

**Resolution 17**

**NONRESIDENT EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERS ELECTIONS**

1 WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws provide instructions for elections and in some places  
2 state that, “If no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been  
3 cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast  
4 shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be  
5 eliminated”; and

6 WHEREAS, In various places, the General Council Bylaws are silent as to what action should  
7 be taken if no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been cast  
8 and there is no election; and

9 WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws are similarly silent when giving direction for the  
10 regular election processes for the Ethnic Fellowship election and the Additional  
11 Representation elections (pages 110-111); and

12 WHEREAS, It became apparent from the 2020 General Presbytery meeting, the benefit of  
13 processing amendments to the General Council Bylaws to include provisions for  
14 elections of vacancies at the next opportunity; and

15 WHEREAS, Without this clarity, a scenario could exist of balloting continuing into perpetuity;  
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND  
18 PRESBYTERS, Section 2. Nominations and Elections, paragraph c, subparagraphs  
19 (1) (a) and (b) and (2) (c), (pages 110-111) which read:

**Section 2. Nominations and Elections**

**c. Nonresident executive presbyters**

22 (1) *Nominations and elections.* The General Council shall have the right to  
23 elect additional officers to serve on the Executive Presbytery as provided in  
24 Constitution, Article IX, Section 2.

25 (a) *By area.* The nominations for eleven (11) area nonresident  
26 executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each district council at its  
27 annual meeting prior to the General Council session shall nominate two  
28 ministers from its district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district  
29 official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area.  
30 These nominees shall be presented to and be balloted upon by the General

1 Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and  
2 elect. If no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been  
3 cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last  
4 ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names  
5 shall be eliminated.

6 (b) *By ethnic fellowship.* The nominations for one ethnic fellowship  
7 nonresident executive presbyter shall be made as follows: Each general  
8 presbyter from an ethnic fellowship, serving in the year General Council  
9 meets, shall be presented to the General Council as a nominee from the  
10 respective ethnic fellowships. These nominees shall be presented to and be  
11 balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be  
12 required to nominate and elect.

13 (2) *Divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.*

14 (c) *Additional representation.* The nomination process for three  
15 additional nonresident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each  
16 district council, at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session,  
17 may nominate three individuals from its district to the Executive Presbytery,  
18 one who is an ordained minister under forty (40) years of age at the time of  
19 election, one ordained female minister (no age requirement), and one  
20 ordained African-American minister (no age requirement). The members of  
21 the Executive Board of the National Black Fellowship shall also be  
22 considered nominees for the ordained African-American minister. From the  
23 nominees the General Presbytery shall select and submit to the General  
24 Council four names of ordained ministers under forty (40) years of age at  
25 the time of election, four names of ordained female ministers (no age  
26 requirement), and four names of ordained African-American ministers (no  
27 age requirement). The candidates shall be presented to the General Council  
28 in session and voted on by secret ballot. A two-thirds vote shall be required  
29 to elect.

30 Be amended to read:

1                   **Section 2. Nominations and Elections**

2                   **c. Nonresident executive presbyters.** Nominees for nonresident  
3 executive presbyters shall be voted upon by the General Council in session by  
4 secret ballot until one candidate receives two-thirds of all votes cast. If no  
5 election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been cast, the three  
6 candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be  
7 nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.

8                   (1) *Nominations and elections.* The General Council shall have the right to  
9 elect additional officers to serve on the Executive Presbytery as provided in  
10 Constitution, Article IX, Section 2.

11                   (a) *By area.* The nominations for eleven (11) area nonresident  
12 executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each district council at its  
13 annual meeting prior to the General Council session shall nominate two  
14 ministers from its district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district  
15 official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area.  
16 ~~These nominees shall be presented to and be balloted upon by the General~~  
17 ~~Council in session. A two thirds vote shall be required to nominate and~~  
18 ~~elect. If no election has been declared after the third elective ballot has been~~  
19 ~~cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last~~  
20 ~~ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names~~  
21 ~~shall be eliminated.~~

22                   (b) *By ethnic fellowship.* The nominations for one ethnic fellowship  
23 nonresident executive presbyter shall be made as follows: Each general  
24 presbyter from an ethnic fellowship, serving in the year General Council  
25 meets, shall be presented to the General Council as a nominee from the  
26 respective ethnic fellowships. ~~These nominees shall be presented to and be~~  
27 ~~balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two thirds vote shall be~~  
28 ~~required to nominate and elect.~~

29                   (2) *Divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.*

30                   (c) *Additional representation.* The nomination process for three  
31 additional nonresident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each  
32 district council, at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session,  
33 may nominate three individuals from its district to the Executive Presbytery,

