

Minimum Guidelines for Overtures Coming Before the August 25th Called Meeting of the Presbytery of St. Augustine

Please follow these guidelines as you prepare your overture.

Overtures shall:

1. Be factual, not merely anecdotal. The Council has commissioned and distributed a set of agreed data that is the result of collaboration among many participants and must be used as the statistical database for all proposals.
2. Include a narrative that describes the proposed strategic plan and the theological rationale for the action to be taken.
3. Include specific strategic goals for at least the next five years. For the purpose of these overtures strategic goal is defined as “A goal that expresses/describes determining actions to achieve the goal, describes the mobilization of resources to support the actions, and provides a manner to clearly evaluate progress toward the achievement of the goal.”
4. Include the estimated financial impact of the proposed plan, which should be calculated by the Finance Team and included with the overture presentation.
5. Describe how the plan addresses each of the four strategic goals.
 - Create a culture where everyone is one heart and soul and working together for the common good to the glory of God
 - Thrive and grow in faithfulness to Jesus Christ
 - Seek and connect with young people in all aspects of our ministries
 - Maximize Montgomery Conference Center as our spiritual asset
6. Express how the proposal will work within the bounds of the MPCC Structure and Lines of Authority or how those lines of authority might be changed. See attached document, MPCC Structure and Lines of Authority. If changes must be made in the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and/or Operating Manuals of either organization, the necessary changes must be described and/or a process for doing so must be described.

7. Address issues of management. Related to #6, what will be the lines of authority in the management structure MPCC ?

8. Include budgets for the next three to five years. While these budgets will be by necessity based on forecasted revenues and expenses, they must be realistic. If for example, the overture calls to immediately cease operations of MPCC and sell the property, there will still need to be budget allocations for security, maintenance of property, insurance, up front sales costs, etc. Revenue sources must also be presented.

Format of Overtures: Please use the overture form that is provided.

General Comments: It is clearly understood that having one month to prepare an overture is a challenge. Two groups that may submit overtures are the Montgomery Presbyterian Center Operating Board (after proposal is made to the Trustees) and the Montgomery Task Force (after proposal is made to the Trustees and Council). It is the most sincere hope of the Presbytery's Coordinating Council that constituent Sessions and/or Members-Commissioners will also weigh in on this matter and submit overtures.

It is recognized by the Coordinating Council that the process described above prioritizes evidence based planning. Every effort has been made to provide the data necessary for a person/group who is not intricately involved in the current operation of MPCC or the Presbytery to have enough data to compose an overture. Interim Director of MPCC Lexi Green has limited ability to produce data from MPCC due to her relative short time serving there and having no staff that has "institutional memory." Some data-based program/participation information is no longer readily accessible. Nancy Brown, Presbytery Financial Secretary, has shared significant financial data on the supplied forms. John Ragsdale, head of the Finance Team has offered his assistance as well as Treasurer Chuck Atkins. It is to be remembered though that both John and Chuck are volunteers. Finally, Glenn Dickson is the chair of the Montgomery Operating Board and may be willing to assist you. In the end though, we ask you to heavily rely upon the stipulated as accurate data that has been supplied in the attachments.

Jeff Welch, the Chair of our Presbytery Coordinating Council, can be reached at pastorjeffdpc@bellsouth.net or 352-817-2534. If you have questions about polity or need other information such as past actions of the Presbytery, please contact Stated Clerk Sandra Hedrick at sandra@staugpres.org or 904-612-9766.