

BYLAWS
THE PRESBYTERY OF LONG ISLAND

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

- A. The Presbytery of Long Island is a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The organization and procedures of this presbytery shall be in accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). These bylaws shall contain only those functions and rules which are particular to the organization of the Presbytery of Long Island.
- B. The guiding principles of organization of this presbytery are:
1. The Holy Spirit calls us to transformation as individuals, as congregations, and as a Presbytery.
 2. The Church of Jesus Christ is always being transformed by God to be more faithful in a particular time and place.
 3. God commissions the church for mission into the world primarily through congregations. Congregational networks and partnerships can be effective and faithful agencies for transformation and mission. Mission conducted in a Presbytery area is best done in partnership with and among congregations.
 4. The Church is sent to be Christ's faithful evangelist. (Book of Order F-1.0302d)
 5. The Presbytery is more than a structure, an organization, a governing body, a staff, or an office. The Presbytery is connected congregations, pastors, elected officers, appointed workers, and specialized ministries serving together "assisting and supporting the witness of congregations to the sovereign activity of God in the world, so that all congregations become communities of faith, hope, love, and witness." (G-3.0301)
 6. The priorities for Presbytery are discerned in conversations about strengths, dreams, and needs of congregations voiced in gatherings.
 7. God calls the Presbytery leadership to be both committed to and reflective of its diversity. All people must be encouraged to fully share in roles of leadership.
 8. Presbytery governance shall embrace and encourage innovation and energy, while facilitating ministry initiatives, working cooperatively with other governing bodies, upholding standards of accountability, and maintaining fidelity to the Book of Order.
- C. The Presbytery shall use the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order as the parliamentary authority for the transaction of its business.
- D. The Presbytery consists of all ministers who are continuing members and of elders commissioned by the session of each church, the number of which shall be in accordance with the Form of Government. Each elder elected an officer of the Presbytery; a chairperson or one of the co-chairpersons, a moderator, or a president of a Ministry Team or of a Support and Facilitation Network entity, or a member of the Shepherding Council shall be enrolled as a member of the Presbytery for the term of office. The Presbytery shall act to redress annually in January any

imbalance in the number of elders according to an alphabetical listing of churches, on recommendation of the Stated Clerk.

E. Connections With Sessions

1. The Presbytery is responsible for assisting and supporting sessions in their work of mission and ministry. The basic responsibilities and some points of contact are defined in G-3.0303.
2. Sessions are responsible for electing commissioners who shall become members of the Presbytery (G-3.0202a). These commissioners report the actions of Presbytery to their respective sessions for study and implementation as appropriate. Another point of contact between particular churches and the Presbytery is the election and appointment of congregational members and (ruling) elders to Presbytery committees, councils, teams, and boards.
3. Sessions are responsible for submitting annual statistical reports to the Presbytery through the office of the Stated Clerk and submitting annually the official minutes and records of the session for review by the Presbytery through its Task Force on Records, Rules, and Review (G-3.0107, G-3.0108a).
4. The Presbytery will consult with sessions through their commissioners to the June stated meeting of Presbytery concerning the Presbytery's budget.

F. Standing Rules

The standing rules of the Presbytery are appended to the Bylaws.

CHAPTER II: MEETINGS OF THE PRESBYTERY

A. Time and Place of Meetings

Ordinarily, the Presbytery shall have four stated meetings per year: the last Saturday in January, the last Tuesday of March or the second Tuesday after Easter (whichever fits best into the liturgical calendar), the last Tuesday in June, and the last Saturday in October; plus the Visioning Retreat or other Presbytery-wide event. The places and dates of the meetings for any given year will be recommended by the Advance Planning Team and approved by the Presbytery.

The Visioning Retreat shall be a Presbytery-wide gathering to discern God's call to respond to opportunities for ministry and mission in the midst of the Presbytery. The Visioning Retreat is intended to be set apart from the stated meetings of the Presbytery; as it is not a meeting of the Presbytery, no Presbytery business shall be conducted. It will be held every fifth year to set the priorities for the Presbytery for the next five year cycle. When there is no Visioning Retreat planned, there may be some other Presbytery-wide event.

