



APPROVED Minutes of Diocesan Council Meeting

Via ZOOM/Conference Call on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 10:00 am

In attendance:

Council Members: Bishop Bonnie A. Perry, Askari Asante, Bruce Cann, Lynda Carter, Paul Castelli, Steve Chisholm, Toni Dennis, Martha Hanoian, Sandy Hite, Shirley Lappi, Linda MacDonald, Bill Stech, Steven Steinberger-Domienik, Felicity Thompson, Luke Thompson, Teresa Wakeen Diana Walworth, Roger Weekes, Judith Schellhammer (Assistant Secretary), Edie Wakevainen (Secretary), Mark Miliotto (Treasurer)

Diocesan Staff: Jo Ann Hardy (Canon Administrator), Anna Stania (Director of Communications)

Excused: Katie Oppenheim

Absent: Dan Buchin, Bruce Hinkle

Opening Prayer – Paul Castelli

Welcome and Update– Bishop Perry

- Remembrance of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- Introduction of the Rev. Ellen Ekevag, Ministry Developer
- Virtual Diocesan Convention October 23/24, via Zoom, Bishop to live stream proceedings from the Cathedral
- Michigan Great Lakes Plan Update for Worship: continue with recommendation of 10 or less indoors; 100 or less outdoors. May have indoor service at 20% of building capacity, but Bishop Perry strongly advises against it. She also strongly advises against singing.
- Closing Service at Trinity Detroit on September 13. Service of secularization on September 14.
- Participated in service of marriage for the Rev. Anthony and Brittany Estes

Bishop Perry led a Conversation on "Speaking of Freedom: A Letter to the Church on Breaking Free of White Supremacy" — By Episcopal Theologians Kelly Brown Douglas, Stephanie Spellers and Winnie Varghese (The Supremes!) Members were asked to read the article before the meeting.

Financial Report/Updates

M. Miliotto presented current financial reports for review and acceptance. *Lynda Carter moved to receive Treasurer's report and file for audit, second by Martha Hanoian. Motion passed.*

Loans and Grants Committee – Martha Hanoian, Chair

The Loans and Grants Committee reviewed an application for a grant from St. Michael's, Grosse Pointe Woods for a repair/upgrade to their heating and cooling system (boiler replacement). The total project amount is \$26,265. The congregation is also seeking a grant from the Trustees for this project. Following review of all documentation, the Loans and Grants Committee recommended awarding a grant of \$5,000 to St. Michael's, Grosse Pointe Woods, for their heating and cooling project.

Motion to approve by Martha Hanoian, second by Lynda Carter. Motion passed.

Approval of Church at Crossroads Fundraising – Canon Hardy introduced a letter written by the Rev. Teresa Wakeen, Priest Missioner, to the congregations of the diocese soliciting support for the Church at Crossroads. *Motion to approve the request of the Church at Crossroads to send fundraising letters to diocesan congregations by Toni Dennis, second by Paul Castelli. Motion passed.*

Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2020 – *Teresa Wakeen moved to approve as corrected, second by Toni Dennis. Motion passed.*

Ratification of Three Executive Committee Actions – Edie Wakevainen

Council voted to ratify the following actions taken by Executive Committee since the June 2020 meeting:

- **Property Issue**: Permission for Canon Hardy to list the property of Spirit of Hope/Trinity Church, Detroit for sale.
- **Emergency Brick and Mortar Grant**: Give Grace Church, Detroit a \$2,500 emergency grant for roof repair.

- **Housing Allowance Designation for the Rev. Ellen Ekeveg:** Ellen's ministry on the bishop's staff as Ministry Developer began on September 1, 2020. As is customary, housing allowance designations for diocesan staff clergy must be approved by council. Mark Miliotto is asking council to approve the following resolution for the remainder of the calendar year 2020:

Whereas the Reverend Ellen Ekeveg is employed as a minister of the Gospel of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, which does not provide a residence for her, the Diocesan Council resolves that, of the \$28,333 salary to be paid to Reverend Ekeveg for the remainder of 2020, \$10,667 be designated as parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986.

Recognition of Members Completing Their Terms This Year - Bishop Perry

The Rev. Lynda Carter, Steve Chisholm, Askari Asante, the Ven. Linda MacDonald, Katie Oppenheim, Shirley Lappi, the Rev. Diana Walworth, Bruce Hinkle

Closing Prayer – Bishop Perry

Next meeting scheduled for November 21, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Wakevainen

Edie Wakevainen, Secretary, Diocesan Council