

Manual Appendix 3

Church Relocation

May 2014

1. Policy for Relocating Particular Churches and Sites

- a. Every particular church seeking to relocate a regular worship service to a new location shall inform the Shepherding Committee and the Missions Committee of its intended relocation prior to purchasing property or entering into any binding contracts for the new proposed location.
- b. The relocating church must also submit a written inquiry to the Session of every neighboring PCA church within five miles of the proposed new location (or, if there is no PCA church worshipping within five miles of the proposed location, then the Session of the PCA church closest to the proposed new location), concerning its disposition towards the proposed relocation. This inquiry shall request a written response, whether positive, negative, or requesting further information or consideration. The relocating church shall then submit all written responses received to the Shepherding Committee for its further review and consideration in accordance with this policy.
- c. If a neighboring church expresses concerns or objections concerning the new location, the Shepherding Committee will engage its Session and the Session of the relocating church in an attempt to resolve the concerns or objections and promote the spiritual welfare of both churches.
- d. If a mutual agreement cannot be reached, the Shepherding Committee shall make a recommendation to the Presbytery that it either allow or deny the proposed relocation (in accordance with the oversight and review responsibilities assigned to Presbytery in BCO 13-9g).