

RESOLUTIONS
from the Lavender Book of
THE 14th QUADRENNIAL CONNECTIONAL LAY INSTITUTE

RESOLUTION NO. 1
Duties of Stewards

Whereas Chapter 35, Section 511.2 of the 2006 Book of Discipline list the duties of the Stewards;

Whereas number 8 listed in this section states that Stewards are “To give advice, if asked, in planning the work of the church.”

Whereas the wording “if asked” is not insinuated or included in the other 16 listing in section 511.2 of Chapter 35;

And whereas Stewards by the nature and scope of the other duties listed, are expected to be involved in the work of the church that calls for their wisdom and advice:

Therefore Be It Resolved that, the words “ if asked” be stricken from Chapter 35, Section 511.2, listing # 8 and changed to read as follows: To give advice in planning the work of the church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Clifford L. Harris, Lay Leader
Oklahoma Region

RESOLUTION 1 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 2
The Lay Council

Resolved:

That the section named Department of Lay Ministry
on pages 159-160, which reads...

Department of Lay Ministry

¶535. There shall be in each church a Department of Lay Ministry.

§1. The department shall be responsible for the program of lay ministry in the church in accordance with the objectives and structure outlined by the General Department of Lay Ministry. (cf. ¶1160 and ¶1165)

continued→

§2. Any member of the local CME Church who indicates a desire to do so may join the Department of Lay Ministry. Upon joining, such persons will be given a membership card.

§3. The department shall be under the direction of a Lay Leader elected by the Lay Department membership. The Local Lay Leader shall be a member of and subject to the Quarterly Conference. The Lay Leader shall preside at department meetings.

§4. The department membership shall elect other officers.

continued→

- §5. The department shall establish the local chapter of the Christian Methodist Men's Fellowship. (cf. ¶1167)
- §6. The department shall present a written report to the District Lay Department
- §7. The department must observe Connectional Lay Day.
- §8. The membership of the Lay Department shall elect delegates to the Connectional Lay Institute.

...Shall read:

The Lay Council

- ¶535. There shall be in each church a Lay Council.
- §1. The Lay Council shall be responsible for the program of lay ministry in the church in accordance with the objectives and structure outlined by the General Department of Lay Ministry. (cf. ¶1160 and ¶1165)
- §2. Any member of the local CME Church who indicates a desire to do so may join the Lay Council. Upon joining, such persons will be given a membership card.
- §3. The Lay Council shall be under the direction of a Lay Leader elected by the Lay Council membership. The Local Lay Leader shall be a member of and subject to the Quarterly Conference. The Lay Leader shall preside at Lay Council meetings.
- §4. The Lay Council membership shall elect other officers.
- §5. The Lay Council shall establish the local chapter of the Christian Methodist Men's Fellowship. (cf. ¶1167)
- §6. The Lay Council shall present a written report to the District Lay Council.
- §7. The Lay Council must observe Connectional Lay Day.
- §8. The membership of the Lay Council shall elect delegates to the Connectional Lay Institute.

Respectfully submitted,
Faye McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 2 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 3
General Conference Delegates

Whereas, the leadership of the Annual Conference is expected to represent us, and to speak for us as the occasions rise; and

Whereas, the Regional Lay Leader, District Lay Leaders, Regional Missionary President, and District Missionary Presidents are considered the primary leaders of an Annual Conference/Region; and

Whereas, these leaders act on our behalf, speak for us, stand for us and stand in for us on the Local, Zone, District, Region, and Connectional levels of our church;

continued→

Be it, therefore, Resolved...

That the secretary of the Annual Conference be empowered to cast one unanimous ballot to elect the Regional Lay Leader, District Lay Leaders, Regional Missionary Society President, and District Missionary Presidents as delegates to the General Conference by virtue of their elected office.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria P. Gray
R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 3 FAILED

RESOLUTION NO. 4
The Quarterly Conference

Whereas, Many times when inclusive language, i.e. "all other", is used some who should be included are omitted because they were not specifically named.

Therefore, be it Resolved:

That ¶ 253. The Quarterly Conference shall have authority as follows:

§3. To confirm the Sunday Church School Superintendents, members of the Board of Christian Education and the President of the Women's Missionary Society.

Be changed to...

That ¶ 253. The Quarterly Conference shall have authority as follows:

§3. To confirm the Sunday Church School Superintendents, members of the Board of Christian Education, the Local Lay Leader, and the President of the Women's Missionary Society.

Respectfully submitted,
Freddie McKnight
R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 4 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 5
The Quarterly Conference

Whereas Many times when inclusive language, i.e. “all other”, is used some who should be included are omitted because they were not specifically named.

Therefore, be it...

Resolved:

That ¶ 252.2 The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of the Pastor-in-Charge, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Stewardesses, Treasurer, Trustees of church property, and all other organizations authorized by the Church Conference.

Be changed to...

¶ 252.2 The Quarterly Conference shall be composed of the Pastor-in-Charge, Local Preachers, Exhorters, Stewards, Stewardesses, Treasurer, Trustees of church property, the Lay Leader, President of the Missionary Society, and all other organizations authorized by the Church Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Freddie McKnight

R. Faye M. McGhee

New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 5 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 6
CLASS LEADERS

Resolved:

That:

¶510. Class Leaders shall be appointed by the pastor. One member from each class shall be chosen by the pastor to serve as Class Leader.

