

CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

The Book of Discipline ¶641.1-4

AGENDA, TUES., JAN. 8, 2019 AT 10 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Membership: [*Discipline* ¶641.1]

David Werner, Chair.

Mary Bakeman

Judith Clark

David Laechel, Secretary of Memoirs

Mary Beth Nelson

Kathy Spence Johnson, Archivist

Thelma Boeder, Conference Historian

Dan Foster

Randy Koppen

Hilda Parks

Ex-officio members:

Barbara Brower, MAC Director of Finance & Admin.

Elizabeth Lopez, Member of GCAH [*Discipline* ¶710.6]

B. Brief updates by each member

D. Opening Devotions: David L.

E. Operate by Consensus

II. REVIEW OF OUR WORK

A. Minutes of November meeting. Comments, corrections, adoption.

B. Review of Commission duties as outlined by *The Book of Discipline* [¶641.1]

It will be our policy to look at the duties intentionally the first meeting of the calendar year.

1. Duties (¶640.1)

- a. *“To collect and preserve the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents;
to encourage and assist the local church in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage;”*
- b. *“To provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶2548.3);”*
- c. *“To maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for future history are properly preserved therein;”*
- d. *“To provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests;”*
- e. *“To nominate to the General Commission on Archives and History buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or heritage landmarks;”*
- f. *“To maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage landmarks in their bounds;”*
- g. *“To assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions;”*

- h. *“To establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under standards or guidelines developed by the General Commission on Archives and History;”*
- i. *“To cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commission on archives and history;”*
- j. *“And to Engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.”*

2. Conference Historical Society (§641.2)

“The Commission may organize a conference historical society and encourage membership therein for the purpose of promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history of the conference and its antecedents. The officers of the conference commission on archives and history may be the officers of the conference historical society. Membership in the historical society shall be established as the society may determine. Membership may include the payment of dues as the society may direct, and in return, members shall receive official publications and publicity material issued by the commission and the society and other such benefits as may be deemed suitable.”

3. Annual Conference Historian (§641.3)

“Each annual conference may have a historian to undertake specific duties as may be designated by the commission. The annual conference historian may be a member of the annual conference commission on archives and history.”

4. Ethnic Congregations (§641.4)

“The annual conference commission on archives and history shall work with the ethnic congregations of the conference to develop and preserve the historical records of those congregations and antecedent conferences.”

C. Discussion, reflections and ideas?

III. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Preemptive Items: Creative ways the CAH can support local churches. [§641.1]

1. Provide a quarterly article in MN Connect, promoting an event.

2018	Spring	David & Kathy	NCJ CAH at Dayton, OH: UMC 50 th merger
	Summer	Kathy	July 29 Portland Prairie event, w/Bishop.
	Fall:	Kathy	Email blast to church historians
	Winter:	David L.	“Save the date” for Convocation of JCAH
	Spring:	David L.	Formal invitation to Convocation of JCAH

2. Idea starter: Helping local churches record their histories.

-David L. compiling email addresses of local church historians or contact person. He has begun emailing every local church, attaching a letter of greeting from CAH.

3. North Central Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History Convocation

2019, July 8-10. Minnesota hosts (plan for 30-60 people)

Location: Mankato, MN

Theme: The Way Forward: Looking Backward to Discern a Path Forward

Report from 2019 Convocation Work Team:

Other business before the Commission, as time:

A. Care for MNAC's "Historic Sites" [¶641.1]

- | 1. Issues/concerns about our 15 official Historical Sites of the MNAC? | <u>Last Visited?</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Site of Kaposia*, south St. Paul (1 st Methodist Indian Mission in MN, 1 st UMC)
Plaque at Dakota Co. Historical Museum | Mary B, 5/2014 |
| b. Red Rock and Missionary Log Cabin* (located at Newport UMC) Active Congregation | |
| c. Jacob Fahlstrom's Grave*, Afton (1 st convert to Methodism in MN) | Thelma, 9/2018 |
| d. First Site of Hamline University* (Plaque on 1 st UMC Red Wing) | David L., 8/2018 |
| e. Lenora Church* | Mark Woodward, regularly |
| f. Old Salem Church* (Inver Grove Heights) | Summer event, June 2018 |
| g. Taylor's Falls UMC* | Active Congregation |
| h. Koronis Ministries* ("Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds," Paynesville) Active Ministry | |
| i. Market St. M.E. Church Site* (Marker on parking ramp) | Kathy 8/2018 |
| j. Wesley UMC* (currently "Historic Wesley Center on Grant St") (Mpls) | Kathy 5/2017 |
| k. Ottawa Church* (Le Sueur Co. Historical Society) | Hilda, Summer 2016 |
| l. Portland Prairie Church | David L., 7/2018 |
| m. Olivet UMC, Robbinsdale | Active Congregation |
| n. First Finnish ME Church, Salem,* near Moose Lake | Thelma, 7/2017 |
| o. Hamline Church UMC* | Active Congregation |
- *UM Historic Site of GCAH (13 of them)
-A more complete description is posted on the Conference Web site.

2. Old Salem request for leadership assistance.

Laurie Boche is working with Jill Louis from Old Salem to create a nonprofit cemetery association, to which the MAC can deed the property to for perpetual care in the future.

3. Report from the First Finnish Fellowship, Thelma B., Chair. and CAH rep.

The Finnish site is currently owned by Moose Lake UMC, the cemetery by West Side Church

4. Historical markers to be delivered to the site in some meaningful and encouraging way:

Market St. M.E. Church Site - David W. contacted owners. Still in progress.

Olivet UMC, Robbinsdale - Presentation of General CAH plaque

5. Have there been any requests for an Application and Guidelines for the nomination of Historical Sites to the MNAC? Is any action needed?

6. Any further information on the site of the First UB Annual Conference, held at Marion, MN, on Aug. 5, 1857...perhaps held at John W. Fulkerson's farm? Perhaps the Olmsted Co. Historical Society could provide more info? David L., "This is the year!"

B. Significant Anniversaries of the MAC. [¶641.1]

2018 Marking the 50 anniversary of the UM merger in 1968. The merger was voted on at General Conference 1968, but it didn't happen in MN until 1969.

C. Annual Conference Historian [¶641.3] Report from Thelma, the Conference Historian.

D. Secretary of Memoirs Report from David L., Secretary of Memoirs

E. Marking Local Church Anniversaries. Randy

F. Permanent safekeeping of the historical records of closed churches. [¶641.1]

G. Conference Archives [¶641.1] Kathy, Conference Archivist

MAC is moving to a third party digital asset management system, mfiles (St. Cloud).

H. UM Historical Society of MN [¶641.2]

Dormant. There are some funds available for grants.

I. Compiling a List of Active Fellowships of UM Historical Sites in MN

Annual meetings, contact information, etc. that we can promote and communicate.

So far, include: Old Salem, Inver Grove; Salem, Paynesville; Portland Prairie; Lenora; Old Prairieville Cemetery; Pickerel Lake German Methodist Episcopal; Palmyra Swedish Methodist Episcopal.

J. Any Other Business?

IV. SETTING THE NEXT MEETINGS: May 14, 2019 regular meeting at Conference Offices

July 8-10 JCAH Convocation at Mankato

Sept. 10, 2019 regular meeting at Conference Offices