



# The Diocesan Council

Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

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April 12, 2014 St. Katherine's, Williamston  
Full Business Meeting Approved Minutes

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**Council Members Present:** Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Ron Byrd, Claudia Hamlin, Rob Sherry, George Davinich, Rob Matras, Deon Johnson, Judith Schellhammer, Cindy Corner, Rick Smith, Joyce Matthews, Geoffrey Smereck, Richard Pina, Bill Stech, Jenny Ritter, Don Dersnah, Lizzie Anderson, Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

**Council Members Absent:** Shannon MacVean Brown (excused), Patrice Thornton (excused), Clare Hickman (excused), Patti Klaver (excused), Indira Samuels (excused), Rae Lee Baxter (excused), Roger Weekes (excused), Liam O'Connor (excused)

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

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**9:30 – Coffee/Tea Available**

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

**Roll Call**

**Agenda accepted with no additions**

**Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2014**

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

**Communications to Council** – none

**Executive Committee Actions** – none

**Bishop's Update**

- Attended House of Bishops; focus was “how do we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land?”
- Visitations: St. George’s, Milford; St. Luke’s, Ferndale; St. Matthew’s & St. Joseph’s, Detroit
- Attended Clergy Conference
- Prayer requests

**Property Report** – none

**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.*

**Break** – 11:05 – 11:15

**Updates/Committee Reports**

Primary Committees

*Mission Budget*

Rob Sherry reviewed a written report, stating that the two mission budget hearings have been scheduled.

*Tithes & Offerings*

Rob Matras reviewed a written report. He suggested that we consider some way of celebrating the “Group A” congregations (those that pledge and pay a tithe).

### *Loans and Grants*

Jenny Ritter presented a report.

1. A motion was made to approve a request from St. Clare's, Ann Arbor, to apply for a \$70,000 loan at 3% interest for 10 years. The funds are for staff housing. The Standing Committee supports the purchase of the property and the encumbrance of the property. The Bishop supports the request. There are three funds from which the loan could be made. *Motion passed.*

2. A request was made by St. Patrick's, Madison Heights, for a loan and a grant for \$67,000. The request was tabled pending further clarifying conversation.

3. A motion was made to approve \$58,214 to award to 16 organizations applying for Social Justice Ministries Grants, as listed below. *Motion passed, with appropriate abstentions.*

CCRT, Pontiac -- \$2000

Bound Together, Pontiac – 13,000

Crossroads of Michigan – 5264

Grace, Mt. Clemens Community Supper – 2250

Holy Faith Saline Paper Pantry – 2000

Mariner's Inn, Detroit – 10,000

Messiah, Detroit – 500

OASIS/LGBT Program – 4000

St. Andrew's, Ann Arbor, Breakfast – 6800

St. Katherine's, Williamston, Forster Woods – 5400

St. Michael's, Lincoln Park – 2000

St. Michael's/All Angels, Cambridge Junction – 1500

St. Paul's, Lansing – 2500

St. Peter's, Hillsdale, Free Clinic – 1000

### *Vital Congregations*

Deon Johnson reported that a document to explain our polity will be brought for approval at the May meeting. He also talked about a new quarterly conference, "Requiem or Renaissance," to which congregational leaders will be invited to engage in discernment.

### Secondary Committees

#### *Resolution Review*

Judith Schellhammer presented a report. She reminded us that the resolutions are important because they affect real people. She will be presenting a workshop at Ministry Fair to relate the resolutions to the Five Marks of Mission. She reminded everyone about Resolution 3 from the Diocesan Convention 2013.

#### *HR Policy Review*

There was no written report. Council was reminded that the committee continues to work on guidelines for clergy compensation; they will be presented to Council in May or June.

#### *Audit*

Mark Miliotto reported that the committee will be meeting with the auditor in May.

#### *By-laws/Constitution & Canons*

Geoffrey Smereck gave a verbal report. They continue to pay attention to matters from General Convention that affect us.

#### Advisory:

*Property Advisory* – no report

*Emrich Advisory Council* – no report

Other:

*Ruach* – no report

*Campus Ministry*

Both liaisons reported that they had asked for written reports to be sent.

**12:25 Adjournment****Lunch**

## Next Meeting:

<b>Meeting Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Agenda/Focus</b>	<b>Location</b>
Saturday, May 31, 2014 10:00am – 2:00pm	Full Business Meeting	Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit