

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

August 21, 2007

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met on August 21, 2007, at Grace Cathedral, Topeka, Kansas. The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe, Bishop and Chairman, called the meeting to order with prayers and the Lessons for the Feast of Bernard of Clairvaux at 10:00 a.m.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Wolfe
Mr. Michael Morrow, President
Mrs. Lisa Adams
The Rev. James Cook
The Rev. James P. Haney V
The Very Rev. Michael G. Munro
Mr. Michael W. Murphy
The Rev. Ronald R. Peak
Ms. Rogene Schille
Ms. Wendy Sheedy
Mr. Robert Skaggs

Members of the Council of Trustees absent were:

The Rev. Dr. Donald F. Davidson
The Rev. Nicolette Papanek
The Rev. Nancy J. Shank
Mr. Richard Norman

Advisors to the Council of Trustees present were:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk
Mr. Richard V. Foote, Vice Chancellor

Also present were:

Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mr. C. J. Currie, Comptroller
Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communications
The Rev. Craig Loya, Campus Missioner

Upon motion by Mr. Skaggs, seconded by Mr. Morrow, minutes of the June 19, 2007, meeting of the Council were approved with corrections.

In the absence of Mr. Douglas K. Anning, Treasurer, Mr. Currie presented the Treasurer's report. He noted that approximately \$28,000.00 in apportionment payments due for the period ending July 31, 2007, was received after July 31 and is not included on the financial statements. The balance of a revenue deficit of approximately \$100,000.00 is attributable to delinquent apportionments, primarily for two parishes that have conducted major capital campaigns.

Mr. Skaggs presented the proposed 2008 Mission Plan. He noted that apportionment rates are unchanged from 2007, but that apportionment revenue will increase due to growth in the Diocese and increased parish income. He pointed out several significant changes in expenditures from those budgeted for the prior year:

- The budgeted expenses for Campus Ministries will increase by \$30,850.00 to reflect the priority of this activity in Life of the Diocese and the implementation of a revitalized Campus Ministry program with two Campus Missioners on staff.
- The Compensation budget includes a 3.5% cost of living increase for all employees and merit increases for selected lay employees at Bishop Wolfe's request.
- The expenditure budget for the Kansas School for Ministry will increase \$8,000.00 in anticipation of the school offering courses beginning in the fall of 2008.
- \$40,000.00 has been budgeted as a contribution to the operating reserve to replenish the reserve to protect against emergencies and assist in managing cash flow.

Bishop Wolfe noted that the Mission Plan represents the focus and goals of the Diocese. He observed that the Diocese has grown in numbers equivalent to a congregation the size of St. David's Church, Topeka. After extended discussion, Mr. Skaggs moved, seconded by Fr. Peak, to submit the proposed 2008 Mission Plan as presented to the 148th Diocesan Convention. The motion carried unanimously.

The Council of Trustees recessed at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened at 11:07 a.m. Bishop Wolfe called for reports of committees:

a. A written report from the Stewardship and Development Committee was mailed to members of the Council of Trustees in advance of the meeting. Bishop Wolfe briefly reviewed the report.

b. There was no specific report from the Communications Committee, but Bishop Wolfe noted the continued high quality of *The Harvest* and *Diolog*. Mrs. Woerman noted that

she had provided copies to members of the Council of Trustees of the current issue of *Episcopal Life*, which includes millennium development goals from the General Convention.

c. Fr. Loya presented the written report of the Higher Education Committee. He thanked Mrs. Woerman for her support with respect to communications issues and noted that he and the Rev. Susan Terry had attended a national gathering of Campus Ministers in Seattle at which they reinforced their understanding that Higher Education activities are an integral part of the Ministry of the Diocese of Kansas and not “on the fringe” as they are in some other areas. Fr. Loya also reported briefly on the Diocesan mission trip to Kenya.

d. In the absence of Fr. Davidson, Bishop Wolfe noted that the Community Life Committee is hard at work at organizing an innovative Diocesan Convention that will include educational activities and a focus on congregational development. Mrs. Karen Clowers joined the meeting briefly and reported on Convention activities.

e. Mr. Morrow reported for the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee:

- At its June meeting, the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee for the Diocese of Kansas, approved Mrs. Sarah Knoll-Williams as a candidate for the priesthood. Mr. Morrow circulated approval documentation for signature by members of the Council of Trustees present at that meeting.
- The committee recommends that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of El Camino Real. Fr. Haney seconded the recommendation, which carried unanimously.
- The committee recommends that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Dr. Edward J. Konieczny as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Oklahoma. Fr. Peak seconded the recommendation, which carried unanimously.
- The committee recommends that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Sean Walter Rowe as 8th Bishop of the Diocese of Northwest Pennsylvania. Mr. Skaggs seconded the recommendation, which carried unanimously.
- The committee recommends that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Gregory Harold Rickel as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Olympia. Mr. Skaggs seconded the recommendation, which carried unanimously.
- The committee recommends that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of a Bishop Coadjutor by the Diocese of Maine. Fr. Haney seconded the recommendation, which carried unanimously.

