The cap for grants is \$2500; however this year the amount was increased to \$4000 because of the low number of applicants. Distribution of funds to 2019 recipients will possibly occur in early spring 2019.

The Committee will review the application process at the October 29, 2018 meeting. The Black Presbyterians will possibly report at this meeting.

- The Black Caucus will resubmit their grant application for the 2019 grant year.
- Moderator Julius Jackson will be leaving this year as moderator of the Jubilee Fund Committee. A request was made for members to pray, consider, and think about serving in this position.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned with the closing prayer given by Rev. Harold Bennett. The next meeting is October 29, 2018 in Richmond, Virginia at the Synod office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah McHenry

**SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC  
JUBILEE FUND MEETING  
3601 Seminary Avenue  
Richmond, VA  
Monday, October 29, 2018  
10:00 AM – 3 PM  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Moderator Julius Jackson called the meeting to order and the meeting opened with prayer by Rev. John Etheredge.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDER:**

Sarah McHenry was appointed as recorder for this meeting.

**ATTENDANCE:**

The following were present for the meeting:

Rev. Harold Bennett  
Rev. John Etheredge  
Julius Jackson (Moderator)  
Karen Thatcher  
Veronica Thomas (by phone)  
Frances Turner  
Janice Wells  
Sarah McHenry

**QUORUM:**

A quorum was established for the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF DOCKET:**

The docket was approved as presented.

**MINUTES:**

The September 10, 2018 Minutes were approved as presented.

**BUSINESS:**

- The Committee will continue to receive reports from the Poverty Awareness Action and Advocacy Project.
- The 2019 Jubilee Fund Application process was discussed:
  - Will continue to use the process that has been established
  - Information is posted on the Synod website
  - Committee members were encouraged to seek eligible Jubilee fund candidates to apply as the number has decreased from previous years
  - Important dates:
    - First of November 2019, applications will be on the Synod website (again Committee encouraged to increase number of applicants)
    - February 1, 2019 is the deadline for applications
    - Allocation of funds will be made in the spring of 2019

- Technical assistance is available if needed for applicants to help insure that their application is complete (i.e.) (501(3c); *good fiscal background, evidenced based/measurable results; signatures.*
- Applications do not have to go through their Presbytery office
- The possibility of having a professional grant writer offer some training was discussed
- Mid-Atlantic Synod Executive/Stated Clerk, Rev. Warren Lesane spoke to the Committee:
  - Thanked the members of the Committee for serving
  - Gave some historical background on the Synod up to this point; the Discernment Committee was instrumental in helping the Synod determine “What makes us unique” and in answering questions such as “What is God calling us to be?” Who is God calling us to serve?” and dealing with race and reconciliation issues.
  - Eight of the largest presbyteries in the United States are included in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
  - Rationale for a full-time Synod executive position passed
  - Change and transition are everywhere in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
  - The Synod has done well financially
  - Relevant Issues for Presbyterians from the Discernment Committee include  
Immigrant outreach, young people, race and reconciliation matters; more females and persons of color are attending seminary; and 65% of African American churches do not have installed pastors.
  - In answering question that was asked concerning using Synod committee funds for helping churches that cannot pay full time pastors; stated the belief that what is most important in this new generation is to answer the question “What can we do to recruit persons that revitalize and renew Christ’s church (but at same time) does not neglect the important things that we already have?”
- Rev. John Etheredge stated that there are very few African American young people in leadership positions in our presbyteries. Young people are starving to be a part of the church. The Black Caucus is starting an initiative to identify 5<sup>th</sup> graders as possible candidates for church leadership and nurture them for the long term of becoming future church leaders.
- The moderator stated that new ideas may fail but nonetheless new ideas and thinking outside the box are needed.

After reconvening from lunch

- Discussed a future possibility of changing guidelines for Jubilee Fund:
  - We may have the same mission but change the amount of funds?
  - Working in partnership with other churches?
  - Could the Jubilee Fund guidelines complement the “New Initiative”—“The Next Generation” from the Synod?
- The committee voted to accept Rev. Harold Bennett to serve as the new moderator for the Jubilee Fund Committee.
- Review of the Black Caucus application will take place at the next meeting.
- Synod will notify presbyteries by November 1 that funds are available.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned with the closing prayer offered by new Moderator Rev. Harold Bennett. The next meeting will be by Zoom conference on January 14, 2019 at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah McHenry

**Synod of The Mid-Atlantic  
JUBILEE FUND COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes  
ZOOM Conference Meeting  
Monday, February 11, 2019  
10 am -11:30 am**

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING PRAYER:** Moderator Rev. Dr. Harold (Hal) Bennett, II

**ATTENDANCE:** The following members were present for the meeting

Rev. Harold Bennett, Grace Bradshaw, Rev. John Etheredge, Sarah McHenry, Karen Thatcher, Veronica Thomas, Margaret Washington

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM:** A quorum was established for the meeting.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDER:** Sarah McHenry was appointed as recorder

**APPROVAL OF DOCKET:** The docket was approved as presented.

**MINUTES:** The October 29, 2018 Minutes from the Jubilee Fund Meeting in Richard, VA were approved as presented.

**BUSINESS:**

Old Business

- Rev. John Etheredge gave a brief summary of the Black Caucus's Initiative Grant Application.

The Black Caucus's two main areas of focus are:

1. Exploring ways to fill the vacant pulpits in African American churches
2. Providing opportunities for young African Americans to become more familiar with all areas of the Presbyterian Church

The grant would provide supplemental financial assistance to youth from African American churches attending the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

The Jubilee Fund Application guidelines were expanded at the October 29, 2018 meeting to include the Black Caucus Initiative.

The committee voted to grant the Black Caucus \$3,500. Pending approval from the Synod on the Jubilee Fund Committee's decisions, the Black Caucus will send information to the Presbytery churches concerning assistance to youth attending the Triennium.

- "The Next Generation" (Exploring the Jubilee Fund's guidelines to expand the fund's objectives and goals) was tabled to be discussed at the next meeting in September 2019.

- Margaret Washington volunteered to find someone and to assist in providing professional grant writing training to Presbyteries; the times and dates to be announced. Some of the training could possibly be offered at the Synod office.
- The deadline for grant applications for the fall meeting is September 23, 2019.
- The amount of Jubilee funds available from the Synod for distribution from February 2019 through February 2020 is \$16,750.00

#### New Business

- The committee received three new grant applications.
  1. Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church - Congregational Leadership Development. The committee voted to award \$2500.
  2. Lloyd Presbyterian Church—Outreach to Youth and Families. The committee voted to award \$2500.
  3. Calvary Presbyterian Church—Grace Young Enrichment Camp. The committee voted to award \$2500.
- No new reports have been received from the Poverty Action and Advocacy Project.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned, 11:18 AM, with the closing prayer offered by Rev. Harold Bennett.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next meeting will be in Richmond, Virginia on September 30, 2019 at 10 am.