

PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY ROUNDTABLE
August 29, 2019

The Roundtable of the Presbytery of Southern New England met in the Smart Room of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Hartford, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with prayer and opening devotions at 9:40 a.m. by the Co-Chair of the Roundtable, the Rev. Julie Emery.

A QUORUM was present.

Present were: Lisa Baker, J. C. Cadwallader (co-chair), Julie Emery (co-chair), Steve Hart, Dick Hasbany, John Merz, Barbara Riihimaki, Ruth Smalt, and Virginia Smanik, and Chris Tate.

Also present were: *ex-officio* members Shannan Vance-Ocampo and David Baer.

Excused was: Kevin White

Absent were: Sean Miller, John Sweet, and Tom Taylor.

The Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo, the General Presbyter, gave her report. She and Mr. Baer have visited over the summer with the Brazilian Presbyterian Church (IPB) in Hyannis, Massachusetts, an immigrant fellowship affiliated with PSNE. She had the chance to worship with the community on Sunday evening, and she and Mr. Baer met with the Rev. Alonso Dacunha and his wife Katia on Monday morning, to hear about the work of the fellowship and to identify needs which the Presbytery might be able to help meet through providing resources. In response to concerns about possible Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids affecting the community served by IPB, she has arranged for Teresa Waggoner, an immigration attorney with the Office of the General Assembly, and her colleague Amanda Craft to visit the fellowship in October. They will also meet with our three Presbyterian Immigration Ministry (PIM) chaplains, and Ms. Vance-Ocampo hopes to bring Sue Krebiel, with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, to do some work on trauma.

She identified a need for a team to oversee and provide resources to immigrant and other emerging ministries, and she presented a proposal to create, staff, and fund such a team.

Upon the recommendation of the General Presbyter, and following a motion properly made, the Roundtable **VOTED**:

1. To **RECOMMEND** that the Presbytery **ADOPT** and **IMPLEMENT** the proposal for a Committee on Emerging Ministries (**Attachment 1**); and
2. To **INVITE** Amanda Craft to visit the Presbytery in October, to meet with our PIM chaplains, provide a clinic for IPB, meet with the Roundtable, and provide an open workshop for the Presbytery.

Ms. Vance-Ocampo reported on follow-up work she has engaged in with Jessica Vasquez-Torres of Crossroads Anti-Racism Organizing and Training, following the anti-racism training that Ms. Vasquez-Torres conducted for the Presbytery in March. Ms. Vasquez-Torres proposes:

1. Twelve monthly joint meetings, over the course of the next year, with Shannan Vance-Ocampo and David Baer for leadership coaching.

2. Twelve monthly meetings with the group (to be identified) for consultation, guidance, and any coaching they need.
3. Two one-day gatherings in the Presbytery: One to help determine the path for the group to be identified and one for capacity building of said group along with others.

Ms. Vance-Ocampo recommends that the Roundtable authorize the expenditure of \$15,000 from the Cranston Fund for this endeavor. Upon the recommendation of the General Presbyter and a motion properly made, the Roundtable **VOTED** to **AUTHORIZE** this expenditure of funds.

Ms. Vance-Ocampo drew the Roundtable's attention to a document in their Google Drive with the high level report from Landscape and how it has been informing the process behind her work with the Presbytery. At her invitation, the Roundtable engaged in some conversation regarding future priorities for their work, as informed by the trend-lines and other information present in the report.

Mr. Baer gave the Clerk's Report. At his request, the Roundtable **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the minutes of the meeting on June 12. He then reviewed the proposed docket for the September 18 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery, as well as proposed changes to the PSNE Bylaws. Members of the Roundtable offered suggestions as to the Bylaws changes, and subsequently **VOTED** to **PRESENT** the proposed new bylaws to the Presbytery for a first reading at the September meeting.

In the absence of a representative of the Board of Trustees, the Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo reviewed the work of the Board over the summer. The Board has begun meeting regularly, resourced by the General Presbyter and the Stated Clerk, who takes their minutes. She noted the continuing need for a Chair of the Board, who would also serve as President of the Corporation. She has asked nearly all of the members who would be eligible to serve in this role, and thus far none of them has agreed.

Treasurer nominee. Roundtable **VOTED** to **CONCUR** in the nomination of Phillip Phiri, for a term of five years. Mr. Phiri will be presented for election by the Presbytery at the September Stated Meeting.

The Rev. John Merz reported on behalf of the Budget Team, reviewing the proposed budget for 2020. After discussion, the Roundtable **VOTED** to **PRESENT** the proposed budget as amended (**Attachment 2**) for approval by the Presbytery.

The Rev. Chris Tate, Chair of the Nominating Committee, gave his report, during which he proposed a number of persons to serve on the Nominating Committee. (In accordance with the PSNE Bylaws, 6.05-I, the Roundtable nominates candidates for election by the Presbytery to serve on the Nominating Committee.) The Roundtable **VOTED** to **PLACE IN NOMINATION** Carter Villa, Adele Crawford, Terrlyn Curry Avery for election to the Nominating Committee at the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery on September 18.

Elder Barbara Riihimaki provided an update on the work of the Committee on Ministry.

The Roundtable turned to developing a schedule of meetings for 2020:

- Stated Meetings of the Presbytery:
 - March 11, to convene at 4:00 with open space, followed by dinner, with elements of worship interspersed throughout the business meeting.
 - May 16 (Annual Meeting)
 - September 19
 - November 18

- Meetings of the Roundtable: January 16, February 6, April 23, and June 4. (Members of the Roundtable decided to wait until the spring to schedule meetings for Fall 2020.)

