MINUTES OF THE LLDC MEETING, JULY 13, 2020

Present: Perry Beider, Josh Blinder (Board liaison), Adam Briskin-Limehouse, Lydia Morris Fettig

Technical amendment to the WES Constitution

The group agreed on proposed language to fix the problem that the section of the WES Constitution on the LLDC does not cross-reference two mentions of the committee in other sections.

As agreed in the June meeting, the LLDC will also be proposing a substantive amendment to the Constitution: “The elected members of the LLDC vote in candidate elections only if their votes are needed to break a tie that affects the election outcome (seats or term lengths).”

Changes to the Election Procedures document

The group agreed on a set of changes to the Election Procedures document:

* An update of the references to alternatives for WES members who do not have an email account in the WES database; and
* Two new provisions, suggested members, on communication of election results and communication of policy decisions made during or after an election.

Perry would contact Robyn about posting and publicizing the revised document. After the meeting, however, he realized that additional changes would be needed for the switch to ranked-choice voting (see below).

UUA recommendations on electing a Leader Search Committee (LSC)

Perry reported on a UUA seminar he attended (as did at least two Board members—Lauren Strange and Trang Duong) on its system for helping congregations and clergy leaders find each other. For electing members of an LSC, the UUA recommends that the nominating committee (the LLDC) select a slate of 12 candidates, and that the search committee consist of the top four vote-getters in the election, plus three chosen from the remaining eight by the Board to ensure proper balance and diversity on the committee.

Another UUA recommendation—that every member household be contacted by phone to solicit names of people to be considered for nomination to the search committee—generated some controversy among the LLDC members. An alternative starting with an online survey was suggested. The group agreed to solicit Lyn Cox’s perspective on that and other issues relating to the process of selecting the LSC.

**The group agreed that the LSC election should be conducted using ranked-choice voting (RCV), and that to introduce WES members to RCV, it should also be used for November’s LLDC election.** Using RCV for the November election will require that the ballot have at least three candidates, which will unfortunately mean that most of the people who agree to run will not be elected.

Next meeting

The group agreed that the August meeting will focus on ideas for supporting lay leadership, ideally with the participation of Lyn Cox.