

## **December 2023 Presbytery of Boston Stated Meeting Council Report**

### **Council Actions**

- Council approved holding the December 14 Presbytery meeting fully on Zoom.
- Council approved the proposed schedule of 2024 presbytery and Council meetings and gatherings for the December 14 meeting, including proposals to meet in-person for the March meeting and June gathering, a hybrid September meeting, and Zoom December meeting.
- Council approved the motion from Trustees to approve stipends for Ken Dewar and Lisa Carlin for their work transitioning to the new Treasurer, and communicate appreciation to the Session, Pastor and Office Administrator of First Presbyterian Church Quincy and Ken Dewar and Lisa Carlin for their work.
- Council approved the motion from Trustees to disburse continuing education funds from the Elizabeth Pultz fund to support teaching elder participation in the Early Ministry Institute.
- Council approved the motion for every presbytery committee to submit a description of how their committee works by January for inclusion in the PoB administrative manual.
- Council approved to adopt for the Needham project, the Revised Corporate Resolution concerning financial transactions as distributed to Council, and to give the Stated Clerk, Treasurer, and President of Trustees permission to add a Presbytery address to the document as needed.
- Council responded to questions from Synod on the Transitional Presbyter funding request and received on 11/7 notice of a two-year \$40,000 award from the Synod's Presbytery Support Grant to hire a Transitional Presbyter. Many thanks to the writing team of Kate Carlisle, Ken Grant, Trina Portillo, Stephen Rose, and Ivy Jones Turner. The Transitional Presbyter will help lead PoB in a period of fostering relational conversations within and between PoB, fellowships, and member congregations; help increase the vitality across the Presbyteries of SNE, NNE, and Boston, and guide us in visioning and discerning our future. PoB has committed to providing a \$10,000 annual match for up to three years, should the grant be renewed for the full potential length. Council is working to convene a search committee and team to work with the Transitional Presbyter once hired.
- Council voted to direct the December offering to support the Presbytery's \$10,000 match to the General Assembly New Worshipping Communities Investment grant of \$30,000 received by the Chinese Christian Fellowship.
- Council held a special meeting on December 4 for the Treasurer and Trustee reports and approved the 2024 budget, including opportunity to sustain Presbytery Missions through an increase in per capita and giving requests, for Presbytery vote.

### **Council Updates**

- Ben and Ivy attended the PC(USA) Moderator's Conference November 9-11 for moderator training.
- Council members Katie Cole and Trina Portillo met with Corey Schlosser-Hall, Deputy Executive for Vision & Innovation at the Presbyterian Mission Agency regarding PoB's interest in requesting an LSAT (*Locally Situated Action Team*) to assist PoB with identifying, training and equipping presbytery-level leadership and local ministries. A draft plan is in process.