B. Call for the Meetings

The members of the Presbytery and each clerk of session shall be notified by the Stated Clerk not less than 10 days before each stated and special meeting. The docket, as prepared by the Stated

Clerk and the Advance Planning Team, and a summary of recommendations and actions shall be posted by the Stated Clerk in the Meeting Packet on the Presbytery's website prior to the meeting.

The moderator shall call a special meeting at the request, or with the concurrence, of two ministers and two elders, the elders being of different churches. Should the moderator be unable to act, the stated clerk shall, under the same conditions, issue the call. If both moderator and stated clerk are unable to act, any three ministers and three elders, the elders being of different churches, may call a special meeting. The notice of a special meeting shall set out the purpose of the meeting, and no other business than that listed in the notice shall be transacted.

C. Quorum

The quorum of all called meeting of the Presbytery shall be the minimum as stated in the Form of Government. (G-3.0304)

D. Minutes of the Meeting

At each stated meeting, the Stated Clerk shall recommend that the Presbytery approve the minutes of the previous stated meeting and any special presbytery meetings held between meetings. A copy of these minutes shall be posted by the Stated Clerk in the Meeting Packet on the Presbytery's website at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which they shall be approved.

E. New Business

New business may be introduced in any Stated Meeting of Presbytery provided that the matter is noted before the docket is approved. Any new business shall come in written form and it shall be business of the kind that does not require extensive study and contemplation. A motion arising from new business may be debated, but the vote and additional debate will be postponed to the next Stated Meeting, allowing time for study and notification. If an urgent matter cannot wait until the next Stated Meeting, the vote may be taken at the meeting where the matter is introduced, requiring a 2/3 majority to pass. The Moderator will determine whether the matter is of sufficient urgency to warrant an immediate vote.

F. Privilege of the Floor

1. Commissioners: All members of the Presbytery in good standing, all Commissioned Ruling Elders, and all elder commissioners shall have the privilege of the floor with vote.
2. Shepherding Council: Members of the Shepherding Council who are not members of the Presbytery shall have the privilege of the floor, but without vote.
3. Advisory Delegates: Youth advisory delegates and alternates, and theological student advisory delegates and alternates shall have the privilege of the floor, but without vote. This privilege shall begin upon their election and continue for one year.
4. Presbytery Officers and Entities: Each officer of the Presbytery, chairperson or one of the co-chairpersons, moderator, and president of a Ministry Team or of a Support and Facilitation Network entity who is not a member of the Presbytery shall have the privilege of the floor, but without vote.

CHAPTER III: OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY

A. Moderator

The Moderator shall be elected annually at the fourth stated meeting of the year and shall assume office on the first day of January. The Moderator is a member ex officio, without vote, of all Presbytery entities prescribed in these bylaws.

B. Vice-Moderators

Two Vice-Moderators shall be elected annually at the fourth stated meeting of the year and shall assume office on the first day of January. They shall, by election, be designated First Vice-Moderator and Second Vice-Moderator, and shall succeed in that order. Specific duties and responsibilities of the Vice-Moderators shall be determined in consultation with the Moderator.

C. General Presbyter/Stated Clerk

The General Presbyter shall be elected for an indefinite term. The work and performance of the General Presbyter shall be reviewed annually, with a comprehensive review every five years. The review will be administered by the Personnel Committee which will consult with the Personnel Committee of the Synod. The duties of the General Presbyter shall be those prescribed in the Book of Order, the Bylaws of the Presbytery, and the position description. The position description shall be recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

The Stated Clerk shall be elected for a term of five years at the second stated meeting of the year and shall assume office on the first day of July. The Stated Clerk is eligible for re-election. The duties of the Stated Clerk shall be those prescribed in the Book of Order, the Bylaws of the Presbytery, and the position description. The position description shall be recommended to the Presbytery for approval. The Stated Clerk shall be the Presbytery parliamentarian.

