

MINUTES  
College Mennonite Church  
Pastor Search Committee  
December 16, 2009

Members present: John K. Hershberger, Cara Landis Jeeves, Clare Schumm, Everett Thomas, Krista Troyer, Rose Widmer, Vicki Yoder

Conference representatives: Paul Gingrich, Dan Miller

1. Opening

Rose told a story about an occasion when God gave her “Joy,” and encouraged us to think about the joy in our task.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Dec. 8 meeting were approved.

3. Additional nominees

We received the names of three new nominees for pastor team leader and two names of people for the second position (not yet assigned to us). Two people whose names are already on our list were suggested by some additional people.

4. Review of candidate

Dan reported on his contacts regarding two potential candidates. Cara reported on her research on two potential candidates. Clare also reported on some information he has been hearing about a prior potential candidate. Everett agreed to do some research on a fifth potential candidate.

5. Counsel

We reviewed the counsel provided by Joy Sutter, part-time staff person in Franconia Mennonite Conference, who serves as a coach for search committees.

6. Job description

We agreed that we need copies of the new job description for the pastor team leader. Rose will email the document to us.

7. Contact protocol

Clare shared his experience when he was contacted by a congregation to serve as pastor. The contact was always better when the conversation happened with the chair of the search committee rather than with a conference minister. Dan explained that it is a courtesy to let the conference minister know we want to talk to a pastor in another conference; it is also due diligence to ask whether there is any reason not to talk to a particular candidate (because of a problem we would not know about). We agreed that we will change the protocol; John will contact potential candidates.

8. Next meetings

January 6 (Wednesday), January 20 (Wednesday), January 26 (Tuesday) and the second and fourth Tuesdays beginning in February. All meetings at 7:30 pm. Clare will lead our prayer next time.

Recorded by Everett Thomas