

**Motion Relating to Item #24, Consent Agenda, Call Commission Section
by John Niles Bartholomew, Minister Member**

Background

Item #24 reads as follows:

The Call Commission... received and responded to a communication from Wain Wesberry following the entry of the June 16, 2021, order of the Permanent Judicial Commission removing him from ordered ministry. The communication from Wain Wesberry asked that the Call Commission work with him in creating a pathway to restoration. The Call Commission acted by asking its Chair to respond by suggesting that he may ask the presbytery to give the commission instructions regarding his desire to have a pathway put in place and to designate the scope of the commission's authority.

The Rule of Discipline D-12.0201 provide:

“A person under the censure of removal from ordered ministry or from membership may be restored by the council imposing the censure when the council is fully satisfied that the action is justified and the person makes a reaffirmation of faith for membership restoration or is reordained for restoration to ordered ministry.”

The Presbytery of St. Augustine does not have a written policy or process for handling a request for restoration or that designates what commission, committee or team would be responsible for a process or making a recommendation.

Motion

I move that:

- (1) the Presbytery of St. Augustine acknowledge that responsibility for process and recommendation belongs in the Call Commission and that the Call Commission be charged with drafting a policy for the handling for any requests for restoration and bringing it to the next stated meeting of the presbytery for consideration and possible adoption,
- (2) the Call Commission not undertake any substantive response to Dr. Wesberry's request before the presbytery has an adopted policy in place, and
- (3) the Call Commission is encouraged to consult with the the Office of the General Assembly, with our Permanent Judicial Commission, and others who may have experience with the processes and practices of restoration and the issues to be considered.