

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

March 15, 2017

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met at Upton Hall, Bethany Place, Topeka, Kansas, on March 15, 2017. The Very Rev. Foster Mays, President, convened the meeting at 10:04 a.m. with prayer.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Fr. Mays
The Rev. Sharon Billman
Mr. Jack Dutra
Mr. Tim Flynn
Mrs. Margaret LaRue
The Rev. Laurie Lewis
Mr. Stephen Mann
Deacon Rex Matney
The Rev. Andrew O'Connor
The Rev. A. Patrick K. Funston

Members of the Council of Trustees absent were:

Mr. Scott Howard
Mr. Todd Allison
Mrs. Elizabeth Doll
The Rev. Gar Demo

Also present was advisor to the Council of Trustees Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk.

Also present were:

The Rev. Canon Torey Lightcap, Canon to the Ordinary
Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mr. Larry Bingham, Interim Finance Committee Chair
Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communications
The Rev. George Wiley, Canon Pastor
Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller
Ms. Karen Schlabach, Youth Missioner

Fr. Mays presented the Minutes of the Meeting of February 15, 2017. Mthr. Billman moved, seconded by Mr. Dutra, to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Currie presented the budgeted financial statement for February 2017. He noted that at month's end total apportionments were behind budget \$60,271.92; late apportionments were received after February 28, 2017 in the amount of \$28,466.07. He continues to watch St. Paul's Parish, Kansas City, St. Paul's Parish, Leavenworth, and St. John's Parish, Wichita, all of which anticipate delinquent apportionments for the year. Other parishes' delinquencies tend to be due to timing. Mr. Currie noted that there has been no draw this year on the Diocesan endowment, although, \$38,395.00 is budgeted for the first two months of the year. Revenue is generally below budget due to timing. There are some expenditure differences due to timing, including Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, Mission Management, and Youth Ministry. Issues to watch going forward include delinquent apportionments and expenditures for the office of the bishop.

Fr. Mays reported on the Provisional Working Group's telephone conversations with the Rt. Rev. Michael P. Milliken, Bishop of Western Kansas. Other members of the Provisional Working Group also commented. They recommended that Bishop Milliken be called as Assisting Bishop for the Diocese of Kansas for the transition period between Bishops Diocesan and noted that this call has already been determined to be acceptable to Standing Committee of the Diocese of Western Kansas. Fr. O'Connor moved, seconded by Fr. Funston, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, issue a call to Bishop Milliken as Assisting Bishop during the period of transition. The motion carried unanimously.

Fr. Mays provided copies of a proposed Letter of Agreement with Bishop Milliken. The Council of Trustees recessed at 10:50 a.m. to review the proposed Letter of Agreement and reconvened at 11:00 a.m. The members reviewed and suggested editing changes to the proposed Letter of Agreement.

The meeting stopped at 11:30 to place a call to Bishop Milliken, during which he was invited to act as Assisting Bishop for the Diocese during the transition between bishops. Bishop Milliken accepted the call pending execution of an acceptable letter of agreement.

After the telephone call, work continued on the Letter of Agreement. Upon completion of the review, Mthr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mrs. La Rue, that the Letter of Agreement be proposed as amended to Bishop Milliken, and that the Chancellor and the President of Council of Trustees be authorized to make the appropriate changes to accomplish this. The motion carried unanimously.

At 12:00 p.m. Deacon Matney led the Council of Trustees in An Order of Service for Noonday, after which the Council of Trustees recessed for lunch with prayer.

The Council of Trustees reconvened at 12:50 p.m. Mr. Bingham, Interim Chair of Finance Committee, reported:

- The committee had a conference with the Rev. Charles Everson concerning his consultation on Diocesan audit guidelines. The committee is considering a middle

category between large parish guidelines and small parish guidelines and will conduct telephone interviews with some parish rectors before developing a proposal

- The apportionment canon has been discussed in two convocations and discussions are scheduled in the others. In the Northeast Convocation, there were several suggestions that the apportionment rate be reduced to a single rate. The Southwest Convocation reviewed the canon, primarily as an educational exercise. Mr. Bingham noted that adjacent Dioceses conduct discussions with representatives each parish after Conventions and at the beginning of the new year; this permits early intervention with parishes that are at risk. He suggested that the Congregational Development Committee continue its review of canonical amendment proposals to deal with parishes at risk.
- In February 2016, the Episcopal Church Foundation offered an opportunity to the Diocese to become a partner in a Lilly Foundation matching grant in the amount of up to \$25,000 per year to be used for innovative and entrepreneurial clergy activities. It has been suggested that further grant applications be deferred until a new bishop has been elected and consecrated.
- Fr. Mays presented a report from Globe Street Financial Advisors that shows a \$107,000.00 increase in the Diocesan endowment to \$5,123,000.00 over the last month.

