

Presbytery of Santa Barbara

Report of the Stated Clerk and Consent Agenda September 19, 2020

Consent Agenda

NOTE: All items on the Consent Agenda will be presented for approval on one motion; however, any item may be removed for discussion and separate vote. Other Consent Agenda items may be distributed at the meeting.

The Stated Clerk:

- Recommends **approval** by Presbytery of the May 16, 2020 Minutes of the 465th meeting of the Presbytery of Santa Barbara.
- Recommends **approval** by Presbytery that the Recommendation on Plan for Parity between Teaching Elders and Ruling Elders at Presbytery Meetings, approved by Presbytery May 18, 2019, remain in effect through May 2021.
- Presbytery Council recommends that Presbytery **approve** Teaching Elder Andy Rock and CRE Bonnie Boe as Ordination Exam Readers for 2020 (PCUSA Preparation for Ministry).
- From the Property & Finance Committee: **Motion for approval** to set aside Standing Rule 3.24A1 through the November 10, 2020 Presbytery Meeting: “Submission of an annual budget, as approved by Property and Finance Committee, for ecclesiastical expenses of the Presbytery to the Presbytery Council; recommendation to the Presbytery at the stated September meeting the per capita amount to meet the ecclesiastical expenses of the Presbytery office for the coming year; and authorize the notification to churches of that approved figure and of the apportionments due.” The 2021 budget will be presented at the November 10, 2020, Presbytery Meeting.
- Presbytery Council recommends that Presbytery **approve** a motion to set aside until the May 15, 2021, Presbytery meeting, the Presbytery Standing Rules for these committees to be in compliance with the Standing Rules, as listed below.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.51- Committee on Ministry to allow time to bring the committee membership in compliance with one-half Teaching Elders and one-half Ruling Elders.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.52 - Committee for Preparation for Ministry, to bring committee membership into compliance of one-half Teaching Elders and one-half Ruling Elders.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.61 – Personnel Committee to bring committee membership into compliance with one-half Teaching Elders and one-half Ruling Elders.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.62 – Committee of Representation/Nominations (CORN) to bring committee membership into compliance with 6 members and one-

third Teaching Elder and two-thirds Ruling Elders. Equal male and female representation.

- Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.53 – Clergy Support to allow time to bring the committee membership in compliance with six members.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.54 – Permanent Judicial Commission to bring commission membership into compliance.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.63 – Property and Finance to allow time to bring the committee membership in compliance with seven members.
 - Move to set aside Standing Rule 6.42 – Church in the World Committee to allow for committee membership of more than five members.
- The Committee on Ministry recommends the dismissal of minister member Rev. Cynthia Purvis to the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, per their request.
 - Minister Changes – Honorably Retired, Rev. Dennis Falasco, as of July 1, 2020.

Stated Clerk Report

- Reports the following regarding Nominations for Presbytery Moderator-Elect (2020-21) to be elected at the September 19th Presbytery meeting:
 - On June 11, 2020, the Stated Clerk notified all church Sessions by written Notice of the Call for Nomination for Presbytery Moderator-Elect, deadline to submit nominations: September 1, 2020. Standing Rules 3.22.
 - Nominations received to date: The Stated Clerk has received one Nomination Form: Nomination of Ruling Elder Lee Kirkpatrick to serve as Presbytery Moderator-Elect, 2021-2022.
 - Presbytery will elect the Moderator-Elect with the CORN Report and election of the slate of nominations presented by CORN at this meeting.
- Reports that the Standing Rules of the Presbytery specify a 5-year term for the Stated Clerk. Due to the transitional period of the Presbytery, this position is currently set as a one-year (renewable) position. Presbytery has already approved to set aside the Standing Rule.
- Annual Statement of Insurance Coverage: As required by the Book of Order(G-3.0122) it is noted that Presbytery of Santa Barbara, through annually renewed policies issued by the Insurance Board, has property and liability coverage to protect the Presbytery's facilities, programs, staff, and elected and appointed officers, current policy period 1/1/2020 – 1/1/2021. [Property – Boiler – Inland Marine; Commercial Crime; General & Professional Liability including Sexual Misconduct and Hired & Non-owned Automobile; Excess General & Professional Liability Coverage; CyberEdge Coverage aka Network Security; D&O Liability including Employment Practices; Umbrella Liability - \$5 million; Excess Umbrella Liability - \$25 million) through Insurance Board and its Workers' Compensation Insurance through The Hartford Insurance Company, through ADP.