D. Treasurer/Financial Secretary

The Treasurer/Financial Secretary shall be elected for a term of two years at the second stated meeting of the year and shall assume office on the first day of July. The Treasurer/Financial Secretary is eligible for re-election. The duties of the Treasurer/Financial Secretary shall be those prescribed in the Bylaws of the Presbytery and the position description. The position description shall be recommended to the Presbytery for approval.

CHAPTER IV: ORGANIZATION OF THE PRESBYTERY

A. Shepherding Council

1. Membership

The Shepherding Council shall consist of the Moderator, the immediate past Moderator who shall be the Moderator of the Shepherding Council; the two Vice-Moderators, one person elected by the Empowering Mission Team, one person elected by the Partnering Congregations Team, five persons, (one each) from the Support and Facilitation Network, one of the Synod Commissioners, and one elder representative from Long Island Presbyterian Women. The Shepherding Council may also name a Co-Moderator, if it chooses.

In addition, there shall be three members-at-large, divided into three classes. These at-large members shall be nominated by the standing Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery and elected by the Presbytery for three year terms, not to exceed two successive terms. The General Presbyter/Stated Clerk, shall be ex-officio members without vote.

2. Meetings

The Council shall meet prior to each stated meeting of the Presbytery, or at the call of the Moderator of the Council in consultation with the General Presbyter/Stated Clerk.

3. Responsibilities

The Shepherding Council shall fulfill all the functions and duties of a council as described in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). It shall also have the following powers and responsibilities:

- a. Form, designate, and select a team of persons to plan and coordinate the Presbytery's Visioning Retreat,
- b. Invite guests from outside the Presbytery as necessary to the Visioning Retreat,
- c. Conduct and coordinate an annual meeting (to be conducted each of the four years between visioning retreats) which shall not be a meeting of the Presbytery where business will be conducted. The goals of the retreat are as follows: Provide focus on Mission, Worship, Advocacy, and Stewardship. The retreat shall also offer a series of topical workshops and presentations.
- d. Conduct and coordinate continuing strategic planning:
 1. Provide significant time for spiritual growth and exploration, individually and corporately, through prayer, worship, study, and fellowship
 2. Provide a process for discernment of God's call to the Presbytery in its diversity of ministry and mission
 3. Provide for open and honest discussion of past, current, and future Presbytery ministry and mission initiatives
 4. Provide for continuing assessment of the Presbytery's vision conducted by the Shepherding Council
- e. Provide a pool of persons for consideration by the Presbytery's Committee on Nominations to be elected by the Presbytery as At-Large representatives to the Shepherding Council.
- f. Assist, support and promote the Presbytery Partnership Group programs of the Synod of the Northeast, particularly as appropriate to the work of the Partnering Congregations Team or the Empowering Mission Team,
- g. Develop leadership within the Presbytery,

- h. Nominate members to the Presbytery Nominating Committee, and
- i. Between meetings of the Presbytery, upon the request of another entity of the Presbytery or its stated clerk, the Council may exercise any Presbytery action except its G-4.0205 powers; such actions may be taken via electronic means.

4. Reporting

The Shepherding Council shall report at each stated meeting of the Presbytery. Its decisions shall be immediately operative wherever authority has been conferred, but may be changed by the Presbytery.

5. Council Structure

The Council may establish committees as needed to fulfill its responsibilities. These committees shall be accountable to the Shepherding Council and shall report to it regularly. The standing committees of the Council include the following:

a. New Church Fellowship and Development Team

Membership: The New Church Fellowship and Development Committee shall consist of no fewer than six persons. The committee shall select its own chair annually.

Responsibilities: The New Church Fellowship and Development Committee will develop intentional strategies for supporting communities of faith in different contexts; listen to the needs of people and their circumstances, support designs for ministry that will be an effective response to those needs; and identify and overcome the barriers within our Presbytery to ministry in different cultures.

b. Stewardship Development Team

Membership: The Stewardship Development Team shall consist of no fewer than three persons. The committee shall elect its own chair annually.

