

Presbytery of Boston
Council Report
March 17, 2022

Council held a special called meeting on January 27, 2022 to discuss the staffing needs of the Presbytery and evaluate ways to move forward in searching for a Presbytery leader.

We are in the process of reaching out to consultants and other Presbytery and Synod execs to gain more feedback and insight and will recommend a course of action to the Presbytery after these initial conversations.

At its February meeting, Council **recommended** that the Presbytery form two task forces. The first task force would be appointed to assess the **Needham Church** property and to:

1. Assess the value and costs of the property.
2. Determine potential uses, including the highest and best uses.
3. Discern options that serve the mission of the Presbytery.
4. Recommend to Presbytery next steps for the Needham building.
5. Upon making a recommendation to the Presbytery, this task force shall be dismissed.
6. A designee of council will serve as a liaison to council.

Following conversation with Rev. Paulo Lima and members of the Shekinah congregations, Council has discerned a need for additional support and resources to these emerging faith communities.

The second task force would be appointed to work with the **Shekinah Presbyterian Congregations** to:

1. Develop an understanding of Shekinah ministries and submit a report to council. This report should include information related to worship, community life, mission, locations, and financial reporting within Shekinah Ministries.
2. Discern what is needed from the Presbytery to support this ministry.
3. Meet with Paulo Lima and the governing boards of the Shekinah congregations to develop an understanding of the visions of the ministries.
4. Estimate translation/interpretation costs needed for Presbytery to support Shekinah Ministries.
5. Submit a recommendation for further action by the Presbytery.
6. A designee of council will serve as a liaison to council.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Trina Portillo, Moderator