**GREAT COMMISSION FUND**

**March 9th, 2021**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Caryl Weinberg, Hugh Parry, Sonia Bodi, Dick Warnecke, May Tchao, Jide Okechuku Nzelibe and Peter Steffen

**Opening Prayer:** Peter Steffen offered the opening prayer.

**Financial Review:** Peter Steffen: Due to an anonymous contribution of $20,000 made in December of 2020 and unused 2020 funds of $7,738 the carry forward into the 2021 budget is $27,738. 4.5% of the endowment fund distributed for 2021 is $26,148 giving total 2021 funds to GCF of $53,916.

**Tavriski Christian Institute, (TCI):** This year is the last year of a three-year commitment to TCI of $15,000. That left $38,916 for GCF grants in 2021. Peter Steffen said that he will contribute $1,084 specifically for GCF to bring the available funds to $40,000.

**New Life Renovation Request:** The New Life shelter of Good News Partners on Paulina St. in Evanston is seeking $95,000 to be used for its renovation project. Before discussing any funding, Sonia Bodi asked if this project fit within the guidelines for GCF. A healthy discussion followed. While the verbiage in the Endowment is quite broad the Joint Resolution of Session, dated Nov. 27th, 2007, and attached to the GCF Bylaws, Exhibit A, is more specific. The discussion centered around section 4C of the Resolution paragraph iv which states that funds can be used for social ministries …serving the needy and whether or not New Life should be considered to fall within the GCF guidelines and that we should be considered a ministry. The majority of the team agreed it be considered a ministry under GCF guidelines. Hugh Parry motioned that we give $10,500 towards the project. Jide Nzelibe offered a second. The motion was passed.

**Pastoral Outreach Ministries Council, (POMC):** The group discussed Dr. Tharwat Wahba’s request for funds on behalf of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Egypt to support their launch of missionary work in Basra, Kirkuk, Erbil and Dohuk in Iraq/Kurdistan; Syrian refugees in Turkey; or in South Sudan. Hugh Perry motioned that we give $20,000 to Dr. Wahba and let him decide where it can be best used within the ministries mentioned. May Tchao offered a second and it was passed unanimously.

**Congo Schools:** The group discussed George Collins and Jan Sullivan’s request for funds towards building Congo School #10. Peter Steffen mentioned that George Collins told him the project would not start until the full $95,000 needed was secured and that thus far they only had about half of the needed funds. After a discussion it was decided to move this request to the next GCF meeting.

**Closing Prayer:** Dick Warnecke offered the closing prayer.