

FIRSTCOAST METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Bylaws

DRAFT Proposed Amendments 1/30/2022

II. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. Organization

Current Verbiage:

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members and the Pastor. For every additional fifty (50) members beyond one hundred (100), the Board of Directors shall expand by one (1) additional member until a total of eight (8), excluding the Pastor, is reached.

2. Members shall serve two-year terms beginning the first day of the month following their election and shall be eligible for one (1) reelection. In the case of 5 open positions, the three (3) people receiving the most votes shall serve two (2) year terms. The other two (2) people shall serve a one (1) year term. In the case of four (4) open positions, the two (2) people receiving the most votes shall serve two (2) year terms and the two (2) people remaining shall serve a one (1) year term. Except under extenuating circumstances, a member shall remain off the Board for one (1) year before again seeking election. Vacancies may be filled by appointment, by majority vote of the Board of Directors, until the next Congregational Meeting. The appointed term does not count as elected time.

Proposed Verbiage Changes:

1. *The Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) members and the Pastor. For every additional fifty (50) members beyond one hundred (100), the Board of Directors shall expand by one (1) additional member until a total of eight (8), excluding the Pastor, is reached.*

2. *Members shall serve two-year terms beginning the first day of the month following their election and shall be eligible for one (1) reelection. In the case of 3 open positions, the two (2) people receiving the most votes shall serve two (2) year terms. The other person shall serve a one (1) year term. Except under extenuating circumstances, a member shall remain off the Board for one (1) year before again seeking election. Vacancies may be filled by appointment, by majority vote of the Board of Directors, until the next Congregational Meeting. The appointed term does not count as elected time.*

Rationale: *The BOD has been successful with 3 dedicated individuals for the past few years. 3 individuals will allow all positions (vice-moderator, clerk, treasurer) to be filled and ensure those responsibilities can be fulfilled. Due to the reduction in our membership, currently the only way we can fill 5 positions is to 'appoint' a portion of them.*

Sponsored by: *Mari Gilman & Julie Russell*

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IV. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP/CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

A. Section A- The time and place of the Annual Congregational Meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors

1. Each Member present at the Congregational Meeting shall have the right to cast a single vote.

Current Verbiage:

2. Absentee votes will be allowed in the following circumstances on a case-by-case basis:
 - a. Notice must be given at least 24 hours in advance of the Congregational meeting to a member of the Board of Directors with specific details who will ask our church Administrator to call an emergency Board of Directors board poll or meeting prior to services on Congregational meeting day.
 - b. By majority vote the situation is deemed an extenuating circumstance by the board of Directors.
 - c. The individual is available by phone and signed in by a Board member.
 - d. Two board members, determined by the Board of Directors, will be on the phone with the absentee person during the election to obtain the vote and cast it in their absence.
3. Balloting shall be by written, secret ballot with the exception of the absentee vote explained above.

Proposed Verbiage Changes:

2. *Absentee votes will no longer be accepted as all congregational meetings that require a vote will be held in person (if possible) and via Zoom to provide everyone the ability to listen and participate at the meeting live while the vote is happening.*
3. *Balloting shall be by written, secret ballot for those meeting in person and will be done online via zoom.*

Rationale: *We were successful in holding the virtual only 2021 Congregational meeting with 37% of the members attending along with 2 friends! The ability to be part of the meeting live allows for questions, clarification throughout the meeting.*

Sponsored by: *Mari Gilman & Lydia Williams*