Present: (note that the team reflects the previous year’s positions since the money to be dispersed was earned in 2018.) Peter Steffen (chair)(Mission), May Tchao (Session) Bob Bastian (Trustee), Hugh Parry (Finance and Endowments), Caryl Weinberg (staff), Jide Nzilibe (Trustee) Excused

Peter opened the meeting in prayer.

**Financial Status as of today:**

3 year 4.5% avg.: $25,525.

In fund: $3,921.

Steffen Donation $554.

Total Available: $30,000.

(Caryl noted that Melody said today that there was a $20,000 gift given to GCF that could also be used.)

**Proposals Received for Funding:**

Build Congo Schools (BCS): The request was for $30,000 to build a nine-room school in Dibatayi/Dibayi DRC. We are not sure of the total cost of the school. The proposal was for $121,824.08, though a letter today said the total cost is $87,336.88. They have raised $42,000 toward that already*. Though we affirm the work of BCS, the group said we need to concentrate distributions on new endeavors*.

Langham Partnership: The request for $60,000 for commissioning of two indigenous editors who will solicit appropriate indigenous biblical/theological writings/and then work with those writers for each, Francophone Africa and East Asia (China, Japan, Vietnam, Mongolia, and Korea). *The team discussed that Langham is a large organization with access to funding. But, this new launch of these editorial positions is unique, and will help strengthen the indigenous church, beyond what Langham is able to do now. It fits the criteria of the GCF.*

Tavriski Christian Institute (TCI) in Ukraine: The request if for $15,000/year for four years, to bring ten Afghani Christians together with Tajik graduates of TCI for two weeks each year (x4) in a country outside of Afghanistan, and train them so they are “mature in faith and the knowledge of God’s Word.” They have identified 45 Christians, and hope to train them all, so that a strong indigenous church might be established. People are brought outside the country for safety and security. They have done this with believers in Iran and have seen the model work well. (The Tajik graduates have been praying for two years to start a church in Afghanistan. God answered their prayer by helping them identify the 45 believers who are ready to be trained.) *The team was excited about this proposal – believing it fits the GCF criteria strongly. It is Great Commission oriented, has a limited scope for funding, and has a plan for a self-sustaining organic church. It is also consistent with FPCE’s gifting of being a first donor in a new area before other donors have pledged support.*

**Action Steps for Session Approval:**

Hugh Parry moved that we give: $15,000 to TCI with the intention to give $15,000 in subsequent years if we have funds available and an evaluation of the project indicates it will continue; $10,000 to Langham Partnership work in either of the two regions; $5,000 to Build Congo Schools. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**Other Business:**

* The team going forward: Peter Steffen (chair and Mission rep), Hugh Parry (finance and endowments), Jide Nzilibe (Trustee), Bob Bastian or Dick Warnecke (Session), May Tchao (at large), Caryl (Staff), and we will recruit one woman to be a second “at large representative”. Dick or Bob then may stay on as observer.
* Fundraising: The group continued to brainstorm on ideas for how to raise funds without impacting the pledge giving of the congregation. Some emphasis is being put on possible outside donors.
* We will verify if the $20,000 gift is available to be used. Then we will make decisions about other proposals that we received late: (IFES/Swaziland, Church Plant in India, another school in DRC with a different organization.)

The meeting was closed by Bob Bastian in prayer.