

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

December 18, 2019

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc., met at Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, Grace Cathedral, Topeka, Kansas, on December 18, 2019. The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom, Bishop and Chair, convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. with opening worship.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Bascom
The Rev. Casey Rohleder, President
Deacon Suzi Drury
Mr. Larry Hannan
The Rev David Jenkins
The Very Rev. Laurie Lewis
Mr. Stephen Mann
Deacon Rex Matney
Mr. Mike Morrow
The Rev. Andrew O'Connor
The Rev. Doreen Rice
Mr. Richard Wilson
Mrs. Myrline Winkler

Mr. Todd Allison was present by Zoom.

Also present by Zoom as advisors to the Council of Trustees were:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk
Mr. Brian Geary, Treasurer.

Also present were:

The Rev. Canon Torey Lightcap, Canon to the Ordinary
Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communication
Ms. Karen Schlabach, Youth Missioner and Interim Campus Missioner
The Rev. George Wiley, Canon Pastor

Bp. Bascom presented the minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2019. Deacon Matney requested a correction. On motion duly made and passed without dissent, the minutes be approved as corrected.

In Mr. Currie's absence, there was no quarterly financial report from the Treasurer. Mrs. Atha noted that, due to the holiday season and weather, there were late apportionments some of

which were received after the end of November. Bp. Bascom mentioned a letter from St. James Parish, Wichita, requesting a procedure to appeal its apportionment; the letter was referred to the Finance and Apportionment Committees.

Ms. Schlabach presented written reports on youth and campus activities and commented briefly on them:

- Bishop's Bowl;
- Leadership Retreat;
- 2019 Activities Summary;
- Count of youth and adults participating in programs in 2019.

She noted that the Diocese has probably achieved market saturation with youth events and that she anticipates an effort in the coming year to determine focus and which activities to prioritize.

Ms. Schlabach reported that an intern at KSU Canterbury ran into the back of the house with her car, causing some damage. She is in touch with Church Insurance Company and the driver's auto insurance company about indemnity. A parishioner at St. Paul's, Manhattan, has volunteered to repair the damage.

Fr. Wiley reported on his activities as Canon Pastor. He visited Trinity, El Dorado, on November 24. He visited the Rev. Shawn Streepy, who is recovering from foot surgery and his wife Marcia, who has had some health issues. He also met with leaders at St. Paul's Parish, Coffeyville, to assist in discerning direction for 2020.

Mrs. Woerman participated on the last Sunday in October with St. Bartholomew's Parish, Wichita, on the last Sunday in the building it has occupied for 23 years. St. Bartholomew's is now celebrating in the chapel of St. John's Parish, Wichita (as St. Bartholomew's at St. John's) and looking for adequate space for its clothing ministry.

Bp. Bascom asked the Council of Trustees to recess to executive session for meetings of working groups. She suggested that the Committees on Apportionment Review and Insurance/Pension Parity meet together and that the Committees on Minsters, Task Forces and Bethany Place Development meet together. The Finance Committee could meet separately at its regular time. The Council of Trustees recessed to executive session at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Geary had another commitment and did not reconnect with the meeting.

Fr. O'Connor reported for the Committees on Apportionment Review and Insurance/Pension Parity:

- The Committees discussed a request from St. John's Parish, Wichita, which is in financial crisis and has previously requested an inquiry pursuant to Canon IV.7 into the health of the parish and whether Episcopal intervention of oversight is needed as a means of restoring the health of the congregation. St. John's Parish's current request is for clarification of the effect of certain actions enumerated in Section 3 of the canon. He noted that the Rev Peter Casparian, who has been tasked with the initial inquiry by the Bishop, has not completed his work and that the questions are premature pending the development of a plan to engage the minister, convocation and Council of Trustees in providing appropriate response. This information has been provided to the parish in response to its inquiry.

- St. James Parish, Wichita, requested a process to appeal its apportionment, which it contends is incorrect due to a mistake in its parochial report. A meeting with minister, convocation and Council of Trustees representatives is scheduled in January 2020.