Responsibilities: The Stewardship team: will manage the Presbytery Fund For Education & Mission; will create opportunities and raise awareness for estate sources of income as well as financial gifts of gratitude from among Presbyterians and others among the Presbytery of Long Island and will serve as a resource for mission interpretation and stewardship within the Presbytery of Long Island.

c. Presbytery Communications Team

Membership: The Presbytery Communications Team shall consist of no fewer than three persons. The committee shall elect its own chair annually.

Responsibilities: The Communication Teams will manage the Presbytery website for the purpose of keeping it on the growing edge of usefulness for the constituents of the Presbytery (robust, interactive, multidimensional, and evolving) will create and distribute resources for

mission interpretation & stewardship among the Presbytery of Long Island and will capitalize on the growing utility of social networking as pragmatic tools for advancing the mission and goals of the Presbytery

B. Ministry Teams of the Presbytery

1. Salt and Light Team

Membership: The Salt and Light Team shall consist of nine persons, nominated by the Committee on Nominations, and elected by the Presbytery in three classes of terms of three years each. Persons may serve for successive terms provided that no term of service exceeds six consecutive years. The Moderator of the Salt and Light Team shall be elected by the members of the Team annually.

One member of the Salt and Light Team shall be a member of the Shepherding Council. This person will be elected by the Team for this service.

Responsibilities:

The Salt and Light Team works to support congregational initiatives to partner with other Presbyterian and non-Presbyterian churches for mutual growth in ministry and discipleship. This team develops strategies for greater cooperation in pursuit of the Presbytery's vision, and supports teams of Presbyterian churches engaged in spiritual growth, evangelism, education or outreach.

The Team is also the body of the Presbytery with the primary responsibility of supporting, facilitating, nurturing and developing partnership initiatives and connections for mission between Presbytery of Long Island congregations and other local, national, or international mission entities. This team encourages partnerships engaged in hands-on mission, social action and witness, and supports ecumenical mission endeavors in communities.

Between meetings of the Presbytery, the Salt and Light Team shall have the authority to carry out any of the Presbytery's G-3.0303a authority.

The Team shall have the Presbytery's authority to modify or clarify the grants described in [3] below.

3. Salt and Light Team Grants:

The Team shall be responsible for the solicitation, receipt, and review of Presbytery Partnership Grant Applications for all work under its purview, and will be solely responsible for the awarding of such grants.

C. Support and Facilitation Network

The Support and Facilitation Network connects the different aspects of the Presbytery by facilitating the use of its various resources: clergy and lay leadership, staff, fiscal responsibility and stewardship, legal resources, and denominational polity and connection.

The Support and Facilitation Network shall consist of the following entities:

1. Constitutional structures mandated by the Book of Order and prescribed in the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Long Island:
 - a. Committee on Ministry
 - b. Committee on Nominations
 - c. Committee on Representation
 - d. Committee on Preparation for Ministry
 - e. Permanent Judicial Commission

Between meetings of the Presbytery member congregations may request that:

The Committee on Ministry exercise the Presbytery's G-2.01001 (commissioning elders), G-2.0805 (installation), G-2.0904 (dissolution), G-3.0107 (records), G-3.0108 (review), G-3.0301c/G-3.0303e (discord, administrative commissions).

The Committee on Preparation exercise the Presbytery's G-2.0601 (preparation), G-2.610 (exception).

The Trustees shall exercise all the Presbytery's G-4.000 authority – including G-3.0303f, except that the Trustees may not dismiss a congregation.

Entities of the Presbytery are authorized to conduct electronic meetings involving any non-controversial/simple issues that are requested by member congregations.

The Support and Facilitation Network shall be represented on the Shepherding Council by five persons, each of whom shall be a member of one of the entities that comprise the network. Representatives from the Support and Facilitation Network to the Shepherding Council by the Representatives shall serve for a one-year term and may be re-elected for a maximum of two additional one-year terms.

1. The Committee on Ministry

Membership: The Committee on Ministry shall consist of eighteen persons, divided into three equal classes. This committee shall be constituted according to the Form of Government.

