

2017

September – November 2017: The communication with the Foursquare Cabinet will begin the fall of 2017 in order to best prepare for the March 2018 meeting. The Foursquare Bylaws give to the Cabinet the responsibility to nominate the candidates for president (7.1.2 and 11.1.3). Therefore, it is very important in the season leading up to an election to provide opportunities for the Cabinet to prepare itself for this eldership role.

November 2017: The presidential selection process and timeline will be reviewed by the Foursquare Board of Directors.

2018

January 2018: The presidential selection process and timeline will be reviewed with the Foursquare supervisors.

A two-year communication strategy will be developed by the Vice-President team and Foursquare Communications.

An initial communication piece will be sent to the Foursquare constituency providing an overview of the two-year plan and process.

February 2018: The Foursquare president will present a prayer plan for The Foursquare Church as it heads into the presidential selection season.

March 2018: In addition to the normal Cabinet business, the Cabinet will also be given the opportunity to affirm the presidential selection process, the presidential job description, and the addendum: “Bylaw Duties of the President.” A special working meeting will be set to create a presidential profile with the Cabinet’s partnership. Ed Stetzer, the Billy Graham Chair of Church, Mission, and Evangelism at Wheaton College and Executive Director of the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism, has once again been invited to facilitate the development of the Foursquare presidential profile.

April 2018: A communication piece will be sent to the field announcing the completed presidential profile, the presidential selection process and the dedicated website for the presidential selection.

May 2018: The Executive Council will be apprised of the presidential selection process and timeline (11.2.2.A). The 2018 Convention provides an opportunity to begin to prepare our movement to participate in the upcoming election. Above all, it is suggested that our movement be called to cover this entire year in prayer.

Fall Conferences: Districts may wish to discuss and/or provide materials to update ministers on the process by which the next Foursquare president will be chosen. It would be especially helpful to remind all licensed ministers that absentee voting will be available and to inform them of the resources which will be provided to assist leaders in knowing the candidates. This step would help prevent confusion in the spring of 2019.

November 2018: The term of the 2018 Cabinet will be extended through 2019, with the addition of those normally elected according to the Bylaws (11.1.1.B), and all of these members will be invited to the special 2019 January Cabinet meeting. This would allow a “seasoned” Cabinet to address one of the most important decisions we make as a movement. The Foursquare Bylaws give to the Cabinet the responsibility to nominate the candidates for president (7.1.2 and 11.1.3). Therefore, it is very important in the season leading up to an election to provide opportunities for the Cabinet to prepare itself for this eldership role. In addition to the Cabinet invitation, the corporate secretary shall provide each Cabinet member with a job description of the president’s duties, a copy of the presidential selection process and the presidential profile (7.1.2.B).

Minister Participation:

Each licensed minister shall be given opportunity to submit the names of two nominees, for the office of president, to an accounting firm designated by the corporate secretary for confidential tally (7.1.2.A.1).

December 2018:

Cabinet Orientation: Those newly added to the 2019 Cabinet will be asked to attend a special orientation process, via webinar, before being seated in the January 2019 meeting. This orientation will include the materials presented at the March 2018 meeting.

2019

January 2019:

Nominee Report:

The accounting firm shall provide the corporate secretary and the board with the names (in alphabetical order) of the 25 individuals receiving the most nominations from the ministers. The number of nominations each person received will be included in the report (7.1.2.A.2).

Special Cabinet Meeting:

A special session of the Cabinet shall be convened in January for the purpose of selecting nominees for the office of president. The chairperson of the board or other person designated by the board shall moderate the session (7.1.2.C.1). The list of the 25 individuals receiving the most nominations (in ranked order with a brief bio) shall be provided to the Cabinet at the special session of Cabinet in January. The list shall not be made available to the Cabinet any sooner so as to protect these individuals from undue pressure. The Cabinet retains the right to nominate whomever they choose, whether from the list of 25 individuals or not (7.1.2.A.3-4).

Each member of Cabinet: Shall review the powers and duties for the office of president and the procedures for selecting the president set forth in the Bylaws; shall be encouraged to pray and fast; and shall attend the January Special Session of Cabinet (7.1.2.B.2 and C). During the special session of the Cabinet, a quorum of the Cabinet shall be established and the number announced. The moderator shall distribute a copy of the presidential selection process (7.1.2.C).