Be Revised to Read:

¶510. Class Leaders shall be lay persons appointed by the pastor. One member from each class shall be chosen by the pastor to serve as Class Leader.

Respectfully submitted,

Freddie McKnight

R. Faye M. McGhee

New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 6 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 7
Acting Presiding Elders

Resolved

That:

¶ 252.1 The presiding officer of the Quarterly Conference, without privilege of vote, shall be the Presiding Elder. In the absence of the Presiding Elder, the Pastor shall preside, provided that, in the event there is no pastor, the Presiding Elder shall designate someone else to preside.

Be revised to read...

¶ 252.1 The presiding officer of the Quarterly Conference, without privilege of vote, shall be the Presiding Elder. In the absence of the Presiding Elder, the Pastor shall preside, provided that, in the event there is no pastor, the Presiding Elder shall designate someone else to preside. Pastors may not confirm officers that they are nominating nor hear complaints that have been duly registered according to the provisions of the Discipline.

Respectfully submitted,
Freddie McKnight
R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 7 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 8
Rental of Parsonages

Resolved

That

¶603. Rental of Parsonages

§1. If a pastor lives in his or her own home or provides his or her place of residence, the rent from the parsonages designated for the preachers residence shall be given to the pastor; said rent shall not be counted as salary.

Be revised to read

¶603. Rental of Parsonages

§1. If a pastor lives in his or her own home or provides his or her place of residence, the rent from the parsonages designated for the preachers residence shall be given to the pastor after taxes, insurance, and repair costs have been recouped by the church; said rent shall not be counted as salary.

Respectfully submitted,
Freddie McKnight
New York-Washington Region
Travis Story
Southern California Region

RESOLUTION 8 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 9
District Lay Council

Resolved: That...

¶1166. District Lay Board

- §1. The District shall be organized into zones.
- §2. The Zone Leaders shall submit a written report to the District Council.
- §3. The District Board shall submit an annual written report to the Conference Lay Department.
- §4. The District Lay Leader shall preside at District Board Meetings. The Lay Leader shall be elected by the Lay delegates to the District Conference in session. Other officers shall be elected by the District Board.
- §5. The District Board shall meet as often as necessary to effectively carry out the work of the Board.
- §6. The Board shall conduct the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the listed objectives.
- §7. The minutes of all meetings of the Board shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.

Shall be amended to read...

¶1166. District Lay Council

- §1. The District shall be organized into zones.
- §2. The Zone Leaders shall submit a written report to the District Lay Council.
- §3. The District Lay Council shall through its' District Lay Leader, submit an annual written report to the Region/Annual Conference Lay Council.
- §4. The District Lay Leader shall preside at District Lay Council Meetings. The District Lay Leader shall be elected by the Lay delegates to the District Conference in session. Other officers shall be elected by the District Lay Council.
- §5. The District Lay Council shall meet as often as necessary to effectively carry out the work of the District Lay Council.
- §6. The District Lay Council shall conduct the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the listed objectives.
- §7. The minutes of all meetings of the District Lay Council shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 9 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 10 ???
Incorrect Reference

That page
¶1167. Local Lay Council (cf. ¶ 522)
Correctly refer to the Local Lay Council (cf. ¶ 535)
Respectfully submitted,
R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION NO. 11
The Regional Lay Council

Resolved: That...

¶1164 The Regional Lay Council

§3. This Department shall hold one annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Conference and such other meetings deemed necessary and/or upon the call of the Lay Leader.

§4. The Department shall submit a written report to the Annual Conference and to the Department of Lay Ministry.

§5. The minutes of all meeting of the Department/Board shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.

Shall be amended to read...

¶1164 The Regional Lay Council

§3. This Regional Lay Council shall hold one annual meeting in conjunction with the Annual Conference and such other meetings deemed necessary and/or upon the call of the Regional Lay Leader.

§4. The Regional Lay Council shall submit a written report to the Annual Conference and to the General Department of Lay Ministry.

§5. The minutes of all meeting of the Regional Lay Council shall be kept in a permanent journal by the secretary.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 11 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 12
The Regional Lay Council

Resolve: That...

¶1165. The Department shall carry out the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the General Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the following objectives:

Be amended to read...

¶1165. The Regional Lay Council shall carry out the program of lay activities as outlined under the direction of the General Department of Lay Ministry by promoting the following objectives:

Respectfully submitted,

R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 12 PASSED

RESOLUTION NO. 13
The Regional Lay Council

Whereas the elected Connectional Steward President, Connectional Stewardess President, and Connectional Usher President became members of the Connectional Lay Cabinet in 1998

Resolved

That the Annual Conference/Regional Steward, Stewardess and Usher be elected to the Annual Conference/Regional Lay Cabinet.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Faye M. McGhee
New York-Washington Region

RESOLUTION 13 FAILED

RESOLUTION NO. 14
Background Checks

Resolved:

The CME Church shall seek comprehensive background checks on our clergy, church staff-workers (clergy and lay), and volunteers to include criminal, financial, motor vehicle and educational credentials.

Harper Chapel CME Church
Southern California Region

RESOLUTION 14 FAILED

RESOLUTION NO. 15
National Usher day

Whereas our Ushers are faithful and committed to door-keeping in the house of the Lord; and

Whereas, we believe they should be recognized annually for their service in the church;

Be it therefore Resolved

That the second Sunday in September be recognized as National Usher Day.

Diana Winton
Southern California Region

RESOLUTION 15 PASSED