The next regular meeting of the Roundtable will be held on Thursday, *October 10*, at 9:30 a.m., at the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The Roundtable adjourned at 1:05 p.m., led in closing prayer by the Rev. Julie Emery.

Respectfully submitted,

-signed-

Rev. David A. Baer, Stated Clerk

Attachment 1

The Committee on Emerging Ministries

The Committee on Emerging Ministries is a team set up in the Presbytery of Southern New England for the purposes of:

- helping identify new locations and opportunities for New Worshiping Communities
- coming alongside existing Immigrant Fellowships in the spirit of resourcing and advocacy and seeking to engage and grow ministry with immigrants throughout the Presbytery
- coming alongside existing Campus Ministries in the spirit of resourcing and support and seeking to grow this expression of ministry throughout the Presbytery
- when invited, working creatively and collaboratively with existing ministries in the Presbytery that are seeking new ways of living into 21st century ministry
- collaborating with expressions in the larger Church of new forms of ministry: the expertise of the many specialized clergy in PSNE, the NEXT Church Network and other programs and resources that are identified

Funding

This team is empowered to seek and access grants from the Synod of the Northeast, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and other sources. Grant requests must come through the Roundtable for approval and are received by the Presbytery office.

Resources

This team is resourced by the staff of the Presbytery as well as by staff of the Synod and the Presbyterian Mission Agency as appropriate.

Grants

This team will develop criteria, process and for a grants program utilizing the Cranston Fund of the Presbytery to energize and engage new ministries in our midst. These recommendations and program must then be approved by the Presbytery Roundtable.

Terms

This team will have a minimum of six members set up in three year terms, not to exceed two consecutive terms of six years in total. It will be drawn from the diversity of the Presbytery in all ways and be accountable to the Presbytery through the Nominating Committee.

Attachment 2

	2020 Proposed	2019 Current
Income		
General Mission	\$ 55,000 A	\$ 70,000
Interest on Operating Cash	\$ -	\$ 450
Presbytery Per Capita	\$ 238,280 B	\$ 240,944
Total Income	\$ 293,280	\$ 311,394
Expenses		
Ministries of the Presbytery		
Presbyterian Immigrant Ministry (PIM)	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Brazilian Fellowship	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Grants for Emerging Ministries	\$ - C	\$ 15,000
Social Justice	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000
Youth Triennium	\$ - D	\$ 3,000
NEXT Church Support	\$ 1,000 E	\$ 1,000
Presbytery Emerging Ministries	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,000
New Initiatives	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Committees		
Committee on Ministry	\$ 8,000	\$ 7,000
Committee on Preparation	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000
Nominations	\$ 200	\$ 200
Personnel	\$ 500	\$ 500
Presbytery Roundtable	\$ 4,000 (partial)	\$ 9,000
Trustees	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Personnel		
GP Salary & Housing w/ med deduct	\$ 85,328 F	\$ 67,764
GP BOP	\$ 31,284 F1	\$ 25,227
Stated Clerk Salary	\$ 20,400	\$ 20,000
Stated Clerk - Additional service if needed	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,320
Chaplain to the Clergy	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Office Manager (reduction in force payment)	\$ 25,000 G	\$ 96,619
Communications Manager (new)	\$ 20,992 G	
Financial Manager <i>Contract</i>	\$ 26,520 G	\$ 40,800
Recording Clerk - stipend	\$ 800 G1	
Treasurer - stipend	\$ 2,000 G1	
Subtotal Personnel	\$ 221,324	\$ 258,730
Staff & Office Operations		
GP Auto/Professional Expense	\$ 9,480 F1	\$ 7,880
GP Continuing Ed	\$ 3,000 F2	\$ 1,000
2020 GP General Assembly Expense	\$ 1,200 H	\$ 1,200
Stated Clerk Auto/Professional Expense	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
2020 Stated Clerk General Assembly Expense	\$ 1,200 H	\$ 1,200
2020 GA Travel (overture advocate)	\$ 1,500 H	\$ 1,500
Office Operation	\$ 7,000 F	\$ 8,000
Equip. Replacement Reserve	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Total Expense	\$ 311,404	\$ 373,690
Operating Budget Net Surplus/Loss	\$ (18,124)	\$ (62,296)
2018 GA & SY Per Capita Received	###	2017 \$ 77,281
2018 GA & SY Per Capita Paid by Presbytery	###	2017 \$ 84,087
Net loss from GA & SY Per Capita not received	\$ (7,670) I	\$ (6,806)
Total Budget Surplus/Loss	\$ (25,794)	\$ (69,102)
Notes		
A	2020 Projected Presbytery Mission Pledges based on actual received in 2018.	
B	Per Capita Membership decrease from 6512 to 6440.	
C	Removed Use of Dismissal Income for Emerging Ministries.	
D	Next Triennium occurs is 2022.	
E	Roundtable voted to move RI Council of Churches donation to NEXT Church support in 2020.	
F	2020 includes 40hrs/wk, 2% COLA; includes 2% med deduction min per PSNE +\$404 from salary; SECA (@\$5,922 (7.65%)	
F1	Increased due to new staffing model.	
F2	\$2,000 moved from salary/housing by request	
G	Reduced due to new staffing model; 2020 Comms @\$25/hr x 15hrs/wk with FICA	
G1	Stipends were in old budgets but not recent ones; added back in	
H	Reflects annual amount for biennial GA Assembly.	
I	This is the shortfall in submissions from churches, but paid by Presbytery	