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Nominee Review Committee (7.1.2.D)

Before the nomination process begins, an ad hoc “nominee review committee” shall be formed. There shall be one person from each district on the committee. The corporate secretary shall chair the committee.

In order to elect a representative for the nominee review committee:

1. Cabinet members will gather together briefly with those from their respective districts to elect from among themselves a representative to this committee.
2. The supervisor of each district, or a designee, should chair the meeting.
3. The name of the representative who is chosen will be reported to the moderator of the Cabinet.

The nominee review committee shall tally the votes cast for nominees and interview the nominees. Each committee member must signify in writing his or her agreement to hold all personal information learned about the nominees as strictly confidential, not to be disclosed to any person, including a spouse, without the express consent of the nominees. Anyone unable or unwilling to make such written pledge shall be excused and an alternate selected. In addition, the entire cabinet will also complete a confidentiality form.

Candidate Nomination (7.1.2.E):

The Cabinet shall nominate two or three candidates for the office of president for placement on the ballot at convention. The process for nominating candidates shall proceed as follows:

1. At the special session, the list of the 25 persons receiving the most minister nominations shall be presented.
2. Each Cabinet member shall nominate two names, using a written ballot. These names need not be drawn from the list of 25 receiving the most minister nominations.
3. The names of persons receiving Cabinet member nomination shall be tallied by the nominee review committee, and the 25 persons receiving the most Cabinet member nominations shall be posted, ranked in order from the highest number of nomination votes received to the lowest.

Nominee Review (7.1.2.F):

Once the list of 25 names has been posted, the moderator will dismiss the nomination review committee to begin interviewing the 25 nominees. The Cabinet may continue to conduct any other business it may have while the nomination review committee is doing its work related to interviewing the nominees.

As much as possible, the interviews will be conducted in-person while Cabinet is in session. Otherwise, teleconference interviews may be conducted. The entire nominee review committee should strive to be present for each interview.

1. The nominee review committee’s role is solely to inquire of each candidate concerning these personal matters below (4) to determine if there is cause to disqualify. If opinions differ, a committee vote shall be taken. The corporate secretary shall also vote in case of a tie.
2. Committee members shall not eliminate any candidate based on personal preference, but shall remain neutral and equitable toward all.

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3. The qualifying interview process shall begin with the nominee receiving the highest number of Cabinet member nomination votes, and shall proceed then to the next highest nominee, and so forth until all nominees have been reviewed.
4. The nominee review committee shall ask each nominee the following questions:
 - 4.1. Are you willing to serve?
 - 4.2. Do you or your spouse have any serious health issues?
 - 4.3. Do you have any serious marital problems?"
 - 4.4. Do you have any serious legal or financial problems or debt?
 - 4.5. Is there anything about your life which, if it came to light, could jeopardize your leadership in this office?
 - 4.6 Are you and have you demonstrated a consistent commitment to the expectations of a minister as outlined in the Foursquare Bylaws (such as the extension title and support of FMI)?
5. When the nominee review committee has completed its work, the Cabinet moderator shall be notified, and the moderator shall quickly conclude any business the Cabinet may have been addressing while the nominee review committee was conducting interviews, and direct the Cabinet's business back to the nomination process. The names of those nominees who have been qualified by the nominee review committee out of the list of 25 will then be reported to the Cabinet. Presuming that some names will no longer be on the list, the Cabinet shall then re-vote their preference from the remaining names and create a final list of nominees ranked from the highest number of votes to the lowest. This list shall remain confidential and will not be presented to the cabinet until the March meeting.
 - 5.1. Each nominee shall be given time to pray and discuss with his or her spouse, and/or other trusted friends his or her willingness to serve as president.
 - 5.2. Not later than two weeks after adjournment of the special Cabinet meeting each nominee shall confirm his or her availability to serve as president, if elected. Absent extreme extenuating circumstances, a nominee failing to respond shall be deemed unavailable to serve as president. In addition, the nominees will submit their resume and photograph.
 - 5.3. At the next regular Cabinet meeting, the four nominees who received the greatest number of nomination votes and who have indicated their willingness to serve as president shall be interviewed by the Cabinet.

March 2019: On the first day of the regular Cabinet meeting in March, selection of two or three candidates for placement on the convention ballot for the office of president shall be a priority item of business on the meeting agenda (7.1.2.G). The procedure for this agenda item of business shall be the same as that followed at the previous special Cabinet meeting (7.1.2.G.1-5).

