

PROPOSED BUC CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Article IV, Section 4. Membership and Voting

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article IV, Section 4 be amended because the constitution currently specifies that someone can be put on the list of inactive members if they move “outside of the area of the society”. However, there is no definition of “the area of the society.”

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

4.3. The executive may place on the list of inactive members any member who is —voluntarily absent from the life of the society for a period of one year; ~~or is known to have established permanent residence outside of the area served by the society,~~ or whose address cannot be found, or who has not been a contributor of record for a period of one year, as defined by the Board. The executive shall notify any person who is placed on the list of inactive members and whose address is known.

Do you approve the amendment?

- YES
- NO

Article IV, Section 8. Membership and Voting

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article IV, Section 8 be amended to remove the requirement that absentee ballots can only be used if someone is unable to be present at the meeting. In the same spirit as the current work to broaden democracy, we should enable as many people as possible to vote.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

8. Absentee ballots shall be available only for those issues or matters that the Board approves as appropriate for an absentee ballot. The executive shall provide the form of statement of the issues or matters on the ballot with Board approval.

Absentee ballots shall be available to any voting member of the society. ~~Absentee ballots shall be available only to voting members of the society who are unable to be present at the meeting.~~

The executive shall resolve any dispute under this subparagraph. The executive shall make absentee ballots available at least fourteen days before the meeting. In order for their ballots to be counted, voting members must sign, date, and return their absentee ballots in the time, place, and manner specified by the Board. If no time is provided, the

default time shall be twelve o'clock P.M. on the day before the meeting, the place shall be the church, and the manner shall be by U.S. mail or email.

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Article VIII, Section 2. Officers

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article VIII, Section 2 be amended as it is difficult to retain continuity when the four officer positions (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) only have one-year terms. The proposed change would create overlapping two-year terms for the four officers, with two of the positions being elected one year and the other two the next.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

2. At the annual meeting of the society, the members shall elect the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer for terms of ~~one year~~two years each, beginning July 1st. The president and secretary shall be elected for two-year terms and, on alternate years, the vice president and treasurer for two-year terms. For the 2022-2023 church year, the president and secretary shall be elected for one-year terms, and the vice president and treasurer for two-year terms. The officers shall serve until their successors have been elected and the terms of their successors commence.

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Article VIII, Section 5. Officers

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article VIII, Section 5 be amended to make it explicit that the secretary also maintains electronic records. This is documenting a practice that is already in place, due to the virtual environment we are in.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

5. The secretary shall keep accurate records of all meetings of the society and of the –Board, shall maintain an electronic repository for Board minutes and other documentation, shall give proper notice of all meetings of the Board, and shall perform such other duties as the Board may prescribe.

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Article IX, Section 6. Board of Trustees

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article IX, Section 6 be amended to increase the minimum number of board meetings from eight to nine. Also, change to stipulate that the written request can be via paper or electronic mail.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red strikeout~~)

6. The Board shall meet as needed, but at least ~~8~~nine (9) times a year, at a time and place that the president designates. The president may call special meetings of the Board at any time; and shall call such meetings upon the written request of three members of the Board via U.S. mail or email, in which the purpose of the meetings is fully stated.

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Article XI. Leadership Development Committee

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article XI be amended to rename the leadership development committee. The leadership development committee used to be named the nominating committee. The constitution never required the committee to do anything more than to nominate candidates. However, there was a hope that the committee would also focus on developing leaders. In most years, the committee has not had the time to do that. This proposed change to return to the name “nominating committee” would align with current practice. The change will be made in this article as well as all other references in the constitution.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

**ARTICLE XI. ~~LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT~~
~~COMMITTEE~~ NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Article XI, Section 3. Leadership Development Committee

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article XI, Section 3 be amended to change number of signatures required to self-nominate. Currently, only five signatures are required for someone to self-nominate. Given that ten members of the congregation are on the leadership development committee (proposed in another amendment to be renamed the nominating committee) and have worked for almost a year to come up with the list of nominations, it seems only fair that the hurdle for self-nomination should at least match the size of the committee. This is the only proposed change in this section with this vote. The remainder of the section below is addressed in another amendment.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

3. Each year, the committee shall prepare a list of nominations for all the positions to be elected at the annual meeting of the society, including nine nominations for the five positions of the succeeding year's committee. Additional nominations signed by at least five-ten (10) voting members of the society may be furnished to the committee at least two Saturdays before the meeting. The list prepared by the committee shall

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Article XIV, Section 5. Endowment Funds

Explanation:

It is recommended that Article XIV, Section 5 be amended to correct the ranges for endowment distributions. The ranges in the constitution have overlap at their boundaries that leads to ambiguity. The Memorial Glen Endowment Fund is not currently stated in the constitution, and it should be. This change in the language will put the constitution in conformity with the three Endowment policies approved by the Board in April 2021.

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

5. The committee shall distribute to the society annually out of the balance of the General Endowment Fund, ~~and~~ the Music Endowment Fund, and the Memorial Glen Endowment Fund a percentage of their value as of December 31 of the prior year, as follows:
 - a. General Endowment Fund: 1% when year-end balance is \$0-\$100,000; 2% when year-end balance is \$100,~~000~~001-\$250,000; 3% when year-end balance is \$250,~~000~~001-\$500,000; 4% when year-end balance is \$500,~~000~~001-\$1,000,000; 5% when year-end balance is >\$1,000,000.
 - b. Music Endowment Fund: 5% of the year-end balance.
 - b.c. Memorial Glen Endowment Fund: 5% of the year-end balance.

