

**Penn West Conference
United Church of Christ
Greensburg, Pennsylvania**

**Summary of Board Actions
June 2016-April 2017**

This summary highlights the major actions of the Penn West Board of Directors.

**June 11, 2016
After- gathering meeting**

Installation of all elected officers and General Synod Delegates.

Conference Minister David Ackerman reported on topics for the up-coming Board Retreat August 26-27.

**August 26-27, 2016
Board Retreat at Living Waters**

Whitehead Estate- MOTION CARRIED - To authorize the Endowment Committee to handle the Whitehead Estate.

Don Hamm Insurance Board - MOTION CARRIED - Don Hamm Insurance Board (a UCC partner) will sponsor the Penn West Conference e-newsletter.

Social Media /Advertising - MOTION CARRIED - To form a group to create and establish policy for social media/advertising for Penn West Conference.

Vendor policy - MOTION CARRIED To form a subcommittee to the Board of Directors to review and establish policy governing vendor participation at conference events.

Youth Programming at 2017 Annual Gathering and Meeting - MOTION CARRIED
Youth programming and chaperones at the 2017 Annual Gathering and Meeting will be limited to youth that are delegates and other youth and children attending with adult delegates will be the responsibility of the adult delegate or the participating church.

November 12, 2016

Constitution and By-Laws - MOTION CARRIED - Approval to present the recommended changes to Penn West Conference Constitution and By-Laws to the 2017 Annual Gathering & Meeting.

Mission Grants - MOTION CARRIED - Agreement to use \$396.00 of the interest it has received from the Somerset Trust investment to cover the deficit of the Operational Grants.

Task Forces - MOTION CARRIED - Authorization of a task force charged with formulating policies on advertising opportunities (social media), vendors at the Annual Gathering & Meeting, and a Gift Acceptance Policy.

Mission Statement - MOTION CARRIED - Agreement to begin a process in which the board works on a Purpose, Mission, and Vision Statement for the Penn West Conference with the assistance of Linda Miller-Pretz.

Conference Minister Housing Allowance - MOTION CARRIED- To designate \$33,600.00 of the Conference Minister's compensation package for housing allowance for 2017, and future years unless altered by the Board.

Constitution and By-Laws - MOTION CARRIED - The board will review the Constitution and By-Laws again.

January 20, 2017

Global Ministries - MOTION CARRIED - The Board authorized the Conference Minister to explore with Global Ministries ways in which we, as a Conference, might be able to support our mission partners in the Northwest Luzon Conference of the UCCP.

Standing Firm - MOTION CARRIED - The Penn West Conference Office agreed to become a member of Standing Firm (Business Case to End Partner Violence) and to recommend that our local churches consider doing so, as well.

Four-Way Covenant - MOTION CARRIED - The Board agreed to David Ackerman's four-way ministry covenant.

March 3, 2017

Guests Kelcey Sharkas from the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh and Joshua Sayles from the Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh shared ways that we might be better neighbors to our Muslim and Jewish brothers and sisters here in western Pennsylvania and Maryland.

May 13, 2017

2018 Budget – MOTION CARRIED – The Board agrees to present the proposed 2018 budget to the 55th Annual Gathering & Meeting.