- The Stated Clerk Reports that at its August 5, 2020 meeting, Presbytery Council approved postponing the Annual Review of Session Minutes and Church Records (with Clerks of Session) until 2021, due to the current COVID 19 situation and meeting restrictions.
- The Agenda, Reports, Minutes and other documents for this Meeting are posted on the Presbytery Website: www.sbpres.org
- Reports the current roster of names of members of the Permanent Judicial Commission and list of those members of the Permanent Judicial Commission whose terms have expired within the past six years (Rules of Discipline D-5.0206b):

- Roster of Permanent Judicial Commission:

Name	Church	Term End
Rev. Megan Babayco	Ojai	2022
Rev. Bob Crouch	Pismo Beach	2022
Rev. Steve Jacobsen	At Large	2022
CRE Diane Kirkpatrick	FP Santa Barbara	2024

- PJC - Terms Expired

2014

Rev Jeff Bridgeman
 Rev Michael Mudgett
 Elder Wayne Kempton

2016

Rev Peter Buehler
 Rev Dana Shaw
 Elder Sandy Thoits
 Elder Garry Grant

2017

Elder Sada Williams

2018

Rev Dan Birchfield
 Rev Tyson Babayco
 Elder Jim Stueck
 Elder Lee Kirkpatrick
 Elder Wes Shipway

2020

Rev. Suzanne Malloy
 Rev. Jill Martinez

Report of the Presbytery Council

Presbytery Council usually meets monthly. The meetings are open, and Presbytery members are encouraged to attend for all or part of the meetings. If you would like to attend a Council meeting, please contact Sandy Thoits, Stated Clerk, stated-clerk@sbpres.org, for the dates and times for the upcoming Council meetings. If you have concerns or recommendations, please contact the Moderator (Tom Stephen), Chair of Council (Janet Loughry), or Stated Clerk (Sandy Thoits).

June 3, 2020 Meeting by Zoom

- Presbytery Council welcomed new Council members Joel Drenckpohl, Mickey Fenn and Andy Rock.
- Received a report from the Finance Strategy Task Force, which began working on topics regarding possible application of the dismissal funds.
- Heard a report about the weekly Zoom meetings for sharing and support for COVID 19 and general topics, taking place with church Pastors, Commissioned Ruling Elders, hosted by Tom Stephen. Bonnie Boe hosts a weekly Zoom meeting with the church Treasurers, Business Managers and finance elders.
- The Stated Clerk reported that the Presbytery received the Synod COVID 19 Grant funds: \$150,000. Council approved distributing checks to the 16 churches that requested funds for critical financial needs arising from COVID 19 (\$7,500 each church) and to Front Porch Campus Ministry. Four churches indicated to Council that they did not intend to request funds.
- Heard a report from Property & Finance Team Chair Scott Eschbach regarding University Ministry Board history, corporate Board of Directors and property assets.
- Heard and report and discussed feedback and highlights from the May 16 Zoom Presbytery Meeting.
- Approved appointing Rev. Suzanne Malloy to the COPE Committee, which plans the Presbytery meetings.
- Approved a request from the Committee on Preparation for Ministry for the 2020 Ordination Exam Readers: Rev. Andy Rock (Teaching Elder); CRE Bonnie Boe (Ruling Elder).
- Heard a report on plans for the 2021 Mission Conference January 29-30, 2021, in person and virtual. Speaker confirmed: Shane Claborne.

July 1, 2020 Meeting by Zoom

- Presbytery Council welcomed and heard a report from the Online 224th General Assembly Presbytery team: Ruling Elder Commissioner Susan Freer, Young Adult Advisory Delegate Casey Crouch and Teaching Elder Commissioner Tom Stephen. Council thanked them for their dedicated service.
- Reviewed the Presbytery Financial Reports from the Treasurer. The Presbytery received Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) COVID 19 relief loan. The Presbytery Board of Trustees is considering options for refinance of the loan on the Highland's property, at a lower interest rate.

