

# Olympia Presbytery

## Meeting Minutes

2:00 pm, September 14, 2023

Held in person at  
Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church

<b>ROLL/ATTENDANCE</b>	Attached.
<b>WELCOME</b>	Moderator ErrolLynne Marsh and Vice-Moderator Robin Crawford welcomed those in attendance at 2:04 pm.
<b>OPENING PRAYER</b>	The opening prayer was offered by Rev. John Asher, Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	A quorum being present the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, ErrolLynne Marsh, at 2:08 pm.
<b>INTRODUCTIONS GUESTS &amp; FIRST TIME COMMISSIONERS</b>	Introduction and welcome of first time commissioners.
<b>WELCOME OF CHURCH</b>	<b>The Moderator invited</b> Rev. Joseph Kisanga, Umoja Presbyterian Church, to <b>UMOJA</b> introduce following people:  The Very Rev. Dr. Jesse Kamu, PCEA* Past Moderator Alice Kamu, (Wife of Rev. Dr. Jesse Kaumu) Rev. Dr. Robert Waihenya, PCEA Secretary General 23 <sup>rd</sup> GA Rev. Paul Kariuki, PCEA Deputy Secretary General 23 <sup>rd</sup> GA Gideon Karanja (RE)  Rev. Dr. Waihenya made comments to the assembly.  <i>(*Presbyterian Church of East Africa)</i>
<b>APPROVAL OF DOCKET</b>	There being no objection or changes, the Docket was adopted in the form set forth herein.
<b>LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	Presented by Rev. Irvin Porter, Church of the Indian Fellowship. Scripture reading from the First Nations Version NT. Matthew 24:35-40 & 45.
<b>WORSHIP</b>	Worship led by Rev. Irvin Porter, Church of the Indian Fellowship. Hymn 271, Many and Gread, ) God, Are They Things. Prayer and Blessing.
<b>MINUTES APPROVAL</b>	We have three sets of minutes to approve. Recitation of additions/changes for minutes of May, June, and July

There being no objections or changes, the minutes of May, June, and July were **APPROVED AS AMENDED.**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

Presented by Rev. Dr. Shari Monson (*Also, submitted with meeting papers*).

**LEADERSHIP  
COUNCIL REPORT**

Presented by Robin Crawford (*Also, submitted with meeting papers*).

**MOTION:** To elect Ruling Elder Ron Marshall, as Treasurer, for a three-year renewable term beginning October 1, 2023. (*The nomination coming from the Personnel Committee, no second was required*)  
**APPROVED by COMMON CONSENT.**

**EP/STATED CLERK  
SEARCH COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk Search Committee Report. Presented by Rev. John Asher and Kathy Marshall, Co-Chairs. (*Also, submitted with meeting papers*)  
Thanks were extended to the members of the search team. Reflections on the committee's process and selection of Rev. Dr. Shari Monson.

Expression of willingness to serve and reflections by Rev. Dr. Shari Monson.

Opportunity for questions from the floor. After full opportunity for questions and discussion a vote was taken on the following:

**MOTION:** To elect Rev. Dr. Shari Monson to the office of Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk of this Presbytery, beginning October 1, 2023, and to approve the covenant agreement (See, pp. 24&25 of meeting papers). (*The nomination coming from the EP/Stated Clerk Search Committee, no second was required*) **APPROVED.**

A prayer was offered by Rev. Aaron Stewart for Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk Elect, the Rev. Dr. Shari Monson.

**PENTECOST ART  
PROJECT REFLECTION**

Presented by Elizabeth Archer Klein. Exhibition of slides. Reading by Elizabeth and Shari. Litany led by Shari and Elizabeth.

**BREAK**

**3:10 to**

**TRUSTEES REPORT**

Presented by Robin Crawford (*Also, submitted with meeting papers & supplement, p. 29*). Westminster, Tacoma property update.

Pastoral Letter to former members.

Trustees Announcement.

**COM**

Presented by Ruth Moore, Co-Moderator of the Commission On Ministry. Introduction of four new minister members: Rev. Laura Nile Tuell (New call to Lakewood PC); Rev. Rebecca Blackwell (Retired from Cherokee Presbytery,

Georgia); Rev. Debra Baker (Retired from San Jose Presbytery, California); and Rev. Jo Ann Staebler (Retired from National Capital, DC/Northern Virginia).

Questions posed to new ministry members.

**RESET PROPOSAL  
PREAMBLE**

Presented by Harlan Shoop of the Reset Proposal Preamble Task Force (Jim Mead and Dexter Kearny also members). The task force has completed its work preparing a proposed preamble for the Reset Proposal (*See, meeting papers supplement, pp. 31-32, made an exhibit hereto. Formal title: "Preamble to the 501(c)(3) Document for Olympia Presbytery, Soundview Camp – Landback Initiative"*).

**MOTION:** To approve the Preamble to the Reset Proposal as presented. (*The motion having been made by the Reset Proposal Preamble Task Force, no second was required*) **APPROVED.**

**SOUND VIEW TF**

The Sound View Task Force Report was presented by Pam Anderson. The task force was assigned to look into what it would take to convert Sound View to a not-for-profit corporation that would operate it instead of the presbytery.

**MOTION:** To form an Administrative Commission pursuant to G-3.0109b to finalize Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for a not-for-profit entity to operate Sound View Camp and Retreat Center in accordance with the proposal approved by the Presbytery on July 6, 2023, duties of the AC to include:

1. to file as a not-for-profit corporation in Washington State;
2. to apply for federal 501(c)(3) status;
3. to draft agreements formalizing the relationship between the Presbytery of Olympia and the 501(c)(3);
4. in collaboration with the Leadership Council and Sound View Board, name the first slate of directors for the new corporation;
5. to report to the presbytery at the November stated meeting, and
6. to endeavor to complete all aspects of the charge outlined here by year end 2023.

To accomplish this work, the Administrative Commission is empowered to hire consultants and attorneys as it deems prudent, using funds from the proceeds of the sale of the easement to the Nisqually Land Trust. The Administrative Commission to be staffed by the following persons: Rev. Barlow Buescher (Ret), Pam Anderson (RE United Churches), Ron Marshall (RE Longview PC), David Ammons (RE Westminster PC Olympia), and Rev. David Alger (Ret). (*The motion having been made by the Sound View Task Force, no second was required*) **APPROVED.**

**HAGAR'S** Hagar's Guide Team Report presented by Rev. Deanna Gemmer with Phyllis Smith and Ron Marshall. The Guide Team has two requests of the presbytery: (1.) Community fundraising effort for air conditioning and (2.) Volunteers to help.

As to the first item, they are in need of help assessing what would be required for air conditioning in that space, and with determining probably cost.

**WORSHIP** Message from Rev. Irvin Porter.

Communion

Offering

**OTHER** Announcements:

Personnel Workshop for Church Leaders. September 23, 2023. Presented by Kathy Marshall.

Technology Grants. Technology grants are available. Please check for details..

**NEXT MEETING** The next Stated Meeting of the Olympia Presbytery will be held in-person at Little Church at 1:00 pm on November 11, 2023.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Made by Robyn Hogue w/ 2<sup>nd</sup>. **APPROVED by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

**The meeting was closed in prayer by Moderator ErrolLynne Marsh at 5:12 pm.**

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**Attested: Glen Ferguson, Associate Stated Clerk JP**

**Attachments:**

**Attendance Roll 9.14.2023 [9.14.23 Attendance Rolls.docx](#)**