



The Diocesan Council

Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

June 20, 2015 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI
Full Business Meeting – Approved Minutes

Council Members Present: Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer), Lizzie Anderson, Rae Lee Baxter, Lynda Carter, Steven Chisholm, Don Dersnah, Claudia Hamlin, Clare Hickman, Deon Johnson, Karen Lewis, Rob Matras, Juan Perez, Richard Pina, Linda Shafer, Rob Sherry, Geoffrey Smereck, Rick Smith, Roger Weekes

Council Members Absent: Traci Johnson (excused), Patty Klaver (unexcused), Joyce Matthews (excused), Judith Schellhammer (excused), Bill Stech (excused), Patrice Thornton (excused)

Diocesan Staff: Canon Jo Ann Hardy (Administrator), Rick Schulte (Communications Director)

10:00 – Bishop Gibbs asked for a minute of silence in honor and memory of those who died in the shootings at Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC, on June 17, 2015. Morning worship followed.

Roll call – Bishop Gibbs asked Juan Perez to report to the clergy of the Detroit Deanery that Ms. Thornton had only attended one meeting of Council since November.

Agenda accepted as written

Program Staff Visits

Canon Jo Ann Hardy (Diocesan Administrator) and Eric Travis (Missioner for Youth and Young Adults) each talked about the major responsibilities associated with her/his position. The Diocesan Administrator is responsible for all Diocesan property and works with congregations in this area. She also works on administration of the Bishop's office, serves as liaison for Province V and for the Cathedral Chapter, is a part of the financial checks and balances process, is a staff liaison to the Mission Budget Committee and the Audit Committee, oversees human resources for the Diocese through serving as staff liaison to the Human Resources Committee and consulting with parishes and the broader church, organizes meetings and Diocesan Convention, is a staff liaison to Loans and Grants, and interfaces with congregations for the Standing Committee. Canon Hardy shared a handout summarizing issues that require input from the Diocesan Office, including property (call before accepting donations or giving it away or selling it) and human resources (call before letting a lay employee go). The Missioner for Youth and Young Adults reviewed activities from the past year. Programs offered include New Beginnings, Happening, Nightwatch: Detroit, Diocesan Convention experience, Camp Compassion, Episcopalooza, re:new, and General Convention experience. Young people also participated in three ELCA events sponsored by Living Water Ministries. He also reviewed activities from his office to assist congregations in developing youth ministries. An informative question and answer period followed the presentations. Bishop Gibbs emphasized that no weapons are allowed in our churches and buildings, with the exception of on-duty officers.

Break – 11:12 – 11:22 am

Approval of Minutes from May 30, 2015

Minutes stand approved as written.

Communications to Council – none

Executive Committee Actions – none

Bishop's Update

- Visitations: St. Stephen's, Wyandotte; St. Thomas', Trenton
- Year-end celebration for Whitaker Institute was attended by 100 people

- Attended re:new Conference (drop in visit) and the quarterly Deans meeting
- Visit to Anamchara Fellowship
- Sustaining Pastoral Excellence has become the Ecumenical Center for Christian Leadership (ECCL)
- June 13 – ordinations at the Cathedral: Lynda Carter (priest), Andrea Morrow and Areeta Bridgemohan (transitional diaconate)
- Prayer requests
- List of Diocesan Council meeting dates for 2015-2016 distributed; reminder of September meeting
 - Deaneries needing to hold elections include Emrich (clergy), Lyster (lay), Oakland (lay), Detroit (lay)
- Handouts of summaries of the morning and afternoon conversations at the 2014 Diocesan Convention were distributed for sharing
- Bishop Gibbs appointed The Rev. Bill Danaher to fill a vacant clergy position on the Cathedral Chapter; *a motion to confirm was made and properly seconded, and the motion passed.*

Property Report

Canon Hardy discussed updates presented on the written Property Report:

1. Property of St. Christopher/St. Paul, Detroit: Roof repair has been completed and repair to interior office taking place. Archivists returned to retrieve rector portraits. Will seek tenant for year to year lease.
2. Property of St. Martin's, Detroit: Archivists have collected documents for the Bentley Library and items have been moved to the Diocesan Altar Guild Resource Room. Worship space and two offices are leased to People of the Light Ministries. Five AA/GA groups meet weekly on property. Fair market value assessed at 260-300k. Will begin to market for sale.
3. Property of St. Andrew's, Clawson: Crossroads Christian Church asked for a reduction in their land contract payment from \$2000 to 1300, a reduction in the interest rate from 4% to 3%, and a three-year extension through January of 2020. *A motion to this effect was made and properly seconded; 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.

Updates/Committee Reports

Primary Committees

Mission Budget

Rob Sherry reviewed a written report.

The Committee presented two resolutions with budget impact, one regarding Diocesan Funding for the Justice and Peace Advocacy Ministries and the other regarding Diocesan Funding for the Social Service Ministries of the Diocese of Michigan. The Committee moves that they be forwarded to the Chair of the Committee on Reference with the recommendation that both be withdrawn because the amounts requested are in the proposed budget.

Motion passed.

The Committee presented a resolution to solicit funds in accordance with Canon 1.1.4.2.2 – Resolutions Funded by Solicitation. This resolution reauthorizes the ability to solicit financial support for the Justice and Peace Advocacy and Social Service Support Ministries of the Diocese of Michigan. The Committee moves that this resolution be forwarded to the Chair of the Committee on Reference with the recommendation that groups on the list be verified and with no recommendation for passage/no passage. *Motion passed.*

The Committee moves that the 120 Day Proposed Budget for 2016 be approved by Diocesan Council. *Motion passed.*

Lunch Break (12:12 – 12:45 pm)

Tithes & Offerings – no report

Loans & Grants

Don Dersnah presented a written report.

1. All Saints’, Brooklyn: An emergency request was received for funding to correct a water flooding situation. It was Council’s determination that the email from the Senior Warden constitutes their application. Two estimates were received. The Committee moves in favor of funding the higher estimate (\$6775) since it includes a greater level of work. *Motion passed.*
2. St. John’s, Royal Oak requested \$7800 to replace the steel door of their handicapped entrance; it is the only handicapped entrance and the building will not be secure until the work is done. The Committee moves in favor of funding this request. *Motion passed (Lizzie Anderson abstained).*
3. St. Elizabeth’s, Redford requested \$6000 to repair a leaking roof on the rectory. The Committee recommends that consideration of this request be deferred until their rectory tenancy situation is formalized in accordance with Canon 3.4.4.

Vital Congregations – no report

Resolution Review

Judith Schellhammer provided a written report.

Secondary Committees

HR Policy Review – no report

Audit

Mark Miliotto reviewed the written report from the auditors. A motion to receive the report was made and properly seconded. *Motion passed.*

By-laws/Constitution & Canons – no report

Advisory Committees

Property Advisory – no report

Emrich Advisory Council – no report

Other

Campus Ministry

MSU – Claudia Hamlin stated that there is another board meeting on June 30th.

U of M – no report

Executive Session

A motion was made and properly seconded to enter an Executive Session. *Motion passed.*
The Executive Session concluded at 1:30.

1:36 Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Meeting Date & Time	Agenda/Focus	Location
Saturday, September 19, 2015 10:00am –2:00pm	Full Business Meeting/Budget	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI