

The Diocesan Council
Episcopal Diocese of Michigan



May 13, 2017 Emrich Retreat Center, Brighton, MI
Full Business Meeting – Approved Minutes

Council Members Present: Bishop Wendell N. Gibbs, Andy Anyanonu, Bruce Cann, Lynda Carter, Paul Castelli, Steve Chisholm, Claudia Hamlin, Martha Hanoian, Clare Hickman, Traci Johnson, Karen Lewis, Rob Matras, Christopher Moran, Joyce Munro, Jenny Ritter, Linda Shafer, Geoffrey Smereck, Felicity Thompson, Roger Weekes, Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Judith Schellhammer (Assistant Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

Council Members Absent: Victoria Behnke (unexcused), Steven Domienik (excused), Brian Johnson (excused), Rob Matras (excused), Imogen Rhodenhiser (excused), Bill Stech (excused)

Diocesan Staff: Jo Ann Hardy (Canon Administrator), Nancy McLaughlin (Ministry Developer), Anna Schroen (Director of Communications)

10:00 – Morning Worship led by Bishop Gibbs

Roll Call – quorum present

Motion was made and properly seconded to remove Victoria Behnke from membership due to excessive absences and failure to respond to communications. Motion passed.

This position, a Bishop's Appointment, will not be filled until the fall.

Acceptance of Agenda – approved as written

Approval of Minutes from March 18, 2017

Motion was made and properly seconded to accept the minutes with one correction (B. Johnson's absence was excused). Motion passed.

Presentation by St. David's Episcopal Church, Southfield

Fr. Chris Yaw, Mark Schneider (Sr. Warden), and Len Sackett (Former Sr. Warden) made a presentation entitled "Building Our Future." The church has never had a major campus refurbishment. They began the planning process in 2013 and the estimate for the project is \$1.8 million. They will scale the project in relation to the funds available. Since 2016, they have collected donations and pledges of more than \$600,000 from the membership. They are currently debt-free but willing to take on debt. One of the main goals of the renovation is to expand outreach to Southfield and the neighboring communities. The plans include updated and expanded classrooms outfitted for a 30-child daycare facility that will generate revenue to St. David's. Other aspects of the plans include the addition of a pitched roof to enhance curb appeal and storage, relocation of the fellowship hall adjacent to the worship space, relocation of the chapel to the current narthex to increase accessibility, entryway additions, barrier-free restrooms including a shower for homeless guests, updated organ, and heating and cooling upgrades. St. David's is asking Diocesan Council for \$400,000 in grants and loans.

Time for questions and answers followed the 15-minute presentation. They are willing to do the project in phases, raising \$1 million now for the parish hall and classroom additions and taking care of the other \$800,000 of improvements in future phases. Over the past ten years, their ASA has risen from 107 to 150, and their budget has grown from \$170,000 to \$270,000. The importance of a long-term maintenance plan was emphasized.

Break 10:50 – 11:00

Executive Committee Actions -- none

Program Staff Visits

Canon Jo Ann Hardy, Diocesan Administrator

Canon Hardy reviewed a very useful handout (attached to these minutes) entitled “Administration and the Episcopate.” The first page lists the general areas of responsibility assigned to Beth Rowley, Executive Assistant to the Bishop; Jennifer Michalak, Secretary for Diocesan Administration; and Canon Hardy. The second page is a contact list for the Bishop’s Staff, including general areas of responsibility. The third page is a calendar of upcoming diocesan events.

Nancy McLaughlin, Ministry Developer

Nancy described her work as supporting baptismal ministry of everyone in the diocese. Although it is true that she works with Total Ministry congregations, she also has a broader reach, including working with the Commission on Ministry and with Canon Jim Gettel to support using more of the gifts of people in a congregation during interim periods. She is the diocesan contact for the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. She enjoyed presenting a workshop about alienated people at Ministry Fair. She is working with Anna Schroen to update her part of the website to present more information about the Total Ministry model and to have a space for sharing baptismal ministry stories. She will be working with the new Whitaker Institute director on regional trainings for Total Ministry and with the Academy for Vocational Leadership.