1. The chairperson of the board or other person designated by the board shall moderate the meeting.
2. A quorum shall be established and the number reported.
3. The moderator shall distribute a written description of the presidential selection process.
4. The Cabinet members will be given the names of the four nominees to be interviewed. These names will not be made public sooner so as to protect the families and congregations of the nominees from unnecessary disruption.

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5. Before commencement of nominee interviews, the Cabinet shall determine by vote whether to place two or three candidates on the convention ballot. The moderator shall allow adequate time for the Cabinet to deliberate on this matter.

Nominee Interviews by the Cabinet shall be conducted as follows (7.1.2.H):

1. The four nominees (and their spouses, where applicable) shall be interviewed in alphabetical order based on the first letter of their last names.
2. As a nominee is being interviewed, other nominees (and their spouses, where applicable) shall not be present.
3. Each nominee shall initially respond to five questions. The nominee shall not be interrupted for questions or comments. The questions are:
 - 3.1 Do you fully subscribe to the Foursquare Declaration of Faith (as compiled by Aimee Semple McPherson)?
 - 3.2 Briefly describe your history as a minister. (The nominee may hand out or electronically display a resume, if desired.)
 - 3.3 Have you been faithful in belief and practice to the mission, financial support and polity of The Foursquare Church as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel?
 - 3.4 Describe the role of the Foursquare president, as you understand it.
 - 3.5 Describe four action steps you believe The Foursquare Church needs to take in the near future.
4. Each nominee will begin by answering the five standard questions above without being interrupted for questioning.
5. When a nominee's response is complete, the moderator shall invite the Cabinet to ask any questions they wish of the nominee. A nominee, however, may decline to answer any particular question.
6. When the moderator or a member of Cabinet feels that sufficient information about a nominee has been brought forth, he or she may move that the interview of that individual be closed. The motion must receive a second and a majority vote to be adopted.
7. This process shall continue until all committee-approved nominees remaining from the original list of four have been interviewed.

Final Voting for Placement on the Convention Ballot:

Each nominee shall have (a) demonstrated faithfulness to Foursquare mission, doctrine, and polity as set forth in the Articles, these Bylaws, and the "Declaration of Faith"; (b) a proven ability to understand, appreciate, and lead within the Foursquare movement; (c) a reputation as a person of maturity, integrity, and good moral character; (d) a proven pastoral heart, Foursquare missions vision, evangelistic fervor, and servant leadership; and (e) a record of long-term and proven ministry, and shall have exemplified those core values that have characterized the spirit of the Foursquare family (7.1.2.J.1).

After interviewing all four nominees, for a name to be placed on the ballot a nominee must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Cabinet. Cabinet voting shall be conducted as follows (7.1.2.I):

1. Each Cabinet member shall vote by written ballot for one nominee. If a nominee is a member of the Cabinet, the nominee may not vote for him/herself, but may abstain from voting.
2. If a nominee receives two-thirds (2/3) of the votes, that nominee is approved to be placed on the ballot. Then the Cabinet will vote again on the remaining three nominees in order to ascertain the second nominee to be placed on the ballot and if a nominee receives two-thirds

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(2/3) of the votes, that nominee is approved to be placed on the ballot. If the Cabinet previously decided to put three candidates on the ballot, the Cabinet will vote again on the remaining two nominees in order to ascertain the third nominee to be placed on the ballot and if a nominee receives two-thirds of the votes, that nominee is approved to be placed on the ballot.

3. If no nominee receives two-thirds (2/3) of the Cabinet votes during any vote taken under this final voting placement, the Cabinet will vote again on those same nominees and voting shall continue until a nominee receives two-thirds (2/3) of the vote and is approved to be placed on the ballot.
4. Each time a vote is taken, a Cabinet member may cast only one vote. Between votes, the Cabinet may continue to deliberate to gain consensus. During deliberations, the nominees shall not be present (7.1.2.1).

March, April, May 2019:

Candidates Presented:

As soon as possible after the March meeting, a candidate-information website will be set up which includes biographies, responses to questions, etc. Also, live-streamed forums (webinars) will be scheduled and the dates posted on the website. Names of the nominees so nominated shall be made known to each Foursquare church located in the United States of America and to the members described in Bylaw Article V, Sections 5.5 A. and B. at least 45 days prior to convention (7.1.2.J.1).

