

Consistory Secretary's Report Pennsylvania Southeast Conference - 2018 Annual Meeting

Meetings of the Consistory

The Consistory met on July 15, September 30, and November 11 in 2017, and on January 20 and March 17 in 2018, with the next regularly scheduled meeting planned for May 19, 2018. The Fall Meeting of the PSEC was held on November 18, 2017. A joint retreat with PNEC took place on March 2-3, 2018.

Changes in Consistory Officers and Delegates

Changes to the association delegates, and Personnel Committee (addition of Rev Sue Bertollette) were approved as need arose.

Summary of Pertinent Consistory Actions

- The Consistory put in place a process for conducting business electronically when necessary. Motions made in this manner are read into the minutes at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Consistory passed three motions in this manner, including housing allowances for the conference minister and associate conference minister, an authorization to seek proposals to provide vision and action on sustainable giving through OCWM as well as planned giving and legacy giving, and the selection of Herbein as auditor.
- A subcommittee of the Consistory continues to receive, evaluate and make recommendations regarding applications for new ministry funds on an ongoing basis.
- The Consistory continued its focus on 5 of the values and 5 of the objectives selected as priorities from the 20/20 Vision.
- Acting on a recommendation from the Personnel Committee, the timetable for salary guidelines will be moved up to the 3rd Saturday in July.
- The Consistory voted for PSEC to become a member of the Greater Philadelphia Long Term Recovery Committee (March).
- A year-to-year renewal of the lease for conference office space was approved.
- The Consistory found consensus in granting autonomy and responsibility to the PSEC Justice and Witness team for education/awareness and advocacy regarding social justice issues, allowing them to act as a role model for local churches. Justice and Witness must state that their position does not necessarily represent that of local churches or the conference as a whole.
- The Consistory has been kept informed of the progress of the Joint Conference Vision and Development Team (JCVDT) regarding the selection of team members from PSEC, survey results, and the drafting of Vision, Mission, Purpose and Value statements for the possible new conference.
- Amendments that change the national UCC constitution and bylaws were approved by the Consistory, including a move away from language of collegium, adding information regarding ordained ministerial partner standing for ordained ministers from the United Church of Canada, and various editorial changes.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Jenny Smith