1 one who is an ordained minister under forty (40) years of age at the time of  
2 election, one ordained female minister (no age requirement), and one  
3 ordained African-American minister (no age requirement). The members of  
4 the Executive Board of the National Black Fellowship shall also be  
5 considered nominees for the ordained African-American minister. From the  
6 nominees the General Presbytery shall select and submit to the General  
7 Council four names of ordained ministers under forty (40) years of age at  
8 the time of election, four names of ordained female ministers (no age  
9 requirement), and four names of ordained African-American ministers (no  
10 age requirement). ~~The candidates shall be presented to the General Council  
11 in session and voted on by secret ballot. A two-thirds vote shall be required  
12 to elect.~~

13 And, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND  
15 PRESBYTERS, Section 3. Vacancies, paragraph b. Nonresident executive  
16 presbyters, subparagraphs (1) (c), and subparagraphs (2) (a) and (b), and (3) (a) and  
17 (b) (pages 113-114) which read:

18 **Section 3. Vacancies**

19 **b. Nonresident executive presbyters**

20 (1) *By area.*

21 (c) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery  
22 until one receives two-thirds of all votes cast.

23 (2) *By ethnic fellowship.*

24 (a) In the event a vacancy shall occur, for any reason, in the office of  
25 an ethnic fellowship nonresident executive presbyter, the general secretary  
26 shall submit as nominees all current general presbyters who represent an  
27 ethnic fellowship. (*See* Bylaws, Article V, Section 8.) The General  
28 Presbytery shall, at its next meeting, elect one minister from among the  
29 nominees submitted, to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the General  
30 Council. (*See* Bylaws, Article II, Section 1, for qualifications.)

31 (b) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery  
32 until one receives two-thirds of all votes cast.

1 (3) *Additional representation.*

2 (a) In the event a vacancy shall occur, for any reason, in the offices of  
3 nonresident additional representatives [*see* Bylaws, Article II, Section 2, c,  
4 (2), (c)], the General Council Executive Presbytery shall submit up to four  
5 nominees for the vacant position. The nominees shall be selected with due  
6 consideration given to those who have been nominated in the past for those  
7 positions and who would yet qualify. The General Presbytery shall, by  
8 regular or electronic mail referendum or at its next meeting, elect one  
9 minister from among the nominees submitted to fill the vacancy until the  
10 next meeting of the General Council. (*See* Bylaws, Article II, Section 1, for  
11 qualifications.)

12 (b) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery  
13 until one receives two-thirds of all votes cast.

14 Be amended to read:

15 **Section 3. Vacancies**

16 **b. Nonresident executive presbyters.** Nominees for nonresident executive  
17 presbyters shall be voted upon by the General Presbytery in session by secret  
18 ballot until one candidate receives two-thirds of all votes cast. If no election has  
19 been declared after the third elective ballot has been cast, the three candidates  
20 having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to  
21 be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.

22 (1) *By area.*

23 ~~(e) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery~~  
24 ~~until one receives two thirds of all votes cast.~~

25 (2) *By ethnic fellowship.*

26 ~~(a)~~ In the event a vacancy shall occur, for any reason, in the office of  
27 an ethnic fellowship nonresident executive presbyter, the general secretary  
28 shall submit as nominees all current general presbyters who represent an  
29 ethnic fellowship. (*See* Bylaws, Article V, Section 8.) The General  
30 Presbytery shall, at its next meeting, elect one minister from among the  
31 nominees submitted, to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the General  
32 Council. (*See* Bylaws, Article II, Section 1, for qualifications.)

1                    ~~(b) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery~~  
2                    ~~until one receives two thirds of all votes cast.~~

3                    (3) *Additional representation.*

4                    ~~(a)~~ In the event a vacancy shall occur, for any reason, in the offices of  
5 nonresident additional representatives [*see* Bylaws, Article II, Section 2, c,  
6 (2), (c)], the General Council Executive Presbytery shall submit up to four  
7 nominees for the vacant position. The nominees shall be selected with due  
8 consideration given to those who have been nominated in the past for those  
9 positions and who would yet qualify. The General Presbytery shall, by  
10 regular or electronic mail referendum or at its next meeting, elect one  
11 minister from among the nominees submitted to fill the vacancy until the  
12 next meeting of the General Council. (*See* Bylaws, Article II, Section 1, for  
13 qualifications.)

14                    ~~(b) Nominees shall be voted upon by the entire General Presbytery~~  
15                    ~~until one receives two thirds of all votes cast.~~

16                    And, be it further

17                    RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND  
18                    PRESBYTERS, Section 3. Vacancies, paragraph b. Nonresident executive  
19                    presbyters, page 113, subparagraph (1) (d) becomes subparagraph (1) (c).

   Sponsor: Executive Presbytery  
   General Presbytery

Presented \_\_\_\_\_  
Amended \_\_\_\_\_  
Referred \_\_\_\_\_  
Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
Lost \_\_\_\_\_