

MINUTES OF THE PRE-SESSION COMMITTEE

Vallejo Drive Seventh-day Adventist Church
Glendale, California

Sunday, June 23, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

NOTE: A list of members who were present and the members who were absent is in *Appendix "A."*

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT AND PRAYER

Elder Sandra Roberts, Chair
Executive Secretary, Pacific Union Conference

RECORDING SECRETARY

VOTED to ask the Conference Secretary, Elder John H. Cress, to serve as the recording secretary of
01-24 the Pre-Session Committee meeting.

ORGANIZATIONAL ORIENTATION

Elder Sandra Roberts, chair, invited Elder John H. Cress to review with the pre-session delegates the following provisions from the Southern California Conference Bylaws, Article 3, Sections 3.1 and 3.2.1, with the members of the Pre-Session Committee:

- 1) *The Pre-Session Committee shall consist of one delegate member from each church. Its main assignment is to elect the Nominating Committee for the 66th Constituency Session.*
- 2) *The Nominating Committee shall consist of twenty-one members, including the president of the Pacific Union Conference or his/her appointee, who shall chair the committee. The membership of this committee shall, as nearly as possible, proportionately represent the membership of this conference, properly recognizing gender, ethnic and geographical backgrounds.*
- 3) *Not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of those who were members of the preceding Nominating Committee may serve on this committee.*
- 4) *Not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the non-administrative members of the executive committee may serve on the Nominating Committee.*
- 5) *Incumbent officers, departmental directors, and associate and assistant directors shall not be members of this committee.*

It was also explained how, in order to follow the conference Bylaws, the allocation of members for the Nominating Committee composition are based on the membership by Regions as of the end of the previous year of the Constituency Session, in this case December 31, 2023.



ALLOCATION FORMULA

VOTED, 02-24 to adopt a proposed Allocation Formula of the 20 Nominating Committee members to comply with the requirement that *“the membership of this committee shall, as nearly as possible, proportionately represent the membership of this conference...”*

Allocation of Members by Region to serve on the Nominating Committee

NOTED: The members designated to serve on the Nominating Committee were allocated as follows:

Regions	MEMBERSHIP (as of 12/31/2023)	% of MEMB	% of 20	#NC
Asian/Pacific	6,130	16.10	3.22	3
Greater L.A.	6,460	16.97	3.39	4
Hispanic	12,045	31.64	6.32	6
L.A. Metro	8,157	21.42	4.28	4
West	5,281	13.87	2.77	3
TOTALS	38,073	100.00%	20.00	20

Other Factors for Consideration:

Denominational Employees: Educators, Ministers, Office Support Staff

Laypersons: Active Church Members, Gender, Age Level

DISTRIBUTION FORMULA

The distribution formula was discussed. The question was raised if they should caucus to create the distribution formula since the bylaws notes that *“At the pre-session, representatives from each region shall make an initial proportionate allocation of the nominating committee members from such region.”* After discussion, it was voted to accept the recommended distribution formula with an adjustment between Los Angeles Metro and Greater Los Angeles Regions because of the allocation formula numbers. Each of the two regions received four (4) nominees to elect to the nominating committee. In the distribution formula, GLAR included the SCC Office Representative as one of their nominees.

VOTED 03-24 to adopt a proposed Distribution Formula of the 20 Nominating Committee members as guidelines to fulfill the Bylaws requirement that *“the membership of this committee shall, as nearly as possible proportionately represent the membership of this conference, properly recognizing gender, ethnic and geographical backgrounds.”* *Appendix “B”*

NOTED: It was highlighted that in order to follow the spirit of the conference Bylaws this formula could distribute its composition including:

Affiliation: Laypersons – 50%
Employees – 50%

- Educators – 40%
- Ministers – 50%
- Office Staff – 10%

Gender: Female – 50%
Male – 50%

Ethnicity/Geography: By Regions

FORMING SUB-COMMITTEES

VOTED, to divide the Pre-Session Committee into five sub-committees representing the five regions of the
04-24 conference: Asian Pacific Region, Greater Los Angeles Region, Hispanic Region, Los Angeles Metro Region, and West Region.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIVE SUB-COMMITTEES FOR MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE 66th CONSTITUENCY SESSION

VOTED, to approve recommendations from the five sub-committees of the Pre-Session Committee that the
05-24 following persons serve on the Nominating Committee for the 66th Constituency Session of the Southern California Conference:

Asian Pacific Region (3)

- Pliny Fondevilla Inter Valley (Pastor)
- Gabriel Sipi, Jr. Compton Samoan
- Lana Lui L.A. Cantonese

Greater Los Angeles Region (4)

- Lawrence Dorsey, I University (Pastor)
- David Harrington Normandie (Educator)
- Greer Bosworth Smyrna
- Tracy Garnett Berean (SCC Staff)

Hispanic Region (6)

- Samuel Del Pozo San Fernando Spanish (Pastor)
- Heleodoro Garcia Central Spanish
- David Lopez Glendora Spanish
- Mario Negrete, Jr. Monrovia Spanish (Educator)
- Myma Sanchez Panamericana Spanish
- Alondra Gutierrez Van Nuys Spanish (Educator)

Los Angeles Metro Region (4)

- John Aitken II Living Stones (Pastor)
- Stephen Lutes West Covina
- Hannah Ceballos Alhambra
- Celine Musaza Rolling Hills

West Region (3)

- John Fox Camarillo (Educator)
- Sarah Grover Camarillo (Pastor)
- Jennifer Swenson The Place

ALTERNATE REPLACEMENTS IF THE ABOVE PERSONS ARE UNABLE TO SERVE

VOTED, to approve recommendations from the five sub-committees for the following persons to serve as alternates
06-24 to replace members of the Nominating Committee if the above listed members are unable to serve:

Asian Pacific Region

Alternates for Laypersons

- Priscilla Lopez Upper Room
- Choo Kwang (Kevin) Rho Glendale Korean

Alternates for Denominational Employees

- Young Rin Kim Olympic Korean (Pastor)

Greater Los Angeles Region

Alternates for Laypersons

- Sonia Barksdale Maranatha

Alternates for Denominational Employees

- Lawrence Dorsey II Altadena (Pastor)
- Herman Fenlson Jr. Breath of Life (Educator)

Hispanic Region

Alternates for Laypersons

- David Guzman Sr. Van Nuys Spanish
- Rosa Parada San Gabriel Spanish Church

Alternates for Denominational Employees

- Rolando Rivera Los Olivos Spanish
- Elizabeth Negrete Monrovia Spanish (Educator)
- Michelle Negrete Glassell Park Spanish (Educator)

Los Angeles Metro Region

Alternates for Laypersons

- Leonard Bechet Jr. Sunland-Tujunga
- Richard Hernandez Whittier
- Steven Clement Eagle Rock
- Lejone Morris Whittier
- Nicole Briseno Eagle Rock

Alternates for Denominational Employees

- Eustace Laurie III All Nations (Pastor)

West Region

Alternates for Laypersons

- Karen Oi Santa Monica

Alternates for Denominational Employees

- Ed Sammons Lancaster (Pastor)
- Jennifer Lew The Place (Educator)

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, to adjourn. (1:15 p.m.)
07-24

CLOSING PRAYER: Elder John H. Cress

Sandra Roberts, chair*
John H. Cress, recording secretary

* Elder Sandra Roberts was the designee by the Pacific Union Conference President to chair this committee.