

Leadership Council

A. Membership

The Leadership Council provides the spiritual leadership needed to support the congregations and pastors of the Ohio Mennonite Conference. It meets between assemblies for discernment, strategic and operational decision-making, and to set the agenda for the delegate gatherings. It oversees the work of Conference Committees.

The Leadership Council consists of the Moderator, Moderator Elect, Credentialing Committee representative, Gifts Discernment Committee representative, and Stewardship Committee Chair.

A Moderator Elect is elected every two (2) years and after serving a two-year term shall succeed to the office of Moderator for a two-year term. At the request of the Moderator, or in case of the absence or disability of the Moderator, the Moderator Elect will exercise all rights and duties of the Moderator. The Moderator Elect and the Moderator will not be eligible for consecutive terms in either role. All other non-staff Leadership Council members are confirmed for two-year terms with a maximum of three consecutive terms. The Leadership Council also includes the Conference Minister and all Conference staff. Decisions are made by consensus.

B. Supervision

1. Members of the Leadership Council are confirmed by the Conference Assembly and are directly accountable to and act on behalf of the Conference Assembly as authorized by the Constitution or as specifically authorized from time to time by action of the Conference Assembly.
2. The Moderator supervises the Conference Minister.
3. The Conference Minister supervises all other paid staff.

C. Functions of the Leadership Council

1. Ensure that Ohio Conference is accomplishing its vision. Supervise the Conference Minister through the Moderator.
2. Hold all deeds to Conference property and fulfill all legal requirements. The Moderator and Stewardship Chair of the Conference are authorized to execute all documents pertaining to the purchase or sale of property or real estate.
3. Ensure adequate planning in preparation for the Conference Assembly.
4. Organize a search committee for the Conference Minister position and appoint the Conference Minister on behalf of the Ohio Mennonite Conference.
4. Appoint Conference representatives to the Constituency Leaders Council of Mennonite Church USA and Conference delegates to Mennonite Church USA General Assembly.
6. Receive financial or other appeals from denominational, partner and Conference-related

organizations and give or direct assistance as needed.

7. In cases of conflict of interest, affected members will be excused from the conversation.
8. Non-staff members serve as an accountability group for the Conference Minister and may meet in executive session.
9. Relate to Mennonite Church USA as well as other Mennonite conferences.
10. Work to develop and maintain associations with affiliated related ministries.
11. Authorize restricted funds expenditures in accordance with the Restricted Funds Policy of the Conference.
12. Authorize the sale of Conference-held property upon the recommendation and/or concurrence of the Stewardship Committee.
13. Serve as interpreter of Conference concerns, actions, and policies to the congregations, and of congregations' counsel to the Conference.
14. Act for the Conference between delegate sessions. Confirm nominees recommended by the Gifts Discernment Committee for unexpired terms.
15. Approve the proposed annual spending plan and forward it for action by the Conference Assembly.
16. Appoint ad hoc committees as necessary to study, recommend, or assist in matters of program, policy, property, or personnel.

D. Officer Responsibilities

1. The Moderator chairs the meetings of the Leadership Council and shares the role of chairing the Conference Assembly with the Moderator Elect.
2. The Moderator Elect fills the Moderator's role at the Moderator's request or absence and at the completion of the Moderator's term.
2. The Leadership Council appoints a staff member to serve as recording secretary to document the proceedings of the Leadership Council.
4. The Stewardship Chair serves as the Treasurer of the Conference.