- Mr. Morrow noted that the Diocese of South Carolina has again elected the Rev. Mark J. Lawrence as Bishop Diocesan. A request for consent by Standing Committees has not yet been received, but will be considered on a future agenda. Fr. Lawrence, in a telephone interview, has stated a commitment to stay in the Episcopal Church.

f. Mr. Skaggs reported for the Finance Committee. The committee has received a request from St. Francis Church, Overland Park, which is delinquent in the payment of its 2006 apportionment by \$4,350.00, to give seat, voice and vote to its lay delegates pursuant to the provisions of Canon II.3 and to forgive the balance of its 2006 apportionment. The committee recommends that the request be approved with the stipulation that the parish's financial records be audited by the Comptroller of the Diocese to determine that the request complies with Section 3b of Canon IV.2. Mr. Murphy moved, seconded by Mr. Morrow, to table the motion until the next meeting of the Council of Trustees. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Skaggs noted that the policy on internal control and audit standards approved at the May Council of Trustees meeting includes an ambiguity in policy statement number 3, which needs to be corrected. He asked members of the Council of Trustees to review the policy statement for consideration at the September meeting.

The Council of Trustees recessed for lunch with prayer at 11:58 a.m. and reconvened at 12:35 p.m. Committee reports continued:

g. There was no report from the Outreach and Ecumenical Ministries Committee. Mrs. Adams noted that the last meeting of the committee occurred in May and that the committee proposed a phone survey calling procedure.

h. Fr. Cook reported for the Congregational Development Committee that the committee is still working on defining the role of and hiring a church planter, but that the activity was taking longer than anticipated and that the committee is working on plans for Congregational Development presentations at the 148th Convention. He noted that the Rev. Nicolette Papanek has completed her interim assignment at St. John's Church, Wichita, and has accepted a call as an interim at Christ Church, Bolling Green, Kentucky. The Rev. Darrell Proffitt will be leaving St. Margaret's Church, Lawrence, to accept a call to a parish in Katy, Texas.

i. Fr. Munro reported that the Commission on Ministry has not met, but that Diocesan seminarians are receiving the benefit of informal mentoring by experienced priests in the Diocese.

In Canon Siegmund's absence due to vacation, Bishop Wolfe reported on the Canon's activities:

- He and Canon Siegmund met with the Vestry of St. Margaret's Church yesterday to talk about putting together a search committee and looking for an interim pastor.
- St. Christopher's Church, Wichita, has issued a call and is engaged in dialogue with St. Bartholomew's Church, Wichita, about mutual ministry.
- St. Michael and All Angels Church, Mission, and St. Matthew's Church, Newton, are receiving applications for their respective vacant rector positions.
- Trinity Church, Atchison, and St. Martin in the Field's Church, Edwardsville, are working on parish profiles.

Bishop Wolfe reported on several issues:

- He observed that St. Margaret's Church, Lawrence, is a crucial parish in the Diocese and that he and the Canon to the Ordinary are working closely with the parish in the search process.
- Over the course of the summer, widespread flooding has affected community life in parishes throughout the Diocese and created specific needs in the Southeast Convocation. He will be working to raise funds to provide support for families in the Diocese affected by flooding. Ms. Schille reported on local response to flooding in the Coffeyville area. Bishop Wolfe noted that he had distributed \$5,000.00 from his discretionary fund to the Rev. Jerry Adinolfi to be used at St. Paul's Church, Coffeyville, and some additional funds to the Rev. Janet Chubb to assist at Grace Church, Chanute. He expressed the hope that parishes in the Diocese can pledge additional help to families affected by flooding.
- The Rev. Catherine Caimano has accepted a call to St. John's Church, Wichita; Bishop Wolfe met with her and her husband, Chris, for dinner on Saturday evening.
- Mthr. Papanek resigned from the Council of Trustees effective today. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Diocese, Mr. Morrow moved to nominate the Rev. Julie Sifers to replace her as an at-large clergy representative on the Council of Trustees to serve until the 148th Diocesan Convention. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- Bishop Wolfe expressed his hope that the 148th Convention would be attended by more members of the Diocese than the Convention delegates so that people could participate in educational and ministry activities.
- Death of the venerable James Upton, Archdeacon of the Diocese, is still a healing wound, and Fr. Upton will be difficult to replace. Bishop Wolfe has appointed Deacon Charles Pierce of Manhattan as the second Archdeacon for the Diocese.

- The Bishop talked briefly about activities relating to a parking lot for Grace Cathedral and noted that representatives of the Diocese and the cathedral were preparing to meet with the Topeka City Council concerning this issue.
- The Bishop met with the Vestry of St. Phillip's Church, Topeka, to talk about the future of ministry in that parish.
- The Bishop will travel to New Orleans for a House of Bishops meeting featuring the Archbishop of Canterbury.

There was an additional brief discussion about the internal control and audit standards presented by Mr. Skaggs earlier in the meeting, and it was agreed that the standards would be reviewed by members of the Council of Trustees prior to the September meeting.

Bishop Wolfe noted that Diocesan staff members, including the Bishop, the Canon to the Ordinary, two Campus Missioners, the Stewardship and Development Officer and the Youth Officer, are traveling about the Diocese to provide support and service to the parishes of the Diocese.

There was a brief discussion of the health insurance issue presented in the form of a proposed amended to Canon IV.4 at the 147th Convention. The motion to approve the canonical amendment was tabled at the Convention and later taken from the table to be reviewed by a task force and presented at the 148th Convention. The Bishop noted that the task force is not ready to report to the 148th Convention and that he would assign the matter to the Committee on Constitution and Canons for further consideration before the 149th Convention.

There was a brief discussion of the apportionment shortfall with the expectation noted that the major shortfalls would be made up by the parishes involved.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned with prayer at 1:40 p.m.

L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk