

**Executive Committee Report
May 19, 2022**

Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

Pittsburgh Presbytery's Executive Committee met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 in the Patrick Room at the Presbytery Center. Co-chair Rev. Dr. Trent Hancock opened the meeting with prayer.

Items for Information

1. Covid Protocol for May Presbytery Meeting

In addition to compliance with the Covid-19 protocols required by the host for our May meeting, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, the Executive Committee strongly recommends that attendees at the May presbytery meeting self-test on the day of the meeting and not attend unless they receive a negative result.

2. Presbytery Meeting Format

Due to the level of technological and staff support necessary to conduct a hybrid meeting, the limitations on sites able to host a hybrid meeting, and the difficulty in maintaining a balanced debate during a hybrid meeting, the Executive Committee has determined that future meetings of Pittsburgh Presbytery would either be held in person or via video conference, but not in hybrid format.

Items for Action

1. Consent Motions

The Executive Committee recommends that the following items be approved by consent: **#5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12.**

2. Election of Stated Clerk

At the February 24, 2022, Stated Meeting of Pittsburgh Presbytery, the Stated Clerk Nominating Committee nominated Ruling Elder Carla Campbell for re-election as Stated Clerk of Pittsburgh Presbytery. The election of the Stated Clerk for a five-year term commencing July 1, 2022, is in order at the May 19, 2022, meeting.

3. Call of New Associate Minister for Justice Ministries

The Special Nominating Committee is expected to report that it is recommending that Ruling Elder Ralph Lowe be called to be the Associate Minister for Justice Ministries. Elder Lowe, a Candidate under care of Beaver-Butler Presbytery, will be examined for ordination and call.

4. Revised Charter of New Worshiping Communities Commission

The Executive Committee approved and recommends that Presbytery approve, the proposed revised charter for the New Worshiping Communities Commission as follows:

1. Membership

- a. The New Worshiping Communities Commission shall have twelve (12) members, of whom six (6) shall be ruling elders and six (6) shall be teaching elders.

- b. They shall be elected in compliance with the principles of inclusiveness, participation, and representation.
 - c. The quorum of the New Worshiping Communities Commission shall be a majority of its membership.
 - d. Standing Members - Any individual serving in the following roles shall be asked to serve as a member of the commission if they meet the qualifications listed in 1a-b
 - 1. 1001 New Worshiping Communities Staff Members.
 - 2. The Director of the Center for Adaptive and Innovative Ministry at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary or its successor program.
 - ii. These individuals shall serve regular terms as part of a rotating class, and shall not serve more than two consecutive terms as a voting member.
 - iii. If a standing member is ineligible to serve as a voting member, they shall be afforded voice but not vote as part of the commission.
2. Authority - The Commission is established per G-3.0109b(4):
- a. *Administrative commissions are designated to consider and conclude matters not involving ecclesiastical judicial process, except that in the discharge of their assigned responsibilities they may discover and report to the designating council matters that may require judicial action by the council. Functions that may be entrusted to administrative commissions include, but are not limited to developing immigrant fellowships, organizing new congregations, merging congregations, or forming union or federated congregations (G-5.05);*
3. Powers and Responsibilities
- a. To create and supervise new worshiping community task forces as appropriate;
 - b. To request budgets from Presbytery to implement and staff such new worshiping communities; and
 - c. To assume all powers and responsibilities of a session for the benefit and ministry of the new worshiping community and to lead such a community as authorized in G-1.02 (Organizing a Particular Church).
4. Accountability - The Commission shall be directly accountable to, and shall report directly to, Presbytery. The Commission shall hold stated meetings and may, with due notice, hold special meetings as called by the Chair or by two (2) members of the Commission.

***5. Waiver of Six-Year Limitation on Terms – First Presbyterian Church of Gibsonia**
 The Executive Committee approved and forwards to Presbytery for its approval, a waiver of the six-year limitation on terms of two elders of First Presbyterian Church of Gibsonia to serve additional terms beginning in 2023.

***6. Waiver of Six-Year Limitation on Terms – Valley Presbyterian Church**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to Presbytery for its approval, a waiver of the six-year limitation on terms of one elder of Valley Presbyterian Church to serve an additional term beginning in 2023.

***7. Finance Reports – December 2021 and January and February 2022**

The Executive Committee recommends Presbytery receive and file for audit the Presbytery Financial Statements for the months of December 2021 and January and February 2022.

***8. Permission to Encumber – Second United Presbyterian Church Wilkinsburg**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to Presbytery for its approval the request of Second United Presbyterian Church of Wilkinsburg to encumber its property via a \$100,000 line of credit from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (“PILP”) which requires that presbytery guarantee the loan. Funds will be used to hire part-time staff to restart educational programs.

***9. Permission for Sale of Church Property – Whitehall United Presbyterian Church**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to presbytery for its approval the request of Whitehall United Presbyterian Church for permission to sell their property for \$800,000. The congregation is discerning its future.

***10. Permission for Sale of Church Property – Emsworth United Presbyterian Church**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to presbytery for its approval the request of Emsworth United Presbyterian Church to sell its property at market price. The congregation intends to dissolve and to direct the funds to community outreach.

***11. Permission to Subdivide and for Sale of Church Property – Sampson’s Mills Presbyterian Church**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to presbytery for its approval the request of Sampson’s Mills Presbyterian Church to subdivide its property and sell the portion that consists of the former manse at market price.

***12. Permission for Sale of Church Property – Verona Presbyterian Church**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to presbytery for its approval the request of Verona Presbyterian Church to sell its property at market price. The congregation intends to dissolve and to direct the proceeds to a number of charitable entities.