

Consistory Secretary's Report Pennsylvania Southeast Conference - 2019 Annual Meeting

Meetings of the Consistory

The Consistory met on July 21, September 15, and November 17 in 2018, and on January 19 and March 16 in 2019, with the next regularly scheduled meeting planned for May 2018. The Fall Meeting of the PSEC was held on November 10, 2018.

Summary of Pertinent Consistory Actions

- Changes to the association delegates were approved as need arose, members were added to the Disaster Ministry Team, and a new coordinator was appointed for the Generations of Service Campaign.
- Using the established e-ballot process, the Consistory passed two motions in this manner, including a medical leave request for the Associate Conference Minister in accordance with Conference policy, and authorization for the Budget and Finance Team to spend up to \$20,000 for the planning phase of the OCWM marketing and public relations project that will tell the story of our conference and its ministry.
- Acting on a request from the Disaster Coordinator, the Consistory approved an amount of \$1,000 to help provide household goods to families through Hispano Centro.
- Acting on a recommendation from our accountants and the Budget and Finance Committee, a motion was passed to increase the capitalization for equipment and fixed assets from \$1,000 to \$2,500.
- The Consistory approved a motion directing the Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a comparative survey of conference staff salaries for equity.
- A subcommittee of the Consistory continues to receive, evaluate and make recommendations regarding applications we receive for new ministry funds.
- The Consistory voted to make a donation of \$150 to the ONA Coalition for their Hope 2019 campaign.
- After reviewing them, the Consistory accepted the MESA (Ministerial Excellence Support and Authorization) team's recommended guidelines for fitness reviews of conference ministers.
- The Consistory agreed to sign on to an amicus brief filed in Pennsylvania which opposes removal of government funding to pay for employee medical insurance where companies refuse to pay it on religious grounds.
- Following the failure at our Fall Conference meeting to pass a resolution to form a new body with PNEC, the Consistory dedicated time during our January meeting to explore possible next steps. We received feedback from the Joint Conference Vision and Development Team (JCVDT) with their feedback and suggestions. Discussion included examining the "why" for uniting, ways to continue working together, and the need to heal any divisions that arose between our conferences during this process.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Jenny Smith