

**PSEC Consistory Meeting**  
**Via Zoom**  
**May 15, 2021**

**Consistory Members Present:** Mr. Ray Edwards, Rev. Bill Worley, Mr. John Jones, Rev. Tony Villareal, Rev. Ann-Therese Ortiz, Mr. Tim Kissling, Mr. Lee Metzger, Mr. Kyle Sakamoto, Rev. Jenny Smith, Rev. Anne Cormier, Rev. Kevin Fruchtl, Rev. Bonnie Dalious, Rev. Jeff Wargo, Ms. Beth Walker

**Conference Staff Present:** Rev. Susan Minasian

**Excused:** Rev. Cean James, Mr. Charles Kuthuru

Rev. Villareal called the meeting to order shortly after 9:00 AM, noting that a quorum was present. Rev. Fruchtl led a devotion asking what is in our “anxiety closets” that we have brought along to the meeting, then offered an opening prayer.

Motions to accept the meeting agenda and to approve the minutes from the March 20 meeting were approved. There were no communications to share.

**Conference Strategic Planning**

Responses to the questionnaire are being collated. Some respondents indicated that their focus is on returning from COVID, thus not an ideal time for strategic planning.

It was suggested that we build on the 3 social justice teams we have; create an entrepreneurial spirit to encourage those who have a passion around their ideas to create a plan and run with it, especially those who don’t find the support they need in the local church. A need for more fellowship was expressed.

Rev. Villareal requested a small group of individuals to serve on drafting strategic plan, including both continuing consistory members and those completing their terms. There was discussion on why people might be reluctant to participate including fatigue and frustration/cynicism. Ms. Walker, Rev. Wargo, and Rev. Worley will serve. It is desired to have a draft by the September meeting of consistory.

**Reports & Business**

Treasurer’s report - Mr. Edwards indicated that OCWM has rebounded to be parallel with expectations. The Endowment Committee is working on a policy to reflect what they’ve been doing to help people as they come on the committee. Invested funds are doing well. Additional money is being moved into investments beyond fossil fuels. The audit was flawless with no major recommendations. It was suggested that some administrative costs be assigned to programs.

A motion was passed to accept and submit the audit report at the annual meeting.  
(Motion: From Committee; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Kissling)

A motion was passed to accept the treasurer's report. (Motion: Rev. Comier; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Metzger)

Regarding follow up with churches who fall behind in their OCWM, letters are sent quarterly. If there is a 12-month lapse, the conference minister is notified by the conference treasurer for follow up. Routine calls to churches may be part of the new stewardship program and would involve communication with the consistory leader, not just the pastor. The intent is to be attentive, but not overly burdensome. When people stop giving it is a sign there is a problem.

Personnel Committee - The report was received. (Motion: Ms. Walker; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Jones)  
A question was raised about setting 2022 salary guidelines; it is important to be in communication with Budget and Finance before presenting recommendations to consistory. This is typically done in July for August publication.

Disaster Minister Coordinator - Rev. Jones report was received. (Motion: Mr. Metzger; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Walker)

ACM Church Development - No report.

Interim ACM Search & Call - Rev. Minasian noted a shift in report format/content from her observations as an interim to a list of her activities in preparation for her successor. She is preparing material on bi-vocational and shared ministry. The report was accepted. (Motion: Ms. Walker; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Jones)

CM Report - Rev. Worley's report included a request for suggestions on how to make association meetings more effective. The report was accepted. (Motion: Ms. Walker; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Jones)

The ACM Search Committee has been formed and had a good first meeting. A description of the upcoming position has been posted for several weeks and messages are being received from people who want to apply. The committee asked and received approval for relocation funds. (Motion: Rev. Dalious; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Kissling)

Doing Church During a Pandemic is one of the agenda items for the spring meeting. Ms. Walker needs names of people to include in that conversation.

Mr. Kissling plans a meeting on the conference stewardship program after the spring conference meeting to affirm the planned program, using the Budget and Finance committee as a sounding board.

The Medical Indebtedness project is still on hold; we will revisit this commitment in the future.

The Conferring Session Agenda for the spring meeting was approved. (Motion: Mr. Metzger; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Kissling)

Consistory members were asked to note their lines for participation in the Saturday afternoon worship service at the spring meeting.

There will be a Zoom opportunity for the fall conference meeting. It was noted that meeting in person satisfies other needs. Vaccinated delegates will be asked to come in person. The hybrid meeting model provides a middle ground for those who have concerns.

The July meeting date for consistory needs to change due to a conflict with General Synod. Once the new consistory members are identified, a poll will be sent out to determine a new meeting date. Also, there is a need to schedule time to orient new members to what will be asked of them during the coming year.

Rev. Villareal thanked the 8 consistory members who are completing their terms. Bill Worley offered a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Re. Jenny Smith, Secretary