

MINUTES
Stated Meeting
COMMITTEE ON THE
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
January 18, 2024
Video Conference

WELCOME The Stated Meeting of the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) convened via video conference at 12:00 p.m. by Moderator Eliana Maxim.	WELCOME
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN LAND AND OPENING PRAYER For the acknowledgment of the sacred ground of our indigenous ancestors, Eliana Maxim shared a video from the Seattle Presbytery. Maxim then gave the opening prayer.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN LAND AND OPENING PRAYER
APPROVE AGENDA [1.1] By consensus the Committee approved the meeting agenda as presented.	AGENDA APPROVAL [1.1]
APPROVAL OF MINUTES MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND APPROVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES AS PRESENTED <ul style="list-style-type: none">• October 19, 2023 [1.2]• November 17, 2023 [1.3]	MINUTES APPROVAL [1.2 AND 1.3]
ATTENDANCE The following persons were present for all or part of the meeting: <u>COGA Members</u> Eliana Maxim, Moderator Dave Davis, Vice-Moderator Stephanie Anthony Joseph Chu Lynn Hargrove Mark Hong Andy James Blythe Kieffer Chenyangu Khonje Leanne Masters	PARTICIPANTS

Amos Mendez
Robin Pugh
Miguel Rosa Morales
Sallie Watson
Bronwen Boswell, Acting Stated Clerk of the General Assembly,
ex officio
Ruth Santana-Grace, Co-Moderator of the 225th GA (2022)

Excused

Ximena Leroux, ex officio: *it was reported that she has resigned from COGA.*

Diane Moffett, ex officio

OGA Staff

Tim Cargal
Luci Duckson-Bramble
Kate Duffert
Tricia Dykers Koenig
Laurie Griffith
Rick Jones
Jihyun Oh
Kerry Rice, Deputy Stated Clerk
Nancy Taylor
Dianna Wright

Other Guests

April Davenport, Legal Counsel
Ruth Gardner, ASG
Ian Hall, ASG
Mike Kirk, Legal Counsel

REPORT OF THE COGA MODERATOR AND VICE-MODERATOR

Moderator Eliana Maxim reported on the

- **2024-26 COGA membership:** With many factors at play and expected changes due to the unification, they are in conversation with the GA Nominating Committee about this.
- **Proposed GA226 schedule:** Only Eliana Maxim and Dave Davis will be in Salt Lake City for the online committee portion, other COGA members will have responsibilities from afar during that time (specifics TBA), however, COGA members are expected to be in Salt Lake City for the plenaries (Friday, June 28-2pm Thursday, July 4),
- COGA continues working on a GA event to honor and celebrate former Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson.
- **Proposed 24-25 COGA meeting dates**
 - Third Thursdays of each month at 12 noon ET to 1:30pm ET (August 15, October 17, November 21,

COGA MODERATOR AND VICE-MODERATOR REPORT

<p>December 19, January 16, February 20, March 20, May 15, June 19), [Zoom]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [in-person] September 24-26, 2024, location TBA ○ [in-person] April 1-3, 2025, location TBA 	
<p>REPORT OF THE CO-MODERATOR OF THE 225TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY</p> <p>Co-Moderator Ruth Santana-Grace shared her and Co-Moderator Shavon Starling-Louis’ plans for a virtual presence at the opening of GA226. Currently Shavon is with the Matthew 25 celebration in Atlanta and will then travel to St. Louis for APCE. The Co-Moderators plan to travel to Atlanta, GA at the end of January to spend time both with the Greater Atlanta Presbytery and Columbia Seminary as well as other engagements and commitments.</p>	<p>CO-MODERATOR OF THE 225TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT</p>
<p>REPORT OF THE ACTING STATED CLERK</p> <p>Acting Stated Clerk Bronwen Boswell shared about her busy schedule including an upcoming trip to Washington D.C. to meet with ecumenical partners to talk with government officials about a cease fire in the Middle East, travel to New York City to participate in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March, Mid Council Leaders Orientation in Louisville later that month, and working closely with Corey Schlosser-Hall to unify the communications teams of OGA and PMA.</p>	<p>ACTING STATED CLERK REPORT</p>
<p>GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLANNING</p> <p><u>Stated Clerk Nominating Committee (SCNC) Report</u></p> <p>COGA Member and Chairperson of the SCNC Sallie Watson reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine candidates applied for the position • Five candidates will be interviewed next week via Zoom • Three candidates will be interviewed in person in March and two of them will be selected to interview in person in Louisville with a final announcement being made in April 2024. <p><u>GA226 Planning Update</u></p> <p>GA Planning Director Kate Duffert gave updates about deadlines, volunteers, leader selection in early March, MyGA (the GA engagement site online), training, in-person Leader Briefing in April, GA Information distribution, extended tech training for people needing more training, and plans for the GA Planning Committee.</p>	<p>GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLANNING</p>

Update on Recommendation for GA227 Location

Kate Duffert shared that a recommendation for the GA227 General Assembly will be presented to the committee in February 2024.

ACTION ITEMS

Recommendation: That the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly forward the names of Tim Cargal, Kate Trigger Duffert, and Jihyun Oh to the 226th General Assembly (2024) for election as Associate Stated Clerks of the General Assembly. [Item 1.4]

MOTION MADE, SECONDED, AND APPROVED

Recommendation: That COGA approve the following persons as Assistant Stated Clerks for a four-year term:

- Amanda Craft, Manager for Immigration Advocacy
- Deb Davies, Manager of Meeting Service
- Ruling Elder valerie izumi, Manager for GA

Nominations

- Rick Jones, Director of Communications
- Ruling Elder Martha Miller, Manager of Ministry

Education and Support

- The Reverend Joshua Hee Joon Park, Manager for Korean-speaking Councils Support

The Reverend Manuel Silva-Esterrich, Manager for Call Process Support

- Ken Tolley, Manager of GA Business
- Kris Valerius, Manager of Denominational Rolls and

Statistics

Teresa Waggener, Manager of Immigration Legal Services [Item 1.5]

MOTION MADE, SECONDED, AND APPROVED

ACTION [ITEM 1.4]

ACTION [ITEM 1.5]

PRIVILEGED AND CLOSED SESSION FOR PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY MATTERS

With all members of COGA (including corresponding and ex officio) and the following individuals:

- April Davenport
- Mike Kirk
- Kerry Rice

MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND APPROVED

To move into executive session to discuss personnel and property issues.

CLOSED SESSION

ACTION

<p>The committee convened in closed session and discussed personnel and property matters.</p> <p>MOTION MADE, SECONDED AND APPROVED To rise from closed session.</p> <p>Eliana Maxim reported that no actions were taken during the closed session.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The next COGA meeting will be February 15-16, via Zoom, 11am-6pm ET both days.</p>	<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>
<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10pm with prayer offered by Vice-Moderator Dave Davis.</p>	<p>CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT</p>

Respectfully Submitted:

Jayne Culp