Mthr. Rohleder reported for the Committees on Ministers, Task Forces and Bethany Place Development:

- The Committees discussed job descriptions for the Bishop's Curate for Mission at Bethany House and Garden and made some suggestions for clarity. Bp. Bascom noted that some language is included because it corresponds to descriptive language for some grants that may be available.
- The Committees also reviewed a report on community gardens in response to Bp. Bascom's emphasis on the ministry of the Diocese in Creation Care.

After receiving Committee reports, Bp. Bascom requested feedback on the working group meeting process. It was the consensus of the Council of Trustees that this process is an effective way of addressing specific issues and should be continued.

Canon Lightcap reported on transition ministry:

- St. Luke's, Shawnee (Rector) – Currently down to two candidates. They will interview them once more and hope to decide by the end of the year or in January.
- St. Aidan's, Olathe (Rector) – Two candidates right now, one of whom may not commit based on the posted salary for the position.

Canon Lightcap also reported on several other matters:

- The Reverend Ashley Mather and The Reverend John Bullock will be ordained to the priesthood January 11, 2020, at Grace Cathedral, at 10:30 a.m.
- The Diocese hosted an Advent Quiet Day on Saturday, December 14th. The Reverend Ted Blakely, formerly of this Diocese, now Rector of Grace Church, Hutchinson, was the presenter. Canon Lightcap thanked Melodie Woerman for her efforts toward the diocese having its Advent Quiet Day.
- Diocesan Transition Minister Debbie Kremers recently represented the Diocese of Kansas at the semi-annual transitions meeting for Provinces 5, 6, and 7. The numbers she sent back describe why we need to always be in a place of active recruitment:
 - Dioceses represented: 23
 - Clergy presented: 15
 - Full-time clergy positions: 57
 - Part-time clergy positions: 98
 - Total clergy needed: 155

Canon Lightcap noted that this will be his last Council of Trustees meeting in his capacity as Canon to the Ordinary. His first official day as Dean of Grace Cathedral is January 15th. He said it has been an extraordinary privilege to serve as Canon to the Ordinary and expressed his gratitude for the leadership of the Council of Trustees in the life of the Diocese. Bp. Bascom led the Council of Trustees in a prayer of thanksgiving for Canon Lightcap's ministry and leadership.

Bp. Bascom presented a request for consent to an episcopal election:

- Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mthr. Rice, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rt. Rev. Mark Allan Van Koevering as Bishop Diocesan for the Diocese of Lexington. The motion carried unanimously.

Bp. Bascom presented a written report of episcopal actions.

Bp. Bascom led a discussion of organization and structure during the interim between Canons to the Ordinary and the process for the selection of the next Canon to the Ordinary. She anticipates a focused and organic search to fill the position rather than a large national search. In the interim, the Rev. George Wiley will increase time in his pastoral capacity as Canon Pastor, staff will meet regularly with the Bishop on a weekly basis and the Bishop will rely on some assistance from Mthr. Rohleder as President of the Council of Trustees and the Rev. David Kent, who previously served the Diocese as Canon to the Ordinary. She expressed the hope that parish conflicts could be addressed at least initially by Minister Shepherds and convocation Deans.

Mthr. Rohleder, who is entitled pursuant to Council of Trustees bylaws to designate a member of the Executive Committee, named Mr. Mann to serve in that capacity.

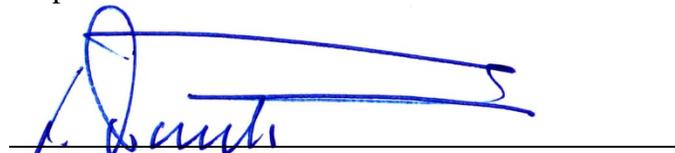
Bp. Bascom noted additional agenda items: the Bishop's Curate for Mission, previously discussed in the working group of the Committees on Ministers, Task Forces and Bethany Place Development and a potential gift of land to the Diocese, which will be on a future agenda.

Dean Lewis reported on two items from the Southwest Convocation:

- The South by Southwest Minister hosted a Way of Love Day on Saturday, December 14, 2019, at which the Rev. Patrick Funston was the presenter.
- She will participate as the Episcopal clergy representative in a Wichita Celebrity Dancing with the Stars fundraiser.

Mr. Morrow reported that he had conducted an online (Zoom) presentation on the Way of Love with about a dozen participants.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made and passed without dissent, it was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.



L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk