

**Minutes of Meeting of the
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KANSAS, INC.**

February 21, 2006

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met on February 21, 2006, in Room 205 at Grace Cathedral, Topeka, Kansas. The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe, Bishop and Chairman, convened the meeting with prayer at 10:00 a.m., using the Propers for the Feast of Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr of Smyrna 156. The Bishop invited prayers in memory of Kay Shank, the Rev Nancy Shank's mother, and the Rev. Ben Harrison, both of whom died in the previous week.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Wolfe
Mr. Michael Morrow, President
Mrs. Linda Bemis
The Rev. Barbara K. Bloxsom
The Rev. James Cook
The Rev. Dr. Donald F. Davidson
The Very Rev. Michael G. Munro
Mr. Richard Norman
The Rev. Ronald R. Peak
Ms. Rogene Schille
The Rev. Nancy J. Shank
Ms. Wendy Sheedy
Mr. Robert Skaggs

Members of the Council of Trustees absent were:

The Rev. James P. Haney V
Mr. Michael W. Murphy

Advisors to the Council of Trustees present were:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk
Mr. Douglas K. Anning, Treasurer
Mr. Richard V. Foote, Vice Chancellor

Also present were:

Mrs. Dorothy Emory, Diocesan Administrator
Mr. C. J. Currie, Comptroller
Mr. Chad Senuta, Youth Officer

Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Communications Officer
Mr. Rex Gaumer, President, Northeast Convocation
Ms. Peggy Anderson, President, Southwest Convocation
The Rev. Dale Plummer, President, Northwest Convocation
Ms. Lisa Adams, Past President, Northeast Convocation

On motion duly made and passed without dissent, the minutes of the meeting of January 17, 2006, were approved.

Mr. Anning presented the treasurer's report. He noted that the income statement for January 31, 2006, reflects that revenue and expenses are essentially on track, except that a significant portion of January apportionment payments were received in February and the line for contribution revenue reflects a \$120,000.00 bequest in the estate of a former parishioner at St. David's Church, Topeka.

Bishop Wolfe welcomed the Convocation presidents to the meeting and led a brief discussion of Convocation Board activities. Mr. Gaumer noted that the Northeast Convocation board members had been working on a responsive prayer that will be used at Convocation board meetings. Ms. Anderson described Southwest Convocation activities, focusing on Outreach and made a suggestion that future Convocation presidents would always be lay delegates. Fr. Plummer discussed differences between urban and rural parishes in the Northwest Convocation and noted an anticipated significant influx of additional military personnel at and around Fort Riley. Bishop Wolfe noted that there will be opportunities to re-vision the Convocations and how they operate.

There followed the reports of committees:

A. Mrs. Bemis asked Mrs. Emory to report on the Community Life Committee. Mrs. Emory noted that minutes had been distributed to members of the Council of Trustees. The committee has offered Episcopal Social Services of Kansas City the opportunity to host a Thursday evening event in connection with the 147th Diocesan Convention in Overland Park. The theme of the 147th Convention will be "Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." All Convention business will be conducted on Friday and the Convention Eucharist will be Saturday morning followed by four Convention workshops. Bishop Wolfe noted that after the current cycle of conventions, the Diocesan Convention will return to Topeka to save expense and to have access to Grace Cathedral for Convention activities.

B. Mr. Senuta reported that the Children and Youth Ministries Committee met on February 11 and participated in a program on "How to become a contagious Christian." Happening No. 76 is scheduled for the weekend of February 25 and 26 at St. Michael's Mission. Mr. Senuta shared a video of the activities at Miqra 2006 held the weekend preceding the January Council of Trustees meeting.

C. Bishop Wolfe reported on the Campus Ministries Committee for Fr. Haney, who was absent. Construction and expansion of Canterbury House, Lawrence, is underway. The

Campus Ministry Committee at Kansas State University is working on a covenant agreement for students in the fall of 2006. The search for campus missionaries has been reconfigured and should be concluded by summer.

D. Bishop Wolfe reported that the Rev. Lisa Senuta is recruiting members for the Young Adult Ministries Committee.

E. Mr. Morrow reported no new activity by the Adult Formation Committee.

F. Ms. Schille presented minutes for the Committee on Aging. Mr. Skaggs stated that he had attended the committee's last meeting and that it is working on an internet presence and laying some groundwork for spiritual nurturing activities.

G. Mr. Morrow reported for the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee. He reported that the Diocese of Virginia has appointed a search committee to nominate a Bishop Coadjutor. Mr. Morrow moved that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of a Bishop Coadjutor in the Diocese of Virginia. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously. He also reported that the ordinations of Mr. Jesse Milan, Mr. Steve Segebrecht and Ms. Sally Wilcox to the Order of Deacons are tentatively scheduled for summer, but the committee will need to conduct interviews.

H. Mr. Taylor reported for the Administration and Personnel (Executive) Committee. The committee has not met since the last Council of Trustees meeting, but plans to meet after today's meeting. Mr. Taylor noted that amendments to the Council of Trustees Bylaws presented at the January meeting require consideration by the Council of Trustees. Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mr. Norman, to amend the Bylaws of the Council of Trustees by substituting language presented to the meeting for Sections 6.1 and 6.2 and deleting Section 6.3. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Mr. Skaggs reported for the Finance Committee. He presented a request from the Southeast Convocation president to exempt \$15,000.00 (of a \$50,000.00 goal) raised by St. Timothy's Church, Iola, to be used to expand its facility and make it handicapped accessible. Mr. Skaggs moved that the \$15,000.00 raised by St. Timothy's, Iola, be classified as a capital fund and exempted from apportionment. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr. Skaggs presented a second request from the Southeast Convocation relating to \$10,000.00 raised by St. John's Church, Parsons, to reinforce the north end of its building. Mr. Skaggs moved, seconded Mrs. Bemis, to classify the \$10,000.00 fund as a capital fund and exempt it from apportionment. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Skaggs noted that the Finance Committee has received a request from St. Paul's, Kansas City, Kansas, for exemption from apportionment, but has not yet received documentation of the request from the parish. He noted that the Diocesan budget review is scheduled for April 1, 2006, which accelerates the budget review process about one month ahead of last year.

