

The Diocesan Council
Episcopal Diocese of Michigan



January 27, 2018 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI
Full Business Meeting – APPROVED Minutes

Council Members Present: Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Askari Asante, Bruce Cann, Lynda Carter, Steven Domienik, Claudia Hamlin, Martha Hanoian, Clare Hickman, Bruce Hinkle, Shirley Lappi, Linda MacDonald, Winfred Mandody, Joyce Munro, Katie Oppenheim, Imogen Rhodenhiser, Bill Stech, Felicity Thompson, Diana Walworth, Roger Weekes, Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Judith Schellhammer (Assistant Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

Council Members Absent: Andy Anyanonu (excused), Jenny Ritter (excused), Paul Castelli (excused), Steve Chisholm (excused)

Diocesan Staff: Anna Schroen (Director of Communications), Jo Ann Hardy (Canon Administrator), Eric Travis (YAYA Missioner)

Guest: Ann Putallaz, President, Standing Committee

10:00 – Morning Worship led by Bishop Gibbs

Roll Call – Quorum established

Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2017

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

Communications to Council

Ann Putallaz, Standing Committee President, discussed the episcopal transition. Highlights included:

- Timeline began January 9, 2018 and will end February 8, 2020 (consecration)
- Process will be prayerful, focused on discernment, transparent, and collaborative
- Goal: Discern God's will for the Diocese of Michigan
- Standing Committee's role is oversight
- Council will be involved in financial matters; \$203,000 accrued, both Search and Nominations Committee and Transitions Committee will have budgets
- Both committees will have chaplains and will have retreats to prepare for their work
- Standing Committee has reached out to Canon Hardy and Mark Miliotto to access information from other dioceses
- Consultant is The Rev. Kim Jackson, Diocese of Atlanta

Model Policies for Safe Church

Eric Travis reviewed Model Policies for Safe Church. He is a member of the interim body for General Convention working on these policies. They are asking every diocese to adopt these by January 1, 2019. There are some significant changes, e.g. regarding who needs background checks and interviews and how often. Council could form a subcommittee to look at the particulars. Eric has ideas for specific changes.

The original policies were from an insurance perspective; the new ones are based in theology. Implementing the changes will take work. The diocese must insure that congregations are complying. Congregations are required to do yearly audits, and the diocese must report every three years to TEC. Diocesan Council needs to adopt the new policies to make them policy in our diocese. Then congregations will need to adopt them.

A subcommittee of Council (L. Carter, K. Oppenheim, B. Hinkle) will study the differences between the current policy and the model policies and develop talking points for congregations to use in introducing the new policies. They will explore state law, too, so congregations will have accurate information. Training will be required once the new policies are adopted. Eric and Vicki Hesse are working on the training aspect.

Executive Committee Action -- none

Bishop's Update

- Visits to All Saints', Brooklyn; St. Mary's in-the-Hills, Lake Orion; All Saints', Detroit; Christ Church, Dearborn; St. Aidan's, Michigan Center; Canterbury House, University of Michigan; Church of the Redeemer, Southfield
- Funeral for The Rev. Harry Cook
- Co-consecrator for the new bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Tennessee, The Rt. Rev. Brian Cole
- Renewal of Ministry and Welcoming of a New Rector for The Rev. Chris Johnson, All Saints', Pontiac
- Diocesan ordinations in December
- Ministry retreat
- Province V House of Bishops
- Board meetings for Mariner's Inn and St. Anne's Mead
- Thanksgiving for The Rev. Bill Ericson (40th anniversary), Canon Jo Ann Hardy (31st anniversary)
- The Rev. Harvey Guthrie, former priest of the diocese who relocated to California, passed away
- Upcoming events: Renewal of Ministry and Welcoming of a New Rector for The Rev. Julia Huttar-Bailey, Trinity, Farmington Hills (1/31); Absalom Jones commemoration (2/10); Vestry Days (2/17 and 2/24)
- Regarding the transition, we have a great Standing Committee to lead it. No one needs permission to apply to be on one of the committees. The hope is for the new person to be in the diocese in November 2019 to attend meetings and be introduced. Consecration will be February 2020. Standing Committee will run the diocese in January 2020.

Property Report

M. Miliotto discussed one item on the written report. If the group that has the property of St. Matthew's, Flat Rock, forfeits, the diocese will take ownership.

Financial Reports/Updates

M. 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 – no report

Tithes & Offerings – written report presented by B. Hinkle

Loans and Grants – written report pulled at this time

Vital Congregations – written report presented by C. Hickman

Resolution Review – written report presented by J. Schellhammer

Secondary Committees

HR Policy – I. Rhodenhiser reported that they are working on revisions to present for approval at the March meeting

Audit – visits will occur in February or March

By-laws/Constitution & Canons – no report

Liaisons

Canterbury House U of M – written report; balanced budget in place for next year; five-year contract

One Community MSU – written report; visioning meeting with both bishops scheduled for 2/22

Whitaker Advisory Council – no report

Emrich Advisory Council – written report; facilities updates (beds, mattresses, payments), working with potential new client, consider funding to help with staff (D. Johnson with Canon Hardy and M. Miliotto and Mission Budget to discuss)

Adjournment – 12:10 pm

Lunch

Next Meeting:

Meeting Date & Time	Agenda/Focus	Location
Saturday, March 24, 2018 10:00am – 2:00pm	Full Business Meeting (staff visits: Gettel and Hesse)	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI