

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KANSAS, INC.**

January 20, 2015

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met at Upton Hall, Topeka, Kansas, on January 20, 2015. The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe, Bishop and Chairman, convened the meeting with worship commemorating the ministry of Fabian, Bishop and Martyr of Rome at 10:00 a.m.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Wolfe
The Rev. Sharon Billman
Mr. Frank Connizzo
Ms. Claudia Geer
Mr. Lawrence Hannan
The Rev. Robert Harris
Mrs. Margaret LaRue
The Rev. Laurie Lewis
Deacon Rex Matney
The Rev. Foster Mays
Mrs. Sue O'Connor
Mr. Robert Skaggs
Mr. Ray Wheeler
The Rev. Tom Wilson

Member of the Council of Trustees absent was:

The Rev. A. Patrick K. Funston

Advisor to the Council of Trustees present was:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk

Also present were:

The Rev. Dr. George Wiley, Canon Pastor
Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mr. C. J. Currie, Comptroller
Mr. Dave Seifert, Missioner for Transition
The Rev. Art Rathbun, Director of Development

Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communications
The Rev. Stephanie Jenkins, Campus Missioner

Bishop Wolfe presented the minutes of the meeting of December 16, 2014. Mthr. Billman moved, seconded by Mr. Skaggs, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Currie presented the treasurer's report. He recommended the following housing allowances for Diocesan clerical employees for 2015:

The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe – 32% of compensation.
The Rev. Stephanie Jenkins – 30.5% of compensation.

Mthr. Lewis moved, seconded by Fr. Wilson, that the recommended housing allowances be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Currie reviewed the financial statements for December 31, 2014. The financial statements reflect a deficit in apportionments paid at \$116,827.80. Expenses are \$62,787.91 below budget, resulting in a year end deficit of \$39,229.68. Payments on 2014 apportionments received after year end aggregated \$47,718.00 and additional payments of about \$50,000.00 are anticipated.

Fr. Rathbun reported on the Capital Campaign. He estimated costs to complete the Diocesan Leadership Center is 4.5 million dollars. He reports an exciting tone in meetings with parishes and convocation boards. Pledges and gifts for the Leadership Center currently aggregate \$1,682,614.00 (of which \$1,290,000.00 is cash). This includes a grant of \$100,000.00 from the Kemper Foundation. At the end of the month, he expects to submit applications to United Thank Offering, the Lilly Foundation and the Luce Foundation for a \$958,575.00 grant for classrooms and supporting technology. He also expects responses to about one million dollars in outstanding requests for donations by the end of the month. Parishes that have not participated in the Crossroads Campaign will have an opportunity to do so. There followed a discussion about publicity about the transition from the Crossroads Campaign to the Leadership Campaign. Mrs. Woerman will provide talking points to Council of Trustees members which can be used for parish annual meetings and convocation board meetings.

The Council of Trustees recessed at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened at 11:07. Mrs. LaRue reported that the Finance Committee has not met since the last Council of Trustees meeting, but has several items pending:

- A contract has been signed for the sale of the St. Clare's property in Spring Hill for \$116,000.00. It is currently in the inspection period and Mr. Skaggs has provided assistance with minor repairs to satisfy contract requirements. The contract should close by the end of February.
- The committee is working on a diocesan audit policy for parish audits.
- The comptroller is working on year end closing and the computer software transition.

- The committee is starting its work on the 2016 Mission Plan.

There followed a brief discussion on functions performed by the Diocese and priorities of diocesan funding.

Mr. Hannan reported that at the request of Diocesan Youth Missioner Karen Schlabach, he has agreed to serve as liaison to the Youth Ministry Advisory Committee.

Mr. Connizzo reported that the Northwest Convocation has elected Myrline Winkler as its president and the Rev. Lavonne Seifert as its vice president.

Bishop Wolfe presented Ms. Schlabach's written report on Miqra 2015. In discussion, it was noted that this program originated in the Diocese of Kansas, and has been implemented in the Dioceses of Chicago, Arkansas and Oklahoma. The 2015 event in Kansas was attended by representatives of the Dioceses of Maine and East Carolina. The Miqra program is an example of leadership by the Diocese of Kansas in youth ministry.

Mr. Seifert reported on transition ministry issues:

- The Rev. Amy Cox has signed a letter of agreement to act as *locum tenens* priest at St. Francis Parish, Overland Park, for 12 months, during which period she will facilitate the evaluation and implementation of specific developmental tasks listed in the letter of agreement.
- St. Mathew's Parish, Newton and Trinity Parish, Atchison, both continue the discernment and self-study process.
- He is developing a process for evaluating several priest in charge assignments that expire during 2015 in terms of pastoral calls or other alternatives.
- He is working with Bishop Wolfe to review candidates for the Canon to the Ordinary position.
- He has had conversations with the Rev. Gar Demo (St. Thomas Parish, Overland Park) and the Rev. Kevin Huddleston (St. Michael's Parish, Mission) about a targeted ministry/home church model being developed by a Lutheran pastor to attract millennials to church.

Fr. Wiley reported on his work as canon pastor:

- He worked with Bishop Wolfe on developing the ordination liturgy conducted at Grace Cathedral on January 10.
- He continues ongoing pastoral care for clergy.
- He continues to work with congregations in transition.
- He is engaged in conversations with Southwest Convocation representatives about parishes in Wichita.
- He has attended Fresh Start meetings.
- He participated in the ordinand's retreat prior to the January 10 ordinations.
- His ministry is part time as of January 1, 2015.

Bishop Wolfe reported on the conduct of Episcopal visitations. The ten largest parishes in the Diocese are scheduled for a visitation annually, and the remaining parishes are scheduled for a visitation every 18 months. Prior to or at the beginning of each visitation, the Bishop has a conversation with the rector or other priest serving the parish about issues that need to be addressed. The visitation typically consists of several components:

- A meeting with confirmands if there are any.
- The Bishop presides at holy Eucharist, which generally includes Confirmation and may include Baptisms.
- There is typically a reception and opportunity for conversation with parishioners.
- The Bishop meets with the parish vestry with a focus on collaborative discussion of issues identified by parish clergy, parishioners or others.
- The Bishop makes an effort to spend some individual time with the parish priest and spouse.

The Council of Trustees recessed for lunch with prayer at noon and reconvened at 12:35 p.m. Mr. Skaggs reported that he will be conducting a mutual ministry review pursuant to the terms of the Bishop's letter of agreement, with the expectation that it will be concluded in May.

Bishop Wolfe announced the appointment of the Rev. Rob Baldwin as Dean of the Northeast Convocation to succeed the Rev. Michael Munro, rector of St. Paul's Parish, Leavenworth, who recently concluded ten years of service in this role. He expresses deep gratitude to Fr. Munro for his faithfulness and dedication.

Bishop Wolfe presented the report of the task force on Reimagining the Episcopal Church: Engaging God's Mission in the 21st Century. The Bishop reviewed the report and highlighted some provisions. He stated that his expectation is that members of the Council of Trustees will read or re-read the report and discuss strategies about sharing the report with Diocesan leadership and obtaining feedback from members of the Diocese. There followed some discussion of the report.

Bishop Wolfe reported that he has had conversations with representatives of Episcopal Migrations Ministry and Episcopal Social Services of Wichita, one or both of which may assume responsibility for EWARM.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned with prayer at 2:00 p.m.

L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk