

Proposed Amendments to First Baptist Church Constitution & Bylaws

Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Presented at September 20, 2009 Business Meeting

Article 9. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and these Bylaws may be amended in a business meeting of the church. The process to bring an amendment is as follows:

Section 9.1 Procedure

- 9.1.1 Any proposed amendment is referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.
 - 9.1.1.1 Any committee wishing to propose an amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws must present the proposed amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws Committee in writing signed by a quorum of the committee members. The proposed amendment must be presented in person by a member of the requesting committee.
 - 9.1.1.2 Any member wishing to propose an amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws must first present the proposed amendment to the affected standing committee. If the standing committee approves the proposed amendment, the committee will proceed with the procedure outlined in 9.1.1.1. If the standing committee does not approve the proposed amendment, the member may then present the proposed amendment in writing to the Constitution & Bylaws Committee. The member must personally appear to present the proposed amendment.
- 9.1.2 Any amendment approved by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee will be placed in written form and disseminated to the church membership.
- 9.1.3 The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will present the amendment at a business meeting for discussion.

Section 9.2 Notice and Voting

An amendment will be announced three (3) times: at a business meeting prior to the vote, in writing to the church membership, and spoken notice to those in attendance for two (2) Sundays immediately preceding the vote.

Section 9.3 Quorum

Passage of an amendment requires an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the church members present and voting. See Article 7, Section 7.5: Quorum.

Proposed Amendment	Replaces	Rationale
<i>Bylaws</i> Article 3 Section 3.2.1.8 Conflict Resolution and/or Dismissal.	3.2.1.8 Dismissal.	Although the scriptural due process is correct, the term, "Dismissal" is not a good title. "Conflict Resolution and/or Dismissal" is a more accurate term.
<i>Bylaws</i> Article 7 7.1.4 In emergency situations an Exception of Use Request will require approval by any two of the following: (1) Deacon Chair <i>or</i> Deacon Vice Chair and (2) the Pastor <i>or</i> Associate Pastor <i>or</i> Church Administrator.	7.1.4 In emergency situations an Exception of Use Request will require approval by any two of the following: (1) Deacon Chair <i>or</i> Deacon Vice Chair and (2) the Pastor <i>or</i> Church Administrator.	We did not have an associate pastor at the time this was added to the bylaws.

Proposed Amendment	Replaces	Rationale
<p><i>Bylaws</i> Article 5 Governance Documents and SOPP. 5.1 Governance Documents The church will maintain documents that are the framework of our beliefs. These documents govern the way the church ministers to our members and provide the foundation for our mission emphasis. 5.1.1 The Holy Bible 5.1.2 Baptist Faith & Message (1963) 5.1.3 Church Charter 5.1.4 Constitution & Bylaws 5.2 General The church will develop and maintain a current set of policies and procedures relating to all operational aspects of the church. The manual is named the Standard Operating Policies & Procedures of First Baptist Church (SOPP). 5.2.1 Approval These policies and procedures will be developed and updated by appropriate staff, committees, and program leadership to be presented to the church for adoption by a majority vote in any business meeting. 5.2.2 Policy & Procedure Requirements Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, Representatives, Messengers, Councils, and Church Program Organizations will maintain and define their policies and procedures for carrying out their assigned responsibilities in the SOPP. 5.2.3 Place of Record All policy and procedure guidelines will be on file in the church office.</p>	<p>Article 5 STANDARD OPERATING POLICIES & PROCEDURES (SOPP) 5.1 General The church will develop and maintain a current set of policies and procedures relating to all operational aspects of the church. The manual is named the Standard Operating Policies & Procedures of First Baptist Church (SOPP). 5.2 Approval These policies and procedures will be developed and updated by appropriate staff, committees, and program leadership to be presented to the church for adoption by a majority vote in any business meeting. 5.3 Policy & Procedure Requirements Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, Representatives, Messengers, Councils, and Church Program Organizations will maintain and define their policies and procedures for carrying out their assigned responsibilities in the SOPP. 5.4 Place of Record All policy and procedure guidelines will be on file in the church office.</p>	<p>Identify the main documents that govern our philosophy and operation as a church.</p>