

## XI PRESBYTERY COUNCIL (PC)

### A. Purpose and Responsibilities:

The purpose of the PC shall be for coordination of mission and program of the Presbytery. It shall constantly review the functional relationship between Presbytery's structure and mission. The PC shall be authorized to act on behalf of Presbytery between stated meetings with the greatest amount of latitude that can be granted according to the Book of Order. It shall have the full authority of Presbytery; its actions shall be the actions of Presbytery between stated meetings. The Book of Order (Government) reads in G-9.0902:

Structures specified within this constitution are:

#### 1. In the Presbytery:

A Council for the coordination of mission and program (G-11.0103v).

The reference is the section which lists the "responsibility and power of the Presbytery" and reads as follows:

"To establish and superintend the agencies necessary for its (the Presbytery's) work, including a Presbytery Council, providing for regular review of the functional relationship between Presbytery's structure and mission. The Presbytery may, by its own established rules, assign to its Council, responsibility for action between meetings of Presbytery on such specific areas of its responsibilities as it shall deem appropriate, with the provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of the Presbytery" (Book of Order G-9.0403, G-14.0507).

2. When Presbytery is scheduled to meet soon, restraint will be used in taking actions that may be reserved for that coming meeting. The PC will be accountable to the Presbytery Book of Order (G-9.0403), always keeping the Presbytery informed of its actions. Although most actions will not require Presbytery approval, all actions will be reported to the next stated meeting of the Presbytery.

3. From these sections of the Constitution, four types of functions may be derived:

a. Mandated.

b. Assigned by Presbytery in its Bylaws in conformity with the areas of action permitted by the Form of Government by policy, these actions shall be taken ordinarily by the Presbytery.

c. Specific assignment by Presbytery.

d. General functions and procedures.

1) Mandated Duties:

- a) To coordinate the mission and program of the Presbytery Book of Order G-9.0902a);
  - b) To provide for the regular review of the functional relationship between Presbytery structure and mission (Book of Order G 11.0103v).
- 2) Assigned by Presbytery in conformity with the Book of Order G-14.0507, Paragraph 3 upon recommendation of the proper Presbytery committee and with report to the next regular stated meeting of Presbytery:
- c) Approve a pastoral call to a minister member of Presbytery; place such call in her/his hands;
  - d) Approve a pastoral call to a minister of another Presbytery; transmit that call to the stated clerk of other Presbytery for proper action there;
  - e) Receive into Presbytery a minister who has accepted a call;
  - f) Receive into Presbytery from another Presbytery a minister in good standing who has been called to serve in a Presbytery-approved position other than a local church within the bounds of Presbytery;
  - g) Receive into Presbytery a retired minister who for valid reason desires to be a member of Presbytery;
- 3) Specific Assignment by Presbytery:
- h) Presbytery Council may act on behalf of Presbytery in regard to recommendations of the Communication and Coordination Committee in cases of emergency.
  - i) Review and approve the minutes of Presbytery.
- 4) General Functions and Procedures:
- j) Meet those responsibilities and exercise those powers given it by the Presbytery's Manual of Operations;
  - k) Submit to Presbytery for review and action all reports of Presbytery Council;
  - l) Correspond with the Synod and General Assembly;
  - m) Presbytery Council minutes shall contain each item of business transacted by it, except in those cases where it is deemed advisable to meet in executive session, when only the motions and findings shall be reported;

- n) Presbytery Council, within the areas of its responsibilities, may appoint ad hoc committees responsible to it. When so instructed by Presbytery, the Council shall appoint Presbytery-authorized ad hoc committees;
- o) Decisions of the Council shall be immediately operative where power has been conferred, but may be reviewed and reversed by Presbytery;
- p) Council shall develop/maintain policy with criteria for approved absences and/or approved early departure from stated meetings of Presbytery;
- q) Council shall develop/maintain a procedure for review of these Bylaws;
- r) The Chair of Council, in consultation with the Executive Presbyter, shall have the responsibility of calling to the attention of Council the non-functioning of any of its committees. S/he shall recommend action to Council;
- s) Council shall nominate the chair and members of the Nominating Committee;
- t) After consultation with pertinent committees, Council may transfer funds from one line item to another, between meetings of Presbytery.

**B. Meetings**

The Presbytery Council shall have four (4) Stated Meetings a year, two (2) of which shall be at least three (3) weeks prior to the Stated Meetings of Presbytery. Meetings may be held by conference call. Special meetings of Presbytery Council may be called in the same manner as provided for special meetings of Presbytery excepting that Special Meetings held by conference call would require no less than 48 hours notice.

**C. Membership**

Membership of the Council shall consist of the following (all with vote, except as noted):

1. The most recent living past Moderator of Presbytery residing within the bounds of Presbytery, shall be the Chair of the Council;
2. The moderator of Presbytery;
3. The vice moderator of Presbytery;

4. The stated clerk of Presbytery, without vote, who shall be the secretary;
5. The executive presbyter, without vote;
6. A representative to Synod;
7. The Chair or the annual designee of each of the Council committees:
  - a. Personnel (Pe)
  - b. Overtures & Bylaws (O&B)
  - c. Finance & Budget (F&B)
8. The Presbyterian Women Moderator, or the annual designee;
9. The Chair or annual designee of each of the following committees of Presbytery:
  - a. Committee on Ministry (COM)
  - b. Program Strategy (PSC)
  - c. Structure (STR)
  - d. Nominating (Nm)
10. Representatives of Higher Governing Bodies, who are members of this Presbytery, may be invited by a 2/3rds vote of Council to serve on Presbytery Council with voice and vote for the duration of that representative's term.

A quorum shall be at least One-Third (1/3rd) of the voting membership.