

CONAM – Committee on Native American Ministries
For NCNY Conference

Minutes of the Meeting on January 14, 2005

Present: Joe Timlin, Sharon Schmidt, Christine Eastwood

Opened with worship

Welcomed new members – Joe Timlin and Sharon Schmit

Re-introduced the 4 critical issues – Dismantling Racism, Congregational Development (starts and restarts), Connectionalism, Spiritual Leadership.

Explained that these 4 critical issues need to be our main focus as we ask for funding and implement programs.

Discussed Budget Proposal – see attached.

Note: At time of meeting, Chris Eastwood, the teamleader was informed that of the \$10,000 intended for each ministry Area (we are under the Church and Society

Ministry Area) would probably be only \$6727 about 87% of the shared ministry that came in. Before this, just before Christmas, Chris was informed by Charlene (from the Conference office) that there was \$9579 in our fund. Chris asked Steve Deckard and new worker, Patricia, if that was money that was to carry over. That is what Chris based the proposal on. Chris did inquire as to the Native American Ministries Offering money – how much carried over from 2004. We did start a campaign to raise money for a new van for Onondaga Nation UMC ministry and about \$1000.00 came in from the 2004 offering. Charlene

Was actually in meeting with the Onondaga County group that we have grant through for the van ministry and nutritional program so she wasn't available to answer my questions.

Motion was made and carried to accept this preliminary budget proposal to present to Bishop's Council pending approval of other members.

We did discuss that we need to make efforts to raise funds for a new van. Suggested an extra table at Annual Conference for display and

sale of Native American beadwork (donated by members of committee and others) the proceeds of which would go toward the New Van Fund. Joe Timlin does silver work and offered to donate. Chris Eastwood offered to donate some work as well.

Discussed need for Public Relations in Connections prior to the Native American Ministry Sundays.

Discussed ideas for Youth Retreat in the Fall. Hoping to do it at Aldersgate to hopefully increase the likelihood of Hogansburg UMC being more involved. Joe Timlin knows of some workers and people at Aldersgate to enlist for help in this and will check into possible dates available in the Fall of 2005 from Fri. pm – Saturday 3pm for 13-18 year old

Native and other Conference youth.

Considered inviting Bishop Fisher to this activity, but will have to schedule quickly because her schedule fills up very fast.

Regarding assisting Onondaga Nation UMC raise money for their lay pastor – Sharon Schmit – who is studying for Local License Ministry. Discussed writing a letter of support and recommendation to Native American Comprehensive Plan when Sharon applies for a grant to supplement budget at Onondaga Nation UMC. Also, told her of Ethnic Grant Fund as well but deadline is coming quickly for that.

Election of Team Leader for CONAM **tabled** and/or new members. New members – Joe Timlin, Sharon Schmidt, and Diane Roe. Diane Roe is in Jerusalem at this time.

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Meeting adjourned.