

**The Diocesan Council
Episcopal Diocese of Michigan**



APPROVED Minutes of Diocesan Council

December 15, 2012

Full Business Mtg.

St. John's, Plymouth

Council Members Present: Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Rick Smith, Indira Samuels, Ross Vandercook, Traci Johnson, Rob Sherry, Lizzie Anderson, Beckie Corner, Jenny Ritter, Ronald Byrd, Shannon MacVean Brown, Deon Johnson, Rob Matras, Patrice Thornton, Richard Pina, Geoffrey Smereck, Roger Weekes, Cindy Corner, Lisa Gray (CTTO, Secretary) Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

Absent:

Excused: Clare Hickman, Rae Lee Baxter, Judith Schellhammer, Joyce Matthews,

Unexcused: Liam Connor, Dave Sisson (resigned)

Diocesan Staff: Rick Schulte (Record Editor), Jo Ann Hardy (Diocesan Administrator)

8:30 am **Continental breakfast available**

9:00 **Morning Prayer** Bishop Gibbs

Welcome and Role Call

Acceptance of Agenda- agenda accepted as presented.

Approval of Minutes from 11/17/12

Motion made and properly seconded to accept the minutes of November 17, 2012. Motion passed

Communications to Council- none.

Executive Committee Actions

Motion made and properly seconded to affirm the decision of the Executive Committee to grant monies to St. Patrick's Madison Heights for roof repair in the amount of \$8,412.

Bishop's Update

-Bishop commented on his strong opinion on gun control and the current related political process in Michigan and encouraged all to communicate with elected officials this coming week.

Clergy Housing resolutions (Gibbs, Gray & Meech)

-Miliotto presented the necessary housing resolutions.

A motion was made and properly seconded to accept the three resolutions presented. Motion passed.

Property Update Report

Jo Ann Hardy

Hardy reviewed the presented property report and provide highlights:

-Current offer on the Advent rectory.

-\$330k sale price for St. Gabriel's Eastpointe has been accepted and is now in closing the sale, hopefully before Christmas.

10:15 **Financial Update Reports**

Mark Miliotto

Miliotto presented the financial reports.

Motion was made and properly seconded to accept the financial report and file for audit. Motion passed.

10:15-10:30 **Break**

10:30 **Conversation** about *Christianity after Religion*:

Topics-

- Overview of book p.35
- “Diversity is a given, dogmatism is a problem” (p.63)
- “Religious belief is changing and practice is in-flux”
- Faith vs Religion (p.22)
- Religion and spiritual
- How does the church remain authentic and with integrity

Conversation followed sharing ideas generated from the reading and an assignment of reading the next three chapters given prior to the January 26 meeting.

11:30

Primary Committee Reports:

1. Congregational Vitality and Sustainability

Deon Johnson

Deon Johnson invited Ross Vandercook and Jenny Ritter to share their experience of visiting Emmanuel Episcopal Church in an attempt to make contact with the leadership and get an understanding of why they haven't responded to Council's communications.

A recap of their written report was offered and Bishop added his additional concerns.

Conversation followed.

A motion was made and properly seconded that Diocesan Council, following canon 3.1.4.5 invoked in June of 2012 and now, having followed the diocesan canons, mandate the dissolution of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Motion passed with 16 votes and 2 abstentions.

(2/3rds vote of Diocesan Council required, and the majority of the Standing Committee)

The approved motion will now be sent to Standing Committee for their vote on Tuesday Dec.18.

12:00 **Lunch**

12:45

Updates/Committee Work & Reports con't.

Primary Committee Reports (con't):

2. Mission & Budget Committee

Rob Sherry

No report.

3. Tithes & Offerings Committee

Rob Matras

Rob Matras reviewed report provided with meeting material.

4. Loans & Grants

Jenny Ritter

Jenny Ritter reviewed the report provided with meeting material.

Secondary Committee Reports:

- | | |
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| 1. Resolution Review
No written report. | Judith Schelhammer (absent) |
| 2. By-laws/Constitution & Canons Committee
No report. | Geoffrey Smereck |
| 3. HR Policy Review Committee
No report. | Beckie Corner |
| 4. Audit
No report. | Mark Miliotto |

Reports:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| RSVP/Ruach
No report | Deon Johnson |
| Emrich Advisory Council
No report | Ross Vandercook |

1:00 **Executive Session** was entered.

3:00 **Closing Prayers & Adjournment**

Next Meeting:

Meeting Date & Time	Agenda/Focus	Location
Saturday, January 26, 2013	Full Business Meeting/ Mission Budget Conversations	St. John's, Plymouth