Responsibilities: The Committee shall serve the Presbytery in accordance with the Form of Government. The Committee may establish sub-committees as deemed necessary to fulfill its responsibilities. The Committee shall annually prepare a report on ministerial compensation and benefits and a compensation program for the following year for action by the Presbytery. The Committee shall approve salary supplement funds, emergency financial assistance, professional development grants, and grants shared with the Board of Pensions. It shall inform the Presbytery of provisions of the Benefits Plan of the PC(USA) and shall assist in evaluation of manses.

The Committee on Ministry is authorized to find in order calls for the services of ministers, to approve the examination of ministers transferring from other presbyteries, to dissolve the pastoral relationship in cases where the congregation and the pastor concur, and to dismiss ministers to other presbyteries, with provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of Presbytery. (G-3.0307)

The Committee on Ministry is authorized to appoint a moderator of the session for a church without a pastor, and to name administrative commissions to install new ministers, with provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of Presbytery.

2. The Committee on Nominations

Membership: The Committee on Nominations shall consist of six persons, divided into three equal classes, with terms of office of three years and length of office. The membership shall consist of one-third ministers, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen who shall be nominated by the Shepherding Council and elected by the Presbytery. The chairperson and vice-chairperson shall be nominated annually by the Shepherding Council and elected by the Presbytery. The Presbytery representative to the Synod Permanent Committee on Nominations shall be a member ex officio with vote.

Responsibilities: This committee shall present nominations for officers and positions of the Presbytery, the Synod, and the General Assembly, except those specifically designated as the responsibility of the Shepherding Council. The Committee on Nominations shall request annually from each session the names of persons who should receive consideration for service in the Presbytery, the Synod, and the General Assembly.

3. The Committee on Representation

Membership: The Committee on Representation shall consist of three persons, divided into three classes, and shall be constituted in accordance with the Form of Government.

Responsibilities: This committee shall fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Form of Government.

4. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Membership: The Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall consist of seven persons, divided into three classes. The committee shall include clergymen and racial ethnic persons.

Responsibilities: This committee is charged with the care and supervision of candidates for the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament. It shall fulfill the responsibilities regarding candidates outlined in the Form of Government, and other responsibilities as directed by the Presbytery. It shall seek to provide opportunities for youth and adults to become acquainted with the work of the office of minister of the Word and Sacrament; to bridge gaps among session, presbytery, and seminary in the job of equipping people for this ministry; and to assist inquirers and candidates in financing their seminary education.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry is authorized to certify candidates as ready for examination for ordination, pending a call, with provision that all such actions be reported to the next Stated Meeting of Presbytery.

5. Permanent Judicial Commission

Membership: The Permanent Judicial Commission shall consist of nine persons, divided into three equal classes. The commission shall be composed of ministers and elders in numbers as nearly equal as possible. The additional member may be either a minister or an elder. The term of office shall be six years and length of office shall be one term.

Responsibilities: The Permanent Judicial Commission shall fulfill the responsibilities designated in the Rules of Discipline.

6. Judicial Committees

As needed, in instances of preliminary procedures for discipline, the Moderator of the Presbytery, in consultation with the Stated Clerk, shall appoint an Investigating Committee of a Committee of Counsel to fulfill the responsibilities listed in D-10.0201 or F-6.0302-3 in the “Rules of Discipline,” reporting to the Presbytery at the next stated meeting the names of those appointed.

D. Presbytery structures as mandated by the Bylaws of the Presbytery of Long Island:

1. Board of Trustees
2. Advance Planning Team
3. Personnel Committee
4. Budget and Finance Committee
5. Task Force on Self-Development of People
6. Sexual Misconduct Response Team
7. Sexual Misconduct Investigating Pool
8. Allegation Team
9. Task Force on Records, and Review
10. Task Force on Bylaws, Bills, and Overtures

1. The Board of Trustees

Membership: The Board of Trustees shall consist of nine persons, divided into three equal classes. The Board shall annually elect a president and other officers who shall be confirmed by vote of the Presbytery.

Responsibilities: The Board of Trustees shall be subject to the will of the Presbytery and shall fulfill the functions required by civil law and those that the Presbytery assigns to it. The Board shall be responsible for: a) implementing the policies of the Presbytery related to investments, financial guidance, and property b) shall develop the operation and facilities budget needs of the Presbytery for presentation to the Budget and Finance Committee c) appoint one of its members to the Budget and Finance Committee d) and shall arrange for an annual audit of the records of the Treasurer/Financial Secretary of the Presbytery.

2. Advance Planning Team

Membership: The Advance Planning Team shall consist of six persons, nominated by the Committee on Nominations, and elected by the Presbytery in three classes of terms of three years each. Persons may serve for consecutive terms provided that no term of service exceeds six years. The chair of the Advance Planning Team shall be elected annually by the Team, provided that no individual may serve as chair for more than three consecutive years. The Moderator of the Presbytery shall also serve on the Advance Planning Team.

Responsibilities: Oversee and plan stated meetings of the Presbytery, including securing locations, setting agendas and schedules, developing themes and workshops, and

coordinating worship. The Advance Planning Team will be responsible for overall coordination of the stated Presbytery meetings, including preparing agendas and schedules, coordinating worship, developing themes and workshops, and inviting guests.

3. Personnel Committee

Membership: The Personnel Committee shall consist of five persons, nominated by the Committee on Nominations, and elected by the Presbytery in three classes of terms of three years each. Persons may serve for consecutive terms provided that no term of service exceeds six years. The chair of the Personnel Committee shall be elected annually by the Committee, provided that no individual may serve as chair for more than three consecutive years. The First Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery shall also serve on the Personnel Committee.

Responsibilities: The Personnel Committee will be responsible for the oversight of personnel and staff. The Personnel Committee shall review staffing requirements and the personnel plan of the Presbytery, evaluate and revise position descriptions, and annually review and evaluate the work performance of staff in consultation with the General Presbyter.

Oversee matters of personnel and staff, including to prepare position descriptions of the Treasurer/Financial Secretary, the General Presbyter/Stated Clerk, and all other staff as necessary for approval by the Presbytery.

4. Budget and Finance Committee

Membership: The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of six persons, nominated by the Committee on Nominations, and elected by the Presbytery in three classes of terms of three years each. Persons may serve for consecutive terms provided that no term of service exceeds six years. The chair of the Budget and Finance Committee shall be elected annually by the Committee, provided that no individual may serve as chair for more than three consecutive years. The Second Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery shall also serve on the Budget and Finance Committee.

Responsibilities: The Budget and Finance Committee will be responsible for the direction and coordination of the annual budget process. The Committee shall receive proposed budgets and requests from Presbytery entities and, in consultation with these bodies, shall prepare a budget for approval by the Presbytery.

5. The Committee on Self-Development of People

Membership: The Task Force on Self-Development of People shall consist of five persons.

Responsibilities: This Task Force shall be constituted and function in accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly Committee on Self-Development of People. Task Force decisions shall reflect the priorities for mission of the Presbytery.

6. Sexual Misconduct Response Team

Membership: The Sexual Misconduct Response Team shall be made up of six members. The team members shall include persons knowledgeable about misconduct issues,

including legal expertise and counseling on the ramifications thereof; shall be as equally divided as possible between men and women; and shall be composed of at least one minister member of the Presbytery and active members of churches of the Presbytery. No member of the Response Team shall concurrently serve on the Committee on Ministry or the Personnel Committee or the Permanent Judicial Commission. Nominations to the Response Team shall be made by the Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery. The Response Team shall elect from its own members a chairperson for a term not exceeding one year.

Responsibilities: The Sexual Misconduct Response Team shall assist in the education of the Presbytery, its members and its churches in matters related to sexual misconduct in the life of the church. It shall provide annual training regarding Presbytery Sexual misconduct policy, procedures and practices

7. Sexual Misconduct Investigating Pool:

The Investigating Pool shall consist of twelve persons. These persons shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations in consultation with the Sexual Misconduct Response Team and elected by Presbytery. They shall be trained to do the work of investigating and prosecuting allegations in sexual misconduct matters as necessary.