Several webinars will be scheduled over a six-week period. It is suggested that a question-and-answer forum be held at Life Pacific College in which students are free to dialogue with the candidates, and that a similar forum also be held with ForeRunners (at a site not yet determined). It is also suggested that two additional forums be held in the two U.S. regions in which the convention is not located. The forums will consist of 20-minute individual presentations, followed by a 40-minute Q & A with each presidential candidate. These face-to-face dialogues with the candidates will enhance the experience of getting to know them.

Absentee Voting:

The board of directors authorized and directed the corporate secretary to implement procedures to allow and facilitate absentee voting by mail for the election of the office of president by the members described in Bylaw Article V, Sections 5.5.A. and B.

Absentee Voting by Mail (5.9.A):

To vote by mail, an eligible member must register for convention and request an absentee ballot, and return the ballot within time limits communicated by the corporate secretary. There is no fee associated with absentee voting for convention. All ballots returned within the allotted time for voting shall be counted by an independent accounting firm selected by the corporate secretary and vote tabulation results reported to the corporate secretary at the same time the tally of ballots cast on-site at convention are reported. The number of ballots cast by mail shall be reported by the secretary to the convention and recorded in the convention's minutes. The results of the election shall be published, and the ballots received by the corporation shall be kept until the adjournment of the next regular convention.

Mail-in Voting Window:

The opportunity would be available for absentee votes to be cast as soon as the candidate information is posted on the candidate information website, and the mail-in "voting window" will be closed on the Friday afternoon prior to convention, since the last opportunity for these ballots to be received will be the

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delivery of mail to the office of the accounting firm on that Friday afternoon. Regardless of when mailed, a written ballot must be received before the close of the “voting window” in order to be counted.

May 2019: Foursquare Convention

Members entitled to vote (5.5):

The members of this corporation who shall have full voting power on all matters considered at regular and interim conventions are those members who are registered for the convention and who belong to at least one of the following categories:

1. Officers and directors of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel
2. Licensed ministers of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel holding active status under the provision of these Bylaws and whose credential fees are paid current at the time the convention convenes or when an absentee ballot is requested. A minister whose credential fees are not current at the time the convention convenes or when an absentee ballot is requested, will not be privileged to vote.
3. Delegates from Foursquare churches: one delegate for each 50 members or fraction thereof from each Foursquare church located in the United States of America (5.5).

Election Procedures:

On the first full day of convention, a business session shall be convened for the express purpose of electing a president from among the candidates nominated by the Cabinet. The Cabinet’s nominees for the office of president shall be presented to the convention body (7.1.J.2).

This presentation will include:

- The playing of the previously recorded candidate video for review by all credentialed ministers
- The voters in attendance at convention are given the opportunity to pose questions to the nominees regarding any topic relevant to doctrine, practice, the Foursquare movement or the office of president. However, nominees shall not be questioned about personal matters since such matters were already reviewed in the Cabinet’s nominating deliberations (7.1.2.J.2).

When the presentation and interview of the nominees has been completed, there will be a time of prayer for guidance and pastoral preparation of the delegates. Following this time of prayer, the names of the nominees so nominated shall be presented to the authorized voters at the convention for vote by written ballot. Ballots shall be counted by an independent accounting firm selected by the corporate secretary and vote tabulation results reported to the corporate secretary. If a second ballot is required to select from among three nominees, the nominee receiving the least number of votes on the initial ballot shall not appear on the second ballot. A ballot that is illegible, does not indicate a selection, or by write-in indicates a person not nominated by the Cabinet, or not received within the allotted time, shall not be counted as a “vote cast” (7.1.2.J.3).

The nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be deemed president-elect (7.1.2.J.4).

The corporate secretary shall inform the candidates of the result of the vote privately before it is announced publicly. The public announcement shall not include the number of votes received. Election results shall be announced to the convention body in the first evening service of the convention after the results are known (7.1.2.J.3).

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President-elect Term (7.1.2.K):

The board shall determine, with the consent of the president-elect, the length of the term for serving in a compensated role as president-elect. The term shall conclude on the day the president-elect is to take office as president and shall not exceed 12 months. The board shall also determine the appropriate compensation for serving as a president-elect. The president-elect shall:

1. Accomplish an orderly transition from current responsibilities
2. Learn and become oriented to the role and responsibilities of the office of president
3. Serve as a nonvoting participant on the board and all board committees.

September: President-elect training may begin now or at any time following until being installed as president, as determined by the president-elect and the board (7.1.2.K).

2020

Fall: New president seated

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