



21 July 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from NGCUMM Executive Committee Meeting (21 July 2020)

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this memorandum is to record the minutes from the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men Executive Committee's meeting, which convened on 21 July 2020.

**NOTE:** *It should be noted that Richard Campbell was in attendance prior to the start of the meeting but had to leave. He informed the Committee that there would be a United Methodist Men National Day of Prayer on Saturday, 25 July 2020, from 1-4PM. The theme is "Dismantling Racism through God's Amazing Grace."*

2. **WELCOME & DEVOTION:** The meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men met for its July 2020 meeting on 21 July 2020, via ZOOM. At 6:36PM, President Odell called the meeting to order and asked Immediate Past- President Louis to provide the welcome and the devotion for the evening. Louis welcomed the assembled body and thanked everyone for participating. At the outset, he shared how pleased he was to have served the Conference for the past four years as the Conference President and that he was excited to have the opportunity to induct the Conference Leadership Team for 2020 – 2022, during the meeting. He assured the group that it was a blessing to have such a great slate and that he was looking forward to continue his service with them. Next, President Odell offered prayer to begin the meeting, and Louis asked that we use our time of devotion to honor Congressman John Lewis, who passed on last Friday. He extolled the greatness of Congressman Lewis and indicated how much we will miss him. He shared a Breaking News piece from WSB-TV where they were remembering John Lewis.

He asked the Committee to pray for Congressman Lewis' family and then asked the Body to have a moment of silence.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** The next order of business was the approval of the proposed agenda for the meeting. John Holley was asked to facilitate the task. John reminded the attendees that they had the agenda before them for their consideration and asked for their pleasure. It was moved and

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seconded that the proposed agenda be approved as the outline for the meeting. The vote was unanimous for approval.

3. **ATTENDANCE:** The following individuals were in attendance on the call:

<b>LOUIS JOHNSON</b>	<b>CARY LOESING</b>	<b>ERNEST PERRY</b>	<b>JOHN HOLLEY</b>
<b>IKE MOORE</b>	<b>CHRIS KARABINOS</b>	<b>LEON JOUROLMON</b>	<b>BEN GREEN</b>
<b>JERRY STILLABOWER</b>	<b>ODELL HORNE</b>	<b>JOHN HEATH</b>	<b>JEFF CARSON</b>
<b>PAUL MICHIO</b>	<b>TODD WALKER</b>	<b>ERIC POWELL</b>	<b>JOSHUA WASHINGTON</b>

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** At this juncture, President Odell said he needed to add to the agenda the approval of the minutes from our last meeting. John Holley indicated that he had provided the minutes to the Committee Members via email, with suggested changes by Chris Karabinos, prior to the meeting, but was prepared to read the minutes. It was the consensus of the Committee that it was not necessary to read the minutes. It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the 16 June 2020 be approved. The vote was unanimous for approval.

5. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF A TREASURER:** During the Annual Meeting, the slate of officers elected to serve for 2020-2022 did not include a Treasurer. After the Annual Meeting, Cary Loesing consented to serve as the Treasurer for the Conference and was appointed by the President. As a result of this action, a motion was made to approve the appointment of Cary Loesing as Treasurer for the Administrative Period 2020-2022. The motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous for the approval of this action. After officially accepting the position as Treasurer, Cary thanked Leon Jourolmon for his great work over the many years as the conference President.

6. **INDUCTION OF CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP FOR 2020-2022:** Immediate Past-President Louis was tasked to officiate the “Service of Installation of Officers” for North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men for 2020-2022. At the beginning of the ceremony, he indicated that the men of the conference saw two essential qualities in the inductees: (1) They were men of God and Disciples of Jesus Christ, and (2), they were Servant leaders. He then used words of John Wesley in his invitation to the Covenant Service and admonished the leaders to listen to God, seek the Holy Spirit, trust in God, be faithful to the call, and renew their covenants with the Lord. In the prayer, he asked God to transform the hands, heads, hearts, and habits of the Leadership Team. The “Service of Installation” was performed using a “Leader” /”Officers” responsive reading format. The ceremony was “well done.”

7. **NGC UMM PRESIDENT-ELECT STATEMENT:** President Odell expressed his humility as he accepted his position of leadership but saw this as another opportunity for service and to bring others to Christ. He pledged his commitment and solicited the support from the other members of the Leadership Team.

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8. **INTRODUCTIONS:** At this point, President Odell asked each member of the Leadership Team to officially introduce himself and take about two minutes to help the other members of the Team to become more familiar with each of our backgrounds. The following individuals made presentations:

Vice-President of Conference Affairs and Administration	Jerry Stillabower
Vice President of Membership, Organization	Jeff Carson
Secretary	John Holley
Treasurer	Cary Loesing
Prayer Advocate	Eric Powell
Director of Communications	Joshua Washington
Director of Leadership Development	Louis Johnson
Scouting Ministry Coordinator	Chris Karabinos
Director of Prison Ministry	John Heath

9. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** The next order of business was the presentation of the financial report. Leon Jourolmon took the lead on this and gave **the following financial status:**

- a) Balance in the checking account: \$3,251.21
- b) Balance in the savings account: \$13,625.72
- c) Balance in the share account: \$240.81

