



The Diocesan Council

Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

March 1, 2014 Cathedral Church of St. Paul
Full Business Meeting Approved Minutes

Council Members Present: Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Ron Byrd, Claudia Hamlin, Patrice Thornton, Rob Sherry, George Davinich, Clare Hickman, Patti Klaver, Rob Matras, Deon Johnson, Cindy Corner, Rick Smith, Joyce Matthews, Geoffrey Smereck, Bill Stech, Indira Samuels, Jenny Ritter, Don Dersnah, Roger Weekes, Liam O'Connor, Lizzie Anderson, Richard Pina, Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

Council Members Absent: Shannon MacVean Brown (excused), Judith Schellhammer (excused), Rae Lee Baxter (excused)

Diocesan Staff: Jo Ann Hardy (Canon Administrator), Rick Schulte (Dir. Of Communications, excused)

9:30 – Coffee/Tea Available

9:00 – Morning Prayer led by Bishop Gibbs

Roll Call

Agenda accepted with no additions

Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2014

Motion was made and properly seconded to accept the minutes as presented, with the addition of Jo Ann Hardy as excused. Motion passed.

Communications to Council

Sr. Warden from St. Katherine's, Williamston, requested forgiveness of their tithe requirement for January – March 2014, as five services in December (two each on the 22nd and 24th and one on the 25th) had to be cancelled due to lack of power resulting from a devastating ice storm. They intend to make up the difference by year end if possible. Bishop supported the request. *Motion was made and properly seconded to approve the request. Motion passed.* (Father Ron Byrd recused himself from the vote.)

Executive Committee Actions – none

Bishop's Update

- Visits to Incarnation, Pittsfield Township; Trinity, Belleville; Resurrection, Ecorse
 - Resurrection was leasing church space to another congregation; Canon Hardy is working with them to rectify the situation, as they did not secure permission of the Standing Committee and the Bishop to enter into a lease
- Turnout was good for the two sessions of Household of God
 - Thanks to the planning team, Whitaker staff, and host congregations
 - Note that Vestry Days need to take place soon after elections
- 22 of the 23 individuals in process attended Ministry Retreat
 - The 23rd was in Rome for a field placement
 - A total of 58 people attended, including Standing Committee and Commission on Ministry
- Last Sunday in January presented "Role of Bishop" at Christ Church Cranbrook; a video is on the church's website
- Attended Executive Council in Baltimore
- Participated in the Church Pension Group research project
- Met with Lex Orandi group at Christ Church Cranbrook to discuss next steps following Jim Hamilton's departure
- Attended continuing education in St. Louis

- Attended board meeting at St. Anne's Mead (Diocese has interest in land but not building)
- Clergy transitions:
 - Jim Hamilton moving to the Diocese of Maryland to start a new ministry
 - Beth Taylor to become Rector of St. John's, Royal Oak
 - Jeanne Hansknecht left position as Consulting Priest at St. John's, Plymouth
- Prayer requests

Discussion of Diocesan Council Meeting Location

April – St. Katherine's, Williamston, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

May – R. Sherry and G. Davinich to investigate St. John's, Plymouth

June – St. Paul's, Brighton

September – TBD

Property Report

Canon Hardy reviewed a written report.

1. St. Martha's, Detroit – Request approval to begin marketing process, including appropriate consults with realtor and legal representation, to sell church property, including rectory and sexton's residence. *A motion to this effect was made and properly seconded. Motion passed.*

Property Advisory Committee members are making visits with Canon Hardy: G. Smereck to St. Martha's, J. Matthews and G. Davinich to St. Anne's Mead

Finance Report

Mark Miliotto presented current financial reports for review and acceptance. A contribution into staff reserves from surplus will be considered after the audit. *A motion was made and properly seconded to receive the Treasurer's report and file for audit. Motion passed.*

He also presented a draft of the restructuring of the chart of accounts and explained how monthly reports will look.

Updates/Committee Reports

Primary Committees

Mission Budget

Rob Sherry reported that the two mission budget hearings have been scheduled. He will contact R. Schulte regarding how people can phone in to these meetings.

Tithes & Offerings – no report

Loans and Grants

1. A motion was made to approve a request from Grace Church, Mt. Clemens for \$10,000 to renovate the facility for handicap accessibility. *Motion passed.*

2. A motion was made to approve a request from St. Mary's in the Hills, Lake Orion for \$10,000 to replace the boiler. *Motion passed.*

Vital Congregations

Deon Johnson reported that he has met with J. Gettel with several congregations, including St. Cyprian's, Detroit. Also, the committee now has a Facebook group.

Secondary Committees

Resolution Review

Cindy Corner reported for Judith Schellhammer.

Bishop Gibbs discussed resolutions from the Executive Council (Feb. 5-7, 2014) regarding Dominicans of Haitian Descent and Elimination of So-Called "Native" Names that Promote Negative Stereotypes. It is important that people in our diocese are aware of these resolutions.

HR Policy Review

Roger Weekes distributed a written report. The committee members met to review clergy compensation guidelines from several dioceses and are working on a draft of guidelines for the Diocese of Michigan. After review by Council, the guidelines will be distributed for response prior to Convention. (Approval is not required for guidelines.)

Audit

Mark Miliotto reported that the field work will be done at the end of March. The target to finish is mid-May. The report will be available at the May or June council meeting.

By-laws/Constitution & Canons

Geoffrey Smereck gave a verbal report. They met after the January council meeting. They need to add the Election Commission to the By-Laws.

Advisory:

Property Advisory – no report

Emrich Advisory Council

A written report was reviewed. Lance Spencer from Emrich is being trained to do church inspections, due to the impending retirement of The Rev. Dcn. Richard Boulter.

Other:

Ruach – no report

Campus Ministry

MSU campus ministry has returned to the Alumni Chapel for their services. Some members are on a pilgrimage trip to London. The merger with the Lutheran group has helped both groups. They raised over \$5000 in their Pass the Envelope fund raiser.

12:15 Adjournment**Lunch**

Next Meeting:

Meeting Date & Time	Agenda/Focus	Location
Saturday, April 12, 2014 10:00am – 2:00pm	Full Business Meeting	St. Katherine's, Williamston, MI