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO

Multiple Articles and Sections. Annual Meeting Timeline

Explanation:

The current notification periods for the annual meeting and election are scattered throughout multiple articles in the constitution. This has demonstrably led to failure to comply with the timings. There are several contradictions among the timing requirements. Some are specified in days; some by days of the week. Communication requirements are also stated differently in the different sections; some are based on when US mail is expected to be delivered, others are based on the day it is sent.

The following changes are proposed to bring all timetable requirements together in Article VII Business Meeting. One article will specify timing requirements that are consistent and practical, and that allow for pre-meeting electronic voting. For any sections that are moved, the remaining sections of the article they used to be in will be appropriately renumbered. The table below shows the moves and what has been changed along with the move itself.

Previous Article, Section	New Article, Section	Changes
Article IV, Section 3	Article VII, Section 6	Spell out “ninety”
Article IV, Section 7	Article VII, Section 7	Change time before meeting; remove language specifying who sends out the ballots
Article VII, Section 4	Article VII, Section 8	Change time before meeting; standardize posting and mailing
Article XI, Section 3	Article VII, Section 9	Change time before meeting; standardize posting and mailing
Article XI, Section 3	Article VII, Section 10	Change time before meeting; standardize posting and mailing
Article XI, Section 3	Article VII, Section 11	Standardize posting and mailing
Article XI, Section 4	Article VII, Section 12	Change time before meeting

Sections being moved or changed: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

Article IV, Section 3

~~3. The right to vote at a meeting of the society is limited to those who have been members of the society for at least 90 days before the meeting and who are not _____ on the inactive list on the date of the meeting and have not been on the list during the preceding 90 days.~~

Article IV, Section 7

~~7. The executive shall provide a current list of voting members thirty days before the annual meeting or any special meeting of the society. The executive also shall provide ballots for election of officers, trustees, stewardship committee members, leadership development committee members, and for constitutional amendment votes.~~

Article VII, Section 4

~~4. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of any meeting of the society shall be posted in the church on two successive Sundays, the first at least two weeks before the date of the meeting, and in addition, notice shall be mailed, emailed, or~~

~~sent by electronic means intended to reach individual members, to all voting members two weeks in advance of the meeting. The method for sending notice shall be selected by the Board. However, the Board may call a special meeting of the society with shorter notice, but not fewer than three days except, in case of an emergency, by a unanimous vote of those Board members present.~~

Article XI, Section 3

3. Each year, the committee shall prepare a list of nominations for all the positions to be elected at the annual meeting of the society, including nine nominations for the five positions of the succeeding year's committee. Additional nominations signed by at least ~~five~~ten (10) voting members of the society may be furnished to the committee in accordance with the

~~timelines required in Article VII, Business Meeting. at least two Saturdays before the meeting. The list prepared by the committee shall be posted in the church on the three Sundays before the annual meeting and sent by U.S. Mail, email, or electronic means intended to reach individual members at least three Sundays before the meeting. The method for sending the list shall be selected by the Board. Additional nominations by members shall be posted in the church on the two Sundays before the meeting. The list of additional nominees shall be sent by U.S. mail, email, or electronic means intended to reach individual members, at the option of the Board, at least two Sundays before the meeting. No nominee shall be listed without the prior consent of the nominee.~~

Article XI, Section 4

- ~~4. In the event that any person nominated by the committee withdraws before the annual meeting or is otherwise unavailable to serve, the committee shall nominate a replacement by posting the name of the replacement nominee in the church at least one Sunday before the annual meeting, or if this is not feasible, at the annual meeting itself.~~

Proposed amended language: (new language shown in red underline, deletions in ~~red-strikeout~~)

Article VII

6. The right to vote at a meeting of the society is limited to those who have been members of the society for at least ninety (90) days before the meeting and who are not on the inactive list on the date of the meeting and have not been on the list during the preceding ninety (90) days.
7. The executive shall provide a current list of voting members thirty-five (35) days before the annual meeting or any special meeting of the society.
8. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of any meeting of the society shall be posted in the church and sent by U.S. mail, email, or electronic means at least twenty-eight (28) days before the date of the meeting. The method for sending notice shall be selected by the Board. However, the Board may call a special meeting of the society with shorter notice, but not fewer than three days except, in case of an emergency, by a unanimous vote of those Board members present.
9. The list of nominations prepared by the nominating committee for the annual meeting shall be posted in the church and sent by U.S. mail, email, or electronic means at least twenty-eight (28) days before the meeting. The method for sending the list shall be selected by the Board.

10. Any additional nominations signed by voting members of the society furnished to the committee in accordance with Article XI, Nominating Committee, must be submitted at least twenty-one (21) days before the meeting.

11. Ballots that include any additional nominations shall be posted in the church and sent by U.S. mail, email, or electronic means at least eighteen (18) days before the meeting.

12. In the event that any person nominated by the committee withdraws before the annual meeting or is otherwise unavailable to serve, the committee shall nominate a replacement. The name shall be posted in the church and sent by U.S. mail, email, or electronic means at least seven (7)

days before the annual meeting, or if this is not feasible, at the annual meeting itself.

Do you approve the amendment?

YES

NO