Bishop Wolfe relinquished the chair to Mr. Morrow, and the Bishop, convocation presidents and Diocesan staff members left the meeting. There was a discussion of the shared equity agreement between the Council of Trustees and Bishop and Mrs. Wolfe, results of which were recorded as Executive Session minutes and forwarded to Bishop Wolfe.

The Council of Trustees recessed at 11:05 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m. with Bishop Wolfe presiding. Committee reports continued:

J. Fr. Peak reported for the Architecture, Property and Allied Arts Committee, noting that committee chair, Andrew Pitts, is beginning to work to put together a committee. He noted that the Rev. Deacon Don Chubb reported that a Seventh Day Adventist Church in Fort Scott is not renting the Fort Scott property, but is considering purchasing it. He also reported for Mr. Jim Lawing on behalf of the liability insurance subcommittee. The subcommittee is working on risk management and safety inspections of parish properties.

K. Mrs. Sheedy reported for the Stewardship and Planned Giving Committee. The committee will be meeting today at noon to work on its job description for a planned giving officer.

L. Mrs. Woerman reported that the Communications Committee has been successful at recruiting volunteers for specific projects, but is looking for committee members. The Committee is continuing to work on the communications tool kit for parishes.

M. Mthr. Bloxson reported that the Liturgy, Arts and Music Committee met last week and is working on the liturgy for the 147th Convention.

N. Bishop Wolfe noted that Mthr. Shank has recently assumed duties as liaison for the Outreach and Ecumenical Ministries Committee and that the committee is looking for members.

O. Fr. Cook submitted two written reports on behalf of the Congregational Development Committee.

P. Bishop Wolfe submitted a written report from Ms. Reeta Akins for the Commission on Ministry.

Bishop Wolfe reported on several matters:

A. Priorities for the Episcopate:

- Bishop Wolfe has met with the Vestry of Calvary Church, Yates Center. The Bishop and Vestry have located a priest who is willing to serve the parish temporarily, providing a short term solution for ordained ministry in the parish.

- Bishop Wolfe presented correspondence from the Rev. Avelino T. Baguyos concerning the dialogue between St. Christopher's, Wichita, and St. John's, Wichita. The Bishop expects there will be further conversations.
- St. John's Church, Wichita, has feted and thanked the Rev. William Wood for his ministry and has formed a search committee.
- St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Overland Park, has reduced its search to three candidates. Bishop Wolfe has met with two of the candidates, both of whom would be strong clergy leaders for the parish.
- Bishop Wolfe will participate on Shrove Tuesday at the oyster dinner at St. James Church, Wichita, and in the Ash Wednesday liturgy at St. John's Church, Wichita.
- A deacons retreat is scheduled for March 3-5, 2006.
- The Bishop will participate in the General Convention Program, Budget and Finance Committee meeting on February 22-24, 2006.
- The House of Bishops will meet from March 15-23, 2006, and will have the opportunity to interview the four nominated candidates for presiding bishop. Bishop Wolfe will be absent from the March Council of Trustees meeting to attend the House of Bishops meeting.

B. A successful lay leadership academy for senior wardens, junior wardens, treasurers and other parish leaders was attended by 76 people. The training will be repeated in 2007.

C. The Clergy Planning for Tomorrow Conference on February 10-11, 2006, was attended by 14 active clergy and 9 spouses and 15 retired clergy and 8 spouses from the Diocese of Kansas.

D. The Rev. Mary K. Siegmund will begin her ministry as Canon to the Ordinary on March 1, 2006. The Bishop noted that she is already contacting people in the Diocese in connection with her assigned duties and asked members of the Council of Trustees to welcome her.

E. The Bishop noted that the Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that serve the area of the Diocese of Kansas are participants in the Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty. He will allow his name to be used on Coalition materials as well, but has not committed the Diocese. Several members of the Council of Trustees noted that the Diocese of Kansas has previously adopted resolutions in opposition to the death penalty on at least two occasions. After extended discussion, Mr. Skaggs moved, seconded by Fr. Cook, to submit the name of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas as a sponsoring and supporting organization of the Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty.

F. Bishop Wolfe presented a list of Episcopal actions. He noted that there does not seem to be any significant change in the number of priests leaving the communion of the Episcopal Church, U.S.A. during his tenure.

Ms. Schille invited members of the Council of Trustees to “Spread Your Wings in Song” to be conducted at St. Paul’s Church, Coffeyville, on Thursday, February 23.

Mr. Norman reported on his activities as Council of Trustees liaison to the Vestry of St. Paul’s Parish, Kansas City.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned for lunch at 12:15 p.m. with prayer led by Bishop Wolfe.

L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk

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Executive Session Minutes**

Mr. Skaggs noted that Bishop and Mrs. Wolfe had requested the consent of the Council of Trustees to a home equity loan secured by a second mortgage on their residence, which is subject to a shared equity agreement with the Council of Trustees. After discussion, Mr. Skaggs moved, seconded by Fr. Davidson, to consent to a second mortgage on the Bishop's residence to secure a home equity loan. The motion carried unanimously.