

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

October 2017

Key Activities

- **Attended CIRI** (formerly International Institute) Event 9/24 (this is a colleague organization on Refugee Advocacy)
 - Scheduled Vacation 09/29 – 10/07
 - **Follow up** e-mails with Detroit area congregations' presidents re: home hospitality for women traveling to the Inaugural **Women's Convention in Detroit October 27-29**
 - **Review and edit Minutes** from September BOT Meeting
 - **Generated list of former members of BOT** (reviewed Annual Reports) in preparation for invitation to the Reunion/Gallery Walk Event
 - **Worked** with Diane Donohue to **schedule dates for Linkage Events** (Walks and Coffees)
 - **Ordered 2 new BLM Banners**
 - **Prepared Agenda for October BOT meeting**
 - **Exchanged e-mails** with **Kathy Roberts**, Chair of the Nominating Committee re: **appointment of vacancy on the NC**
 - **Sub-Committee on Monitoring Calendar** e-mails, draft of calendar, collection of relevant articles from other PBG congregations and ZOOM Videoconference to prepare for BOT Presentation.
 - **Prepared materials, reports and packet items** for October BOT Meeting.
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Moral Owner Linkage

In the model of policy based governance we have adopted, the primary relationship of our Board is to connect with our Moral Owners to understand their values and perspectives. They are those on whose behalf the Board will decide what benefits the congregation is to produce (Ends) and what those benefits are worth. In PBG term – what results for whom and, at a cost or priority that can be justified.

So here we are – in our first months of transition to Policy Based Governance. Last year we all worked very hard to learn about the Policy Based Governance model. We struggled with writing our policies and felt pretty darn good about the policies we wrote, revised and adopted. The work ahead of us these next few months is to create better linkage with our Moral Owners. This is a priority to the exclusion of other competing ones we have this transitional year – at least in my opinion.

We had good agreement on whom we consider to be the Moral Owners of our congregation way back when we filled in those concentric circles at our Board Workshop. But it has become increasingly evident that past linkage practices (i.e. open BOT meetings, articles in *Soundings* and periodic Town Halls) not only are not effective but need radical re-imagination.

Case in Point: “What do you mean I’m a Moral Owner”? That was a question one of the people I talked to during the Homecoming Sunday EXPO asked. We as a Board have wrestled the challenging language of governance and policy and have dug deep into the reasons why we are implementing this change in our governance practice but now we have a pretty big education and connection challenge. In short, we need to let our Moral Owners know why we consider them Moral Owners and why we need their buy-in and their input.

I am looking forward to our upcoming Gallery Walk and BOT Reunion. It was fun to track down all those who previously have served as Trustees at TUCW, to hear back from them that they are coming (or wish they could) and to plan for a creative and meaningful event.

Lynda