Mr. Mann reported for the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee, which recommended that Ms. Bianca Elliott and Mr. Mike Lloyd be admitted to candidacy for the priesthood. Discussion followed.

Fr. O'Conner moved, seconded by Mrs. La Rue, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee for the Diocese of Kansas, approve Ms. Bianca Elliott as a candidate for the priesthood. The motion carried by vote of 8 to 2.

Mrs. La Rue moved, seconded by Deacon Matney, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese of Kansas, approve Mr. Mike Lloyd as a candidate for the priesthood. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mann next presented recommendations for approval for ordination of four candidates. It was noted that General Canons require that ordinations are to be approved by the Ecclesiastical Authority upon review and recommendation by the Standing Committee. Fr. Funston moved, seconded by Mthr. Lewis, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese of Kansas, recommend, and that the Council of Trustees, as Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, approve the ordination of Mr. Greg Doll. The motion carried by a vote of 8 to 1 with 1 abstention.

Deacon Matney moved, seconded by Mr. Mann, that the Council of Trustees acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, recommend, and, acting as Ecclesiastical Authority, approve the ordination of Mr. Clay Calhoun to the transitional diaconate. The motion carried 10 to 0.

Mthr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Flynn, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, recommend, and, acting as Ecclesiastical Authority,

approve the ordination of Ms. Katie Knoll Lenon to the transitional diaconate. The motion carried by vote of 9 to 0, with 1 abstention.

Mthr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mr. Mann., that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, recommend, and, acting as Ecclesiastical Authority, approve the ordination of Mr. Mark Ohlemeier to the transitional diaconate. The motion carried 10 to 0.

At 2:00 pm Mr. Taylor left the meeting and Mthr. Billman assumed the duties of clerk.

L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk

Canon Lightcap presented the clergy transition ministry report:

1. St. Andrew's, Emporia – The Rev. Marc McDonald has been called as Rector. Fr. McDonald currently lives in Flagstaff, Arizona, and serves as Vicar of St. John's Episcopal Lutheran Church, Williams, AZ, and Staff Chaplain at Flagstaff Medical Center. Fr. O'Connor moved, seconded by Mthr. Lewis, that the signing of his Letter of Agreement be approved. Motion carried.
2. St. Peter's, Pittsburg – Position open and advertised for a Part-time Rector. This congregation has been relying on the supply schedule for priestly services.
3. St. John's, Wichita – Canon Lightcap has provided an initial Church Assessment Tool interpretation for key leaders. They are conducting focus groups to gain more insight before generating a search profile. Their Interim Rector is time-limited (5 more months), so they are motivated and now developing a profile.
4. St. Andrew's, Derby – Moving to having a regular schedule of supply priests. May also have someone to effectively serve as interim. Utilizing lay preachers, etc., to broaden their opportunities.
5. St. Luke's, Wamego – Working the clergy supply list and have a solid rota of clergy able to provide supply. Have encouraged this congregation to be in conversation with St. Paul's, Clay Center.

Canon Lightcap also reported:

1. Discussion on Ember Day letters from those in the ordination process since we are without a Bishop. Fr. Funston and Mtr. Lewis offered to read them and respond.
2. Possible internship placements:
 - a. Diane Kruger – St. James, Wichita, Vocational Diaconate.
 - b. Greg Doll – Blue Rapids/Marysville/Holton, Priest.
 - c. Charles Everson – in conversation, Priest.
 - d. Mary Becker – St. David's, Topeka, Vocational Diaconate.
 - e. Bianca Elliott – St. Aiden's, Olathe, Transitional Diaconate, with consultation with Mtr. Mary Seigmund.
 - f. Mike Loyd – Good Shepherd, Wichita, Transitional Diaconate.
 - g. Katie Knoll Lennon – St. Luke's, Shawnee, Transitional Diaconate.
 - h. Jim Cummins – St. Francis, Stilwell, Post Internship.
3. A uniform practice on Distribution of Communion was discussed. Liturgy & Music commission to get conversation going between now and next month.

4. Five, from the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, took the General Ordination Exams.

Fr. Mays presented a list of Episcopal actions taken since February 15, 2017 by the Council of Trustees/Standing Committee acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority for the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas.

Karen Schlabach, Youth Missioner, provided written reports on Miqra and Recharge.

Mr. Jack Dutra moved, seconded by Deacon Rex Matney seconded, that an invitation be extended to the Bishops of the Dioceses of Western Kansas, West Missouri, and Nebraska, to enter into a conversation with the Diocese of Kansas during our time of transition concerning Diocesan collaboration and the efficiency and viability of our respective Diocesan structures. Motion carried. Mr. Larry Bingham was appointed to facilitate this initiative.

Due to a conflict in Bishop Milliken's schedule, Bishop Smith of the Diocese of Missouri will be present for the June ordinations.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned with prayer at 2:35 p.m.

The Rev. Sharon Billman, Assistant Clerk