

The Diocesan Council  
Episcopal Diocese of Michigan



June 24, 2017 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI  
Full Business Meeting – APPROVED Minutes

**Council Members Present:** Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Andy Anyanonu, Bruce Cann, Lynda Carter, Claudia Hamlin, Clare Hickman, Karen Lewis, Rob Matras, Christopher Moran, Joyce Munro, Jenny Ritter, Imogen Rhodenhiser, Linda Shafer, Geoffrey Smereck, Bill Stech, Felicity Thompson, Roger Weekes, Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Judith Schellhammer (Assistant Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

**Council Members Absent:** Paul Castelli (excused), Steve Chisholm (excused), Steven Domienik (excused), Martha Hanoian (excused), Brian Johnson (unexcused), Traci Johnson (excused)

**Diocesan Staff:** Jim Gettel (Canon for Congregational Life), Jo Ann Hardy (Canon Administrator, excused), Anna Schroen (Director of Communications)

**10:00 – Morning Worship** led by Bishop Gibbs

**Roll Call** – quorum present

*Motion was made and properly seconded to remove Brian Johnson from membership due to excessive absences and failure to respond to communications. Motion passed.*

**Acceptance of Agenda** – approved as written

**Approval of Minutes from May 13, 2017**

*Motion was made and properly seconded to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed.*

**Communications to Council** – none

**Executive Committee Actions** -- none

**Program Staff Visits**

*Jim Gettel, Canon for Congregational Life*

Canon Gettel reviewed a handout summarizing his work, including congregational vitality, clergy transitions, and leadership development.

*Anna Schroen, Director of Communications*

Anna described her work in the diocese, which began with listening to prepare to tell our stories. She has updated the weekly email newsletter which now comes out on Mondays and plans to re-focus *The Record* on stories from our parishes.

**Bishop's Update**

- Regarding St. Cyprian's, Detroit: Since the last Council meeting, they met with Canon Gettel regarding their financial position (\$110,000 budget, \$90,000 rector support) and requested that the diocese pay their next insurance premium. Discussion ensued. *The following motion was made and properly seconded:* The Diocese will pay to Church Insurance of Vermont the premium due for St. Cyprian's from July 1 - September 30, 2017, with the proviso that the congregation will prepare a sustainability plan (that includes repayment of the loan made to pay for the insurance) or take steps to plan to close. *Motion passed.*
- Visits to Trinity, Belleville; Christ Church, Grosse Pointe; St. Paul's, Romeo
- Annual meeting of Michigan bishops

- Regional confirmations
- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Trinity, St. Clair Shores
- Epiphany presentation by Diana Butler Bass
- Board meeting for Ecumenical Center for Christian Learning, followed by visit to St. Paul's, Lansing
- Search Team for the Missioner for the Office of Black Ministries
- Trustees of the diocese
- Province V House of Bishops
- Diocesan ordinations
- Academy for Vocational Leadership graduation
- Handout of dates for Diocesan Council 2017-2018—put on calendar now

### **Property Report**

Bishop Gibbs reviewed Canon Hardy's written report. There were no action items.

Mark Miliotto reviewed a handout regarding insurance options for the whole pool of the diocese beginning September 2017. Church Insurance of Vermont has used their reserves since the economic downturn to keep rates low, but that is no longer viable. Option A provides the same coverage with a minimum 20% increase in the premiums. Option B reduces the coverage in two areas in which we are over insured (diocesan blanket and flood insurance), with a premium increase of 2-7% based on loss history over the past five years. Canon Hardy recommends Option B.

*A motion was made and properly seconded to select Option B for coverage beginning in September 2017. Motion passed.*

### **Finance Report**

Mark Miliotto presented current financial reports for review and acceptance.

*A motion was made and properly seconded to receive the Treasurer's report and file for audit. Motion passed.*

### **Opportunity Resource Fund Renewal**

*A motion was made and properly seconded to renew investment 97-3-45-R16, \$200,000 at 3% for five years. Motion passed.*

**Lunch** 12:05 – 12:35

### **Updates/Committee Reports**

#### Primary Committees

*Mission Budget* – There were no resolutions with financial impact. *A motion was made and properly seconded to accept the Preliminary Budget for 2018 as presented. Motion passed.*

*Tithes & Offerings* –no report – Rob Matras mentioned the need for someone to assume responsibility for this reporting as he will be rotating off Council

#### *Loans and Grants*

The Committee presented the following motions:

1. That a grant in the amount of \$10,000 and a loan of up to \$40,000 be awarded to **St. Andrew's Livonia** for the replacement of their parking lot. The terms of the loan and the designation of the council fund where the loan will reside will be determined by the Director of Finance and the Canon Administrator. *Motion passed.*
2. That a grant in the amount of \$4,600 be awarded to **St. Peter's, Detroit** for the replacement of two steel doors. *Motion passed.*

The entire Council considered a request from **St. Paul's, Lansing**, for a combination of loans and grants in the amount of \$250,000 to support their building restoration required because of wind damage. A

motion was made and properly seconded to award a grant in the amount of \$10,000 and a loan in the amount of \$240,000, following previous practices as managed by the Director of Finance. *Motion passed.* (C. Hamlin and K. Lewis recused themselves.)

*Vital Congregations* -- Clare Hickman stated that the committee has met with Canon Gettel to discuss ways to collaborate.

*Resolution Review* – A written report was distributed.

Secondary Committees

*HR Policy Review* – no report

*Audit* –Mark Miliotto presented the written audit reports for the Bishop’s Fund and the Diocesan Council. A motion was made and properly seconded to receive the reports. *Motion passed.*

*By-Laws/Constitution & Canons* – no report

Advisory:

*Property Advisory* – reported above

*Enrich Advisory Council* -- A written report was presented. Jenny Ritter described a new fundraising idea, which involves the opportunity to purchase memorial bricks.

Other:

*Campus Ministry Liaisons: One Community* – written report

*Canterbury University of Michigan* – written report

**Adjournment 2:08 pm**

Next Meeting:

<b>Meeting Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Agenda/Focus</b>	<b>Location</b>
Saturday, September 16, 2017 10:00am – 2:00pm	Full Business Meeting (includes Final Proposed 2018 Budget)	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI