

Proposed Suspension of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Bylaws and Standing Rules

B-4.0300 Meetings of Presbytery Council

B-4.0510 Committees of the Trustees

B-4.0300 Meetings of Presbytery Council

The current bylaws provide for the following meeting schedule:

“A stated meeting shall be held each month, with the exception of July and August. Nine (9) voting members shall constitute a quorum, at least two (2) of whom shall be ministers and two (2) elders”

MOTION: the Presbytery of Grand Canyon by a vote of three-fourths of the members present suspend that portion of Bylaw B-4.0300 concerning the meeting schedule of the Presbytery Council to permit the Council to meet, at its discretion, at least quarterly rather than monthly.

B-4.0510 Committees of the Trustees

The current bylaws provide for the following Property Committee of the Trustees:

SR4-0510-1 The Board of Trustees shall establish a Properties Committee consisting of such individuals as the President of the Board shall designate, including appropriate representatives from the Presbytery's Evangelism and Church Development Committee.

MOTION: the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, by a vote of three-fourths of the members present, suspend that portion of Bylaw B-4.0510 concerning the Property Committee of the Trustees to permit the Trustees to establish the Property Committee as an Administrative Commission (G-9.0503; G-9.0504b3) with members to be appointed by the President of the Board to act on behalf of the Trustees on all property matters valued up to \$1,000,000.

RATIONALE

During the interim transition period the Council/Trustee are exploring ways to become more of a leadership team and less of a management team for the Presbytery. To this end, the Council as part of its retreat in February discussed reducing the number of Council/Trustee meetings in order that more time could be spent less frequently on nurturing a vision for the presbytery built upon continuing clarity about its vision for our congregations, our denomination, our world and God's call to be followers of Jesus Christ. Since the Council also acts on behalf of the Presbytery as Trustees on property matters the formation of the current Property Committee as an Administrative Commission will permit the Council/Trustees to meet less frequently on many matters that previously necessitated meetings.

The Council as it meets for more extended conversation at each of the planned 5 meetings per year will focus its time and energy: (1) In conversation about the vision and the shaping of the overall life of the presbytery in preparation to bring the entire presbytery into the conversation; (2) Encouraging the "incarnation" of this vision and listening to ways different parts of the presbytery are exploring and living into this vision; (3) Learning about and praying for our congregations and their leaders - ministers and elders; and (4) Building collegial relationships as a team through fellowship and reflecting on the challenges of leadership for the church in our time

ADDITIONAL RELATED INFORMATION

Bylaw suspension requirements

The Bylaws may be suspended by following the provision for amending them namely; The Bylaws may be added to or amended at any stated meeting of Presbytery by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members present, provided a fifty (50) day notice of the proposed changes has been given to the stated clerk in writing, and that copies of these proposed changes have been sent to ministers and clerks of session along with the call to the meeting at which they are to be voted on.

Duties of the current Trustee Property Committee proposed for the Trustee Administrative Property Commission

The Committee shall exercise the following functions:

- a. The committee shall review and recommend for action all projects involving property and buildings related to Presbytery and its churches, including the financial plan of the church its projects; property purchase, architect's contracts, builder's contracts, building plans including total site plan, construction drawings, major construction changes or remodeling; financial package for property purchase and building.
- b. The committee shall prepare loan applications to Presbytery Trustees, Synod Trustees, General Assembly and other sources and to assist sessions in the preparation of loans for first unit construction and other available loans.
- c. The committee shall monitor the Presbytery insurance program for churches.
- d. The committee shall monitor church mortgage payments.
- e. The committee shall consult with sessions and New Church Development steering committees on financial encumbrances.
- f. The committee shall negotiate leases and write leases where applicable.
- g. The committee shall monitor tax obligations.
- h. The committee shall carry out other assignments as directed by the Trustees.