

Central Baptist Church

Special Congregational Meeting to Approve Changes to the Constitution: December 17, 2023

Moderator John Andrews opened the meeting at 10:35.

Article IV: Membership

John began the meeting by asking for a motion to accept Article IV.

Motioned/seconded. No discussion. Motion to approve Article IV/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article V: Organizational Structure

Motioned/seconded to accept Article V. No discussion. Motion to approve Article V/seconded.

Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article VI: Pastor

Motioned/seconded to accept Article VI.

Discussion of why overseeing administrative leadership, as specified in Section 2.3, falls under the Pastoral and Staff Relations committee and not the Executive Committee.

Motion by John Andrews to change the word “oversee” in Section 2.3 to “coordinate.” Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Motion by Trey Posey to amend the wording “administrative leadership” in Section 2.3 to read “paid administrative leadership.” Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

The amended sentence reads “In the absence (vacancy or part time) of a fulltime settled pastor, the Pastoral and Staff Relations committee will coordinate the paid administrative leadership of the church supported by volunteers as needed.”

Motion to approve Article VI/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees and with the two additional amendments motioned and approved by the congregation.

Article VII: Executive Committee

Motioned/seconded to accept Article VII. No discussion. Motion to approve Article VII/seconded.

Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article VIII: Boards

Motioned/seconded to accept Article VIII.

Discussion of what is meant by “ordinances” in Section 1.3.

Motion by Trey Posey to add, after “ordinances,” the wording “for example communion, baptism, weddings, etc.” Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

The amended sentence reads “Make preparation for observances of the ordinances, for example communion, baptism, weddings, etc.”

Motion by John Andrews to amend the wording in Section 1.6 to add “consistent with the Endowment Policy” at the end of the sentence. Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

The amended sentence reads “Determine, in consultation with the family, how best to use and recognize memorial gifts received, consistent with the Endowment Policy.”

Motion to approve Article VIII/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees and with the two additional amendments motioned and approved by the congregation.

Article IX: Moderator and Church Clerk

Motioned/seconded to accept Article IX.

Discussion: Why does the Moderator sign contracts? Explanation: The Moderator is the head of the Executive Board and there are checks and balances in place to ensure no misuse of the contract-signing power.

Motion to approve Article IX/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article X: Standing Committees

Motioned/seconded to accept Article X.

Motion by Cathy Kaiser to change “provide” in Section 2.2.i to “coordinate.” Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

The amended sentence reads “Coordinate administrative leadership in the absence of a fulltime pastor and with the assistance of various volunteers.”

Motion to approve Article X/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees and the additional amendment approved by the congregation.

Article XI: Auxiliary Organizations

Motioned/seconded to accept Article XI.

Motion by David Dolce to strike the final sentence in Number 1: “An example could be the Christmas Fair organization” and change the word “sponsor” to “support” in the first sentence. Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Motion by Debbie Nordstrom to replace the wording in Number 1 “be necessary for the welfare of the church and,” with “provide for.” Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

The twice amended sentence reads “The church will support such organizations as may provide for the fulfillment of its spiritual and social obligations.”

Motion to approve Article XI/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees and with the two additional amendments motioned and approved by the congregation.

Article XII: Congregational Meetings

Motioned/seconded to accept Article XII. No discussion. Motion to approve Article XII/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article XIII: Calling a Pastor

Motioned/seconded to accept Article XIII. No discussion. Motion to approve Article XIII/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article XIV: Termination of the Pastor

Motioned/seconded to accept Article XIV. No discussion. Motion to approve Article XIV/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article XV: Property Change or Modification

Motioned/seconded to accept Article XV.

Motion by Don Haskell to strike the word “unanimously” in Section 1.2 and add “two-thirds majority” before the word “vote.” Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

The amended sentence reads “Any sale of church property must first be approved by the Board of Trustees and the Executive Board; approval must be submitted to the Church membership for a two-thirds majority vote.

Motion by Barbara Haskell to add a Number 4 to Section 2, reading **“Proceeds from any sale of real property would be used to further the purpose of the church as stated in the Constitution.”**

Motion seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Motion by Don Haskell to change the number 30 to 90 in Section 2.1 concerning the notification required to the congregation of any proposed property modifications.

Motion by Marilyn Dennis to table consideration of the entire Article XV for further consideration.

Motion by David Dolce to table any changes to the number of days required for notification to the congregation of any proposed property modifications.

The motion to change the number of days from 30 to 90 was not approved.

The motion to table consideration of the entire Article XV was not approved.

The motion to table any changes to the number of days became moot.

Motion to approve Article XV/seconded. Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees and with the two additional amendments motioned and approved by the congregation.

Article XVI: Rules of Order

Motioned/seconded to accept Article XVI. No discussion. Motion to approve Article XVI/seconded.

Approved by unanimous vote as amended/recommended by the Board of Trustees.

Article XVII: Amendments

No changes to the original language.

Moderator John Andrews turned the congregation’s attention back to Articles I, II and III. There are no changes recommended to Article I by the Trustees. As there was no longer a quorum present, no vote could be taken on Articles II and III. Rob Taylor shared that he had discussed Article II with Abcori Executive Director Courtney Davis Olds and that she recommended waiting to make any changes to the Purpose statement until the congregation has the guidance of a pastor.

Trey Posey led a prayer at the end of the meeting.

Motion/seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:12. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Kaiser.

