

Committees and Commissions, Leadership and its Working Groups

Presbytery of San Francisco

As of August 20, 2017

Standing Committees and Commissions:

Three-year terms; for some, members are Teaching Elders or Ruling Elders; for some, committees members are Teaching Elders and any members of congregations.

Bills, Overtures, & Session Records

Committee (BOSR):

Provides annual review of session records; reviews and recommends overtures to GA from sessions; reviews and reports on proposed amendments to the PCUSA Constitution. It has 6 teaching elders, 6 members of congregations; meets as needed, @ Pby office.

Committee on Ministry (COM):

Serves as pastor and counselor to ministers; supports congregations, esp. in times of transition; facilitates relations among clergy, congregations, and presbytery. East Bay has 12 teaching elders, 12 ruling elders; meets 1st Thurs, 5-7 p.m., Pby office, West Bay has 8 teaching elders, 8 ruling elders; meets 2nd Thurs, 4 – 7 p.m., @ Burlingame.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM):

Oversees, guides, and supports inquirers and candidates for ordination as Teaching Elder. It has 12 teaching elders, 12 ruling elders 3-year term, 8 people per term (4 each of ruling/teaching elders). Usually meets on 1st Wed, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Quarterly in person @ Pby office; quarterly by phone; and quarterly in regional sub-group. As for full committee meetings, it should say 4 for full committee meetings. And East Bay also meets at Lafayette-Orinda as well as Presbytery office.

Finance & Property Oversight Committee (FPOC):

Oversees the finances and property of the presbytery, including all church property; recommends budget, reviews leases, as well as strategizes for the best use of property sale funds, to maximize our mission as a Presbytery, etc. It has 6 teaching elders, 6 ruling elders; meets 2nd Fri, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., @ Pby office.

Nominating Committee / Committee on Representation:

Nominates presbytery officers, members of Mission and Vision Leadership and its working groups, Standing Committees, members of certain Synod bodies, and G.A. commissioners. It works toward balanced representation and diversity training. It has 6 teaching elders, 6 members of congregations; meets monthly by conference call based upon member availability. (*Members are nominated by Mission and Vision.*)

Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC):

Conducts hearings and trials and makes decisions on ecclesiastical judicial matters. It has 4 teaching elders, 5 ruling elders; meets as needed.

Being a General Assembly Commissioner or advisory delegate

Presbytery elects teaching elders and ruling elders in equal numbers as set by the constitution (currently 2 each, since our congregant membership is between 8001 and 16000). Presbytery elects one Young Adult Advisory Delegate, an active congregant member, aged 17-23. If a Theological Seminary Advisory Delegate is elected from among our inquirers and candidates, Presbytery will be asked to confirm that election.

GA is a very intense and busy 8 to 10 day period of plenary meetings, committee meetings, worship, caucuses and social events. The Commissioners and advisory delegates are given a committee assignment (determined by lot) about 2 months prior to the Assembly. There is much reading to be done prior to departure and during the Assembly- -there is **no** free time. While a heavy work load, serving as a commissioner at GA is a joyful opportunity to see the wider church and learn of the many ways we serve as God's servants in the world. The next meeting of GA is scheduled for June 16-23, 2018 in St. Louis.

Leadership and its Working Groups

Mission and Vision Leadership

Three-year terms, except as specified; all members are Teaching Elders or Ruling Elders. Includes nine elected at-large members, plus four presbytery officers, presbytery pastor and one rep appoint by FPOC.

The Mission & Vision Leadership (MVL) provides strategic vision and direction to help the Presbytery realize its priorities and live into its purpose. We are the team that takes the "balcony" view of the landscape.

*Note: The following are the four continuing Working Groups of the Mission and Vision Leadership. Members are nominated for-three year terms; **they need not** all be teaching or ruling Elders; elected working group members **do** need to be a member of the Presbytery or of a congregation of this Presbytery.*

[Additional working groups and project teams may be established by committees. The committee that establishes the group will determine their responsibilities and membership, nominate or appoint members, and oversee their work.]

Communications Working Group:

Communicates and interprets actions of Pby and the larger church; facilitates effective communication within the Pby and among its congregations (through website, e-mail, Pby meetings, etc) as well as imagining/strategizing about how we can all communicate with each other in the church. It has 5 – 9 members; meets 5-6 times/yr, @ Pby office.

Partnership Working Group:

Encourages and facilitates partnerships among congregations that support their mission. It has 7 – 11 members; usually meets 3rd Tues of the month, noon-2pm, @ alternating east/west churches.

Personnel Working Group:

Provides oversight and support for Pby staff; recommends personnel policies, staff design, compensation, and job descriptions; conducts annual performance reviews of the PPMV and Stated Clerk only. It has 5 – 9 members; meets 1st Tues of every month, 1 – 3 p.m., alternating @ Pby office/ in San Francisco.

Presbytery Meetings Working Group:

Designs Pby meetings to be effective in supporting the mission and goals of the Pby. Recommends meeting schedule, finds sites, establishes the docket, coordinates worship, facilitates relationship-building and educational opportunities during the meeting, regularly reviews meeting format for effectiveness. Additionally consults with the Regional Meetings, as needed. It has 7 – 11 members; meets monthly 10 times/yr, mid-week daytime, per members' schedule, @ Pby office or at site of the upcoming Pby mtg.

Being a Synod of the Pacific Commissioner

The Synod of the Pacific consists of eleven presbyteries with representatives from each of the presbyteries. The Synod meets twice-a-year (May and October) in plenary session to ratify committee decisions and entertain new business. All commissioners serve on one (or more) committees. We are a healthy and wealthy Synod --- our loan portfolio to churches for various construction and renovations exceeds \$50million. The Synod's website is: synodofthepacific.org The website will inform you of all the other services provided by the Synod. The work of being a Synod commissioner representing San Francisco is NOT a strenuous task; in fact, you will enjoy meeting and deliberating with fellow Presbyterians from all these different places. Our fall meeting is usually held at Mercy Center in Burlingame; the spring meetings alternate between a hotel in San Jose and the Synod-owned Zephyr Point Conference Center in Lake Tahoe.