**Total      \$17,107.74**

Leon reported that he had received **no additional fund for Eric Owens' ministry**, as of 30 June 2020. In the past, he would receive on the average of \$35K each year. He shared that there are two individuals who make contributions on a monthly basis, through Paypal, to support the organization. One is for \$10.00 per month and the other for \$25.00. Also, he indicated that the total balance that he reported has been reconciled with the bank. At this point, Louis Johnson pledged to start giving on a continuous basis and challenged the other members of the Team to do likewise. President Odell asked the members of the Team to email him if they plan to give on a reoccurring basis. **On the subject of fundraising efforts**, Ike **Moore shared** that the "one man one dollar" program is an ongoing initiative. Reminders are on the website at least once per quarter. It should be stressed that you can give at any time on our website. There was then a discussion on the matter of **our office lease**. **Louis informed the Body** that the office lease was current. **Leon shared that** he had not paid the rent for June and July and needed to know what actions he needed to take and when. Louis indicated that we should start paying in August 2020 and that we would be reimbursed for the overpayments. The monthly rent is \$350.00. We had been paying \$500.00. Ike and Cary were commended for their unique contributions on a continuous basis.

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**10. Communications Strategy:** During this portion of the meeting, two areas were discussed... the **website** and **social media**. **Ike informed the Committee** that the server had been shut down for a period but was back up and operating. Ike was commended for his great work as the Director of Communications over the past several years. **President Odell pointed out** that we have Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and YouTube. His approach is to have more digital images, is looking to create content, content is to be spiritual and foundational, and there will be recognition on the social media. The website already has a new look.

**11. Annual Conference:** **Leon Jourolmon took the lead** on the subject of the Annual Conference and reported that the Annual Conference would convene on 29 August 2020, all virtual. The Conference will be for a total of 10 hours. There will be some requirements for the delegates to vote. One of the events that will require voting is the matter of redistricting, going from 12 Districts to 8 Districts. There was a discussion on who had been sent in to represent our organization. It was confirmed by Louis that President Odell's name had been submitted. More information concerning the Annual Conference is forthcoming.

**12. Igniting Faith Summit:** The next order of business was a new date for the virtual conference. Originally, a date of 22 August 2020 had been established. There is now a proposal to have the conference on 16 and 17 October 2020. The total length of the virtual conference would be 6 hours...3 hours on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 3 hours on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The question came up asking if we had made all the refunds for the Johns Creek event. Leon indicated that this had not been accomplished, but he would research the list to see who needs to be reimbursed. Jerry Stillabower asked if he could see the list before we start making reimbursements. He feels that most of these individuals would just want to make these fees to go as contributions to the organization. President Odell informed the Committee that he is researching the possibility of convening the Igniting Faith event at Rock Eagle in 2021. This would be a 60<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration.

**13. Resolution of a Financial Matter:** Earlier in the meeting the matter of approving Cary Loesing as Treasurer was consummated. In order for Cary to execute the daily duties of the Treasurer, it was moved and seconded that he and President Odell be the two individuals authorized to sign checks for the organization. The vote was unanimous for this action to be approved. The necessary actions required to be taken with the bank will follow.

**14. Training Opportunities:** Louis Johnson informed the Committee that he would be reaching out to the Districts for training opportunities. The menu of training opportunities will be the tools for men to grow spiritually as they become Disciples of Christ. "Lead Like Jesus" and "Understanding Men's Ministry" will be examples of the offerings. He wanted the District Presidents to know that he is available to insure their training needs are met. He is hoping to have training opportunities in October, November, and December 2020.

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**15. Schedule of Executive Committee Meetings:** President Odell gave out the schedule of Executive Committee Meetings for the remainder of 2020, as reflected below:

- ✓ August 18<sup>th</sup>      September 22<sup>nd</sup>      October 20<sup>th</sup>      November 17<sup>th</sup>      December 15<sup>th</sup>

**Note: All meetings are scheduled for 6:30-8:00PM**

**16. Announcements:** At this time, individuals were given the opportunity to make announcements and make comments. The following reflect a summary of what transpired:

- ✓ **President Odell indicated he would be having** a meeting with the District Presidents. Also, he desires quarterly financial/ministry reports, starting in October 2020.
- ✓ **It was announced that SEJ UMM would** be doing a Day of Prayer on Racism on 25 July 2020. This will be a virtual event.
- ✓ **On July 31 - August 1, 2020**, there will be a Promise Keepers' Virtual Conference.
- ✓ **Paul Michio**, a guest at the meeting, **introduced himself** and indicated that the time has come for him to become more involved in the ministry, and he is available for a position of leadership. He wanted to know what was open. He shared that he was glad to be in attendance and thanked the Committee for allowing him to participate.
- ✓ There was a question about the **availability of the list of chartered** units. It appeared that the Conference did not have an updated copy, but Todd Walker reported that he had received his charter report on 14 July.
- ✓ **President Odell talked about** the updating of our social media platforms and encouraged the leadership to be more deliberate in their use. The website has been updated. Information concerning the Annual Conference will be on the website.
- ✓ **Ernest Perry wanted to know** the status of a letter from the Conference President, requesting a donation of \$100.00 from each UMM fellowship in the Conference. There seemed to be some vagueness on its status. Ernest Perry promised to provide a copy from the previous year. There was consensus from the Committee that we again send the letter.
- ✓ **Louis Johnson reminded the body** that during the past week, on the same day, two of our Civil Rights giants, John Lewis and C.T. Vivian had died.
- ✓ **Joshua Washington and John Heath gave** Immediate Past- President Louis Johnson kudos for his outstanding leadership over the past four years.

**17. Closing Prayer/Sending Forth:** At 8:21PM, the meeting adjourned with Rev. Eric Powell providing the closing prayer. The next Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for 18 August 2020.

The minutes were prepared by

John C. Holley Conference Secretary