- Approved a request from The Way Station for financial assistance from the Synod Grant funds for expenses arising from COVID-19, in the amount of \$7,500. Council approved making the remaining \$15,000 of Synod COVID-19 Grant funds available to the other Presbytery New Worshipping Communities (NWC) and New Church Developments (NCD).
- Reviewed the background on UMB contracts for property management and maintenance of the Casa Veranda/Front Porch properties. Council appointed a task force to gather further information.
- Heard a report on an offer from PMA (Rene Myers) and Presbyterian Foundation (Maggie Harmon) to present a Zoom Community Workshop Webinar to pastors and church leaders. Consensus to go forward, with the Stated Clerk to coordinate.
- Approved a request from the Disaster Response Task Force to add CRE Katy Griffin as a member of the Task Force.
- Heard a report from Rev. Janet Loughry from CORN on people who have agreed to serve on various committees. Report and nominations will go to Presbytery for election at the September 19th Presbytery meeting.
- Heard a report from CRE Chuck Curtis, the Church in the World Committee is gathering videos from the Presbytery validated ministries, which will be included in the next Presbytery Newsletter.

August 5, 2020 Meeting

- Presbytery Council reviewed the Presbytery Financial Reports from and received a report from the Treasurer.
- Heard a report from the Church Development Committee regarding requests from New Worshipping Communities for Synod COVID 19 grant funds. Council approved the Synod COVID 19 funds grant requests from Safe Harbor NCD, Resurrection Church NWC and Church in the Park NWC for \$3,750 each; and to table until the next Council meeting a decision on the funding for Hope and Peace Park in order to receive more information.
- Approved holding the September 19, 2020 Presbytery Meeting by Zoom online meeting, due to meeting restrictions for COVID 19 pandemic. Council reviewed the possible items of business for the meeting.
- Council approved postponing the Annual Review of Session Minutes and Church records (with Clerks of Session) until 2021, due to the current COVID 19 situation and meeting restrictions.
- Referred to the Church in the World Committee review of the PCUSA Matthew 25 Initiative, including the Dismantling Racism program.
- Reviewed a first Draft Presbytery Budget for 2021. Council will review the Draft Budget further and plan to present the proposed 2021 Budget to Presbytery at the November 10 Presbytery Meeting.

September 9, 2020 Meeting

- Presbytery Council reviewed the Presbytery Financial Reports from and received a report from the Treasurer.
- Reviewed a report regarding efforts for reconciliation of equity account balance for Front Porch. Council authorized adjustments to the Front Porch equity account to reflect what was due to Front Porch from prior years.

- Heard a report from the Personnel Committee regarding completion of the annual review of the Stated Clerk. Approved bringing a motion to Presbytery on September 19, 2020 that the Presbytery elect Ruling Elder Sandy Thoits to another 1-year term, September 19, 2020 – September 18, 2021.
- Council approved a motion from the Personnel Committee authorizing 15 days of paid time off annually to the Stated Clerk.
- Approved the Agenda items for the September 19, 2020 Presbytery Meeting.
- Approved holding the November 10, 2020 Presbytery Meeting by Zoom online meeting, due to meeting restrictions for COVID 19 pandemic.
- Heard a report from the Church in the World Committee on planning ideas and efforts for an educational program on racial reconciliation to be offered to Presbytery members, Council approved setting aside a budget override, not to exceed \$4,000, for the Church in the World Committee for racial reconciliation programs.
- Heard a report on planning for the 2021 Santa Barbara Mission Conference, to be held virtually. Dates: January 29 – 30.
- Heard a report from the CORN committee on nominations for Moderator Elect and Committee members for Presbytery approval at the September 19 Presbytery Meeting.
- Heard a report from the Church Development Committee (CDC) about the efforts and discernment team for a possible new worshipping community, Church at the Collection, near the River Park area of Oxnard. Rev. Ted Brant is the leader of the discernment team. Council approved a motion from CDC to submit an application for a Seed Grant (\$7,500) from 1001 New Worshipping Communities (PCUSA).
- Heard a report from Presbyterian Women about the Fall Gathering on 9/19 and the new Horizons Bible Study, *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Thoits, Stated Clerk