

Administrative Commission for the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport

Presbytery of Blackhawk
Assembly Meeting
April 14, 2020

The Administrative Commission (AC) for the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport is requesting additional authority so we may complete our work.

Motion to Assembly:

The Administrative Commission formed in November 2018 to assist the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport requests the AC be given additional authority to work with the congregation to facilitate their dissolution, to approve the sale or disposal of all real and personal property, to approve the distribution of all financial assets, and to assist in the retention of all historical, financial, membership, and ecclesiastical records.

Background

The Administrative Commission was elected at the November 2018 Presbytery Assembly and give the following charge (from the minutes of that meeting)

The purpose and the authorities of the Administrative Commission are:

1. To negotiate with the Session and its appointees of the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport and propose to the Presbytery of Blackhawk for its action a plan to transfer ownership of the real property of the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport, Illinois and necessary financial assets to maintain real property, to the Presbytery of Blackhawk, Inc. (Such as, but not limited to: heating, cooling, security, insurance, maintenance, appraisal, attorney's fees).
2. To negotiate with the Session and its appointees of the United Presbyterian Church of Freeport a plan for disposition of the remaining funds after the sale of the real property and all liabilities have been settled.
3. To present for approval the plans described in 1 and 2 above to the Presbytery of Blackhawk, Inc.
4. Upon transfer of the property and the financial assets to the Presbytery of Blackhawk, Inc. to oversee the maintenance of the real property and the financial assets and to take the necessary steps to list the property for sale, receive offers, and present for approval to the Presbytery of Blackhawk, Inc. an accepted offer.

The plans of the church and the Presbytery have changed significantly since the launch of the Administrative Commission. The church is now selling the property to a local congregation rather than transfer it to the Presbytery. This is good as it removes any liability of the Presbytery for maintaining and selling the building. We are asking for additional authority to facilitate the sale of the building and dissolution of the congregation.