Bishop’s Update

- Visits to St. George’s, Milford; Incarnation, Pittsfield Township; Christ the King, Taylor; St. Matthew & St. Joseph, Detroit (Palm Sunday); Holy Faith, Saline; St. James’, Birmingham
- Search Team for the Missioner for the Office of Black Ministries
- Work as Vice Chair, Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
- Clergy Conference
- Chrism Mass, Easter Vigil with Confirmation at the Cathedral
- Unholy Trinity Conference, Chicago
- Retreat
- Consecration of The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows as Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis
- Ministry Fair
- Continuing education

Property Report

Canon Hardy presented a written report. In addition, there was one action item regarding the property of St. Alfred’s, Oxford/Orion Township. *Motion was made and properly seconded to market this property for sale. 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.

Lunch 12:00 – 12:30

Bishop Gibbs explained that some of the remaining agenda items would be considered in a different order due to the need for some members to leave before the conclusion of the meeting.

St. Cyprian's, Detroit

Bishop Gibbs shared a memo describing a request from the rector of St. Cyprian's, Detroit, for ongoing financial assistance to pay the premiums for property/liability insurance at St. Cyprian's. Upon receipt of the request, Bishop Gibbs, Mark Miliotto, Canon Jim Gettel, and Canon Jo Ann Hardy met to discuss the issue. The congregation last met with Canon Gettel in February of 2014; they have not requested a meeting since that time.

A motion was made and properly seconded to direct the Vestry and Rector of St. Cyprian's to consult with Canon Jim Gettel to "determine what alternatives may be available to sustain the congregation's life and ministry, or, failing all else, to provide for its dissolution" (lines 1498-1500 of Canon 3.1.4.5). Motion passed.

Discussion of St. David's, Southfield Presentation

A discussion was held regarding the presentation made earlier in the day by the representatives from St. David's. As part of the discussion, Council members raised several questions, the answers to which were deemed important for future decision making. Those questions were:

1. The day care: What are the pros and cons of owning vs. leasing? What will the net revenue be?
2. What are the options as far as grants and loans are concerned? Council would like a proposal from Mark Miliotto regarding the possibilities.
3. Can they sustain loan payments?
4. What does their actual growth over the past 10 years look like?
5. Where is their deferred maintenance plan?
6. Does the City of Southfield have assessments that need to be factored in?
7. How would the appraised value of the building change?

Updates/Committee Reports

Primary Committees

Mission Budget – Claudia Hamlin presented a written report. The first open meeting to hear about and comment on the budget was held at Ministry Fair on May 6. The second open meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Lansing on May 23.

Tithes & Offerings –written report

Loans and Grants – no action items

Vital Congregations -- Clare Hickman presented a written report. She stated that the Requiem or Renaissance workshop went well.

Resolution Review – A written report was distributed.

Secondary Committees

HR Policy Review – no report

Audit –The Audit Committee will review the written report later this month.

By-Laws/Constitution & Canons – no report

Advisory:

Property Advisory – reported above

Emrich Advisory Council -- A written report was presented. Jenny Ritter stated that the Advisory Board is working with high energy; they have divided into teams. Reservations are good, and they are reaching out into the community. The Diocesan Picnic will be held at Emrich in July.

Other:

Campus Ministry Liaisons: One Community – written report

Canterbury University of Michigan – written report

Bishop Gibbs discussed his recent meeting with members of the Anamchara Fellowship. The members are willing to help and serve in the diocese where needed. Congregations are encouraged to invite them to discuss disperse monasticism, the Daily Office, etc.

Adjournment 1:47 pm

Next Meeting:

Meeting Date & Time	Agenda/Focus	Location
Saturday, June 24, 2017 10:00am – 2:00pm	Full Business Meeting (includes meet the staff: J. Gettel, A. Schroen, V. Hesse)	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brighton, MI