8. The Allegation Team:

The Allegation Team shall consist of the Moderator, the Stated Clerk or Ecclesiastical Officer, the General Presbyter, the chair of the Sexual Misconduct Response Team, and the chair of the Committee on Ministry. They shall choose investigating committees for sexual misconduct allegations from the Investigating Pool.

9. Task Force on Records, and Review:

Membership: The Task Force on Records and Review shall be appointed as needed by the Stated Clerk.

Responsibilities: The Task Force on Records and Review shall be primarily responsible for the review of the process utilized by the Clerks of Session in examining session minutes and records (G-3.305), and for training of Clerks of Session.

10. Task Force on Bylaws, Bills, and Overtures:

Membership: The task Force on Bylaws, Bills, and Overtures shall include the commissioners to General Assembly and others appointed as needed by the Stated Clerk and approved by the Shepherding Council.

Responsibilities: The Task Force on Bylaws, Bills, and Overtures shall be primarily responsible for the oversight and coordination of matters related to the constitutional processes for processes for overtures and amendments. (G-3.0303)

CHAPTER V: THE NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCESS

A. Presbytery Officers

1. Each year the Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery shall present to the Presbytery, at the fourth stated meeting, one name each for the position of Moderator, First Vice-Moderator, and Second Vice-Moderator.
2. When there is a vacancy, the Personnel Committee shall recommend to the Presbytery the election of a search committee to present one name only for the position of Treasurer/Financial Secretary, or General Presbyter/Stated Clerk.

B. Presbytery Entities

1. Each year the Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery shall present to the Presbytery, at the fourth meeting of the year, one name for each position on the Shepherding Council, the Ministry Teams, or the Support and Facilitation Network entities to be filled through election by the Presbytery. Unless otherwise specified, election shall be for one three-year term, with no one being elected for successive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than six years. Terms of service shall begin on the first day of January of each year, except as may be otherwise specified. A member of the Shepherding Council, a Ministry Team, or a Support and Facilitation Network entity absent without excuse from two consecutive meetings thereof, may, after consultation and notice, be considered to have resigned. Elections to fill unexpired terms may be held at any meeting of the Presbytery. The Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery shall present one name for each unexpired term, and the person elected shall begin service immediately.
2. Unless otherwise specified, each entity of the Support and Facilitation Network shall have a chairperson and vice-chairperson, nominated by the Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery, and elected by the Presbytery for a term of one year. An entity of the Support and Facilitation Network may request the Committee on Nominations to nominate two co-chairpersons instead of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson. No member may serve as chairperson, vice-chairperson, or co-chairperson for more than three consecutive terms.

C. Synod Commissioners and Advisory Delegates

1. Commissioners: The Committee on Nominations shall place in nomination annually the names of ministers and elders to serve as commissioners and alternates to the Synod Assembly. They shall be elected according to Synod Bylaws to three-year terms on a rotating basis for service on particular Synod Assembly Committees.

The Committee shall have available to it a list of ministers of the Presbytery, maintained by the Stated Clerk, with dates of ordination, reception into the Presbytery, and the years in which ministers previously served as commissioners to the Synod. The Committee shall have available to it a list of churches of the Presbytery maintained by the Stated Clerk, with dates of organization and years when represented by elder commissioners.

2. Youth Adult Advisory Delegates: The Committee on Nominations shall place in nomination annually the names of a youth adult advisory delegate (YAAD) and an alternate to the Synod Assembly.

D. General Assembly Commissioners and Advisory Delegates

1. Commissioners: The Committee on Nominations shall place in nomination biennially for election at the first meeting of the year, the names of ministers and elders to serve as commissioners and alternates to the General Assembly.

The Committee shall have available to it a list of ministers of the Presbytery, maintained by the Stated Clerk, with dates of ordination, reception into the Presbytery, and the years in which ministers previously served as commissioners to the General Assembly. The Committee shall have available to it a list of churches of the Presbytery, maintained by the Stated Clerk, with dates of organization and years when represented by elder commissioners.

2. Advisory Delegates: The Committee on Nominations shall place in nomination biennially for election at the first meeting of the year, the names of a young adult advisory delegate (YAAD) and an alternate to the General Assembly. Theological student advisory delegates and alternates shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations, on recommendation by the Council on Theological Education of the General Assembly, for election by the Presbytery at the first meeting of the year.

CHAPTER VI: INDEMNIFICATION

The Presbytery shall, in accordance with and to the fullest extent permitted by the law of the State of New York including the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law of the State of New York, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended, indemnify any person who may serve or who has served at any time as an Officer, Trustee, or Volunteer, against any and all expenses, including amounts paid upon judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement (before or after suit is commenced) and reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees actually and necessarily incurred by such person, in connection with the defense or settlement of any claim, action, suit, or proceeding in which he or she is made a party, or which may be asserted against him or her, or any appeal therein, by reason of being or having been an Officer, Trustee, or Volunteer of the Presbytery.

Any policies or procedures of the Presbytery of Long Island that are in effect prior to July 10, 2011, the effective date of the revisions to the Form of Government commonly called nFOG (passed by the 219th General Assembly in 2010 and approved by a majority of the presbyteries) will continue to be the policies or procedures of the Presbytery of Long Island until the Presbytery takes action to change its policies and/or procedures, excepting only provisions where change is mandated by the *Form of Government*.

CHAPTER VII: AMENDMENTS

- A. These Bylaws (with the exception of Chapter I, Section A, and Chapter VI) and the Standing Rules may be suspended at any stated meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
- B. These Bylaws, and the Standing Rules, may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any stated meeting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been presented at the preceding stated meeting, or posted by the Stated Clerk in the Meeting Packet on the Presbytery's website at least ten days before the meeting.

Adopted: October 1979
Effective: January 1, 1980
Amended:

January 27, 1981
April 20, 1982
November 20, 1982
June 28, 1983
November 27, 1984
September 24, 1985
October 22, 1985
November 26, 1985
March 18, 1986
May 27, 1986
November 25, 1986
January 27, 1987
November 24, 1987
January 26, 1991
November 26, 1991
May 25, 1993
November 29, 1994

January 28, 1995
November 26, 1996
January 24, 1998
May 26, 1998
June 1, 1999
November 20, 1999
September 25, 2001
September 23, 2003
March 23, 2010
October 23, 2010
June 26, 2012
January 26, 2013
March 25, 2014
March 24, 2015
January 30, 2016

STANDING RULES

1. The Standing Orders for the stated meetings of the Presbytery of Long Island are as follows:

FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR

- Installation of moderators and recognition of newly-elected officers
- Election of commissioners and youth advisory delegates to the General Assembly (biennially)
- Report of the Stated Clerk on numerical equalization of resident ministers and elder commissioners to Presbytery
- Approval of the annual report on non-parish clergy
- Report on Committee on Ministry visitations for the previous year.
- Confirmation of the election of trustee officers
- Vote on General Assembly Amendments (biennially)
- Report of the General Presbyter

SECOND MEETING OF THE YEAR

- Annual remembrance of deceased elders
- Recognition of newly-ordained elders
- Annual Statistical Report

THIRD MEETING OF THE YEAR

- Audit report of the Board of Trustees for the prior calendar year
- Report of session records review
- Annual report of the Committee on Representation
- Adoption of the presbytery budget for the next calendar year
- Approval of the ministerial compensation and benefits report
- Approval of the compensation program recommendations for the following year

FOURTH MEETING OF THE YEAR

- Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- Report of General Assembly commissioners (biennially)
- Report of Long Island Presbyterian Women
- Annual elections

2. The commissioners and youth advisory delegates to Synod Assembly shall report at a stated meeting as docketed by the Shepherding Council.

Adopted: January 24, 1998

Amended:

November 17, 2001

March 23, 2010

January 25, 2014