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

January 16, 2019

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met at Upton Hall, Bethany Place, Topeka, Kansas, on January 16, 2019. The Very Rev. Foster Mays, President, convened the meeting at 10:03 a.m. with prayer, after requesting prayer concerns to expressed during the noonday liturgy.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Fr. Mays
Mr. Todd Allison
The Rev. Sharon Billman
Mrs. Elizabeth Doll
Deacon Suzi Drury
Mr. Jack Dutra
Mr. Tim Flynn
Mr. Scott Howard
Mr. Stephen Mann
Deacon Rex Matney
The Rev. Andrew O’Connor
The Rev. Casey Rohleder
Mrs. Myrline Winkler

Absent was:

The Very Rev. Laurie Lewis

Also present as an advisor to the Council of Trustees:

Mr. L. Franklin Taylor, Chancellor and Clerk

Also present were:

The Rev. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom, Bishop-Elect of the Diocese
The Rev. Canon Torey Lightcap, Canon to the Ordinary
Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller
Ms. Karen Schlabach, Youth Missioner and Interim Campus Missioner
The Rev. George Wiley, Canon Pastor
Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communication
The Rev. Mary Siegmund, Co-Chair of the Transition Committee for the Tenth Bishop of Kansas

The Very Rev. Rob Baldwin, Rector, Trinity Parish, Lawrence
Fr. Mays presented the Minutes of December 19, 2018. Minor corrections were suggested. Deacon Matney moved, seconded by Mr. Howard, to approve the Minutes as corrected. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Dutra moved, seconded by Mthr. Rohleder, to approve the consent action of December 24, 2018. The motion carried unanimously. Fr. Mays offered as an
update to the consent action that the prospective buyer did not respond to the counteroffer but withdrew the offer. There are now, however, three other expressions of interest in the property.

In the absence of Treasurer Brian Geary, Fr. Mays called on Mr. Currie for the Treasurer’s report. Mr. Currie first reported that Bishop-Elect Bascom has requested that 26.5% of her compensation be designated as housing allowance. Fr. O’Connor moved, seconded by Mthr. Rohleder, that the 2019 housing allowance for Bishop-Elect Bascom be set at 26.5% of her compensation. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Currie next reported on the budgeted financial statement for the period ending December 31, 2018. He noted that apportionments were delinquent for seven parishes at year end, but that two have paid after year-end and a check is in the mail for a third, leaving St. Paul’s, Kansas City, Trinity, Lawrence, St. Paul’s, Kansas City, and St. John’, Wichita, delinquent for 2018. He did not draw the entire amount budgeted from the endowment. He explained variances in some line items consistent with prior discussions during the year, leaving about $40,000 excess expenses over revenues, due primarily to delinquent apportionment. He reviewed the December 31, 2018 balance sheet for Diocesan funds, which reflected total assets of $11,087,650.98, total liabilities of $1,344,241.36 and total net assets of $9,743,409.72. There followed a discussion of balance sheet items. Mr. Currie will provide a list outlining fund uses and restrictions at the next meeting.

Fr. Baldwin presented an update on Trinity, Lawrence, and its Mission Plan for 2019. The Council had previously discussed the loss due to death or relocation of several members who had made significant pledges and Fr. Baldwin described changes in the parish and the challenges it faces. He noted that there is new energy and that people are more engaged and more involved. The 2019 Mission Plan will be difficult based on a current draft that is “remarkably conservative,” but some creative ideas are being discussed and implemented. The parish sees its relationship to the Diocese and the Diocesan apportionment as a priority.

The Council of Trustees recessed at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 11:30 a.m. Fr. Mays presented a request for consent to the episcopal election in the Diocese of Ecuador Litoral:

- Mr. Dutra moved, second by Mr. Howard, that the Council of Trustees, acting as Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Canon Cristobal Olmedo Leon Lozano as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Ecuador Litoral. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Mthr. Siegmund presented an update from the Transition Committee, which is working on several issues relating to the Consecration of Bishop-Elect Bascom. The Committee is working on:

- Mr. David Schlomer, co-chair of the Transition Committee, has raised $3,000.00 for Consecration gifts toward his goal of $7,000.00.
- Council of Trustees members and Diocesan staff are invited to the Friday night dinner for the Bishop-elect, the Presiding Bishop and attending Bishops and guests. Spouses cannot be accommodated, but the dinner will be followed by an cash bar reception for all members of the Diocese.
- The Transition Committee has investigated providing shuttle service from remote parking for the Consecration. After discussion, Fr. O’Connor moved, seconded by Mthr. Rohleder, to authorize the Committee to arrange parking, perhaps at the
Kansas Judicial Center, and shuttle busses through Topeka Transit at a cost not to exceed $1,300.00. The motion carried unanimously.

At 12:00 noon, Mr. Dutra led the Council of Trustees in an Order of Service for Noonday, after which the Council of Trustees recessed for lunch. The Council of Trustees reconvened at 12:40 p.m. Mr. Currie reported for the Finance Committee, which met on Wednesday of last week:

- The Committee discussed late and delinquent apportionments.
- The Committee discussed parish audit requirements and a revised audit protocol.
- Mr. Currie will provide the monthly Report of Budgeted Financial Statement and a balance sheet of assets and liabilities to the Council of Trustees. It was agreed that the balance sheet could be provided quarterly.
- The Committee also discussed the financial status of St. Paul’s, Kansas City.

There followed an extended discussion of St. Paul’s, Kansas City.

Ms. Schlabach presented a written 2018 Youth & Campus Ministry Summary. She noted that Miqra and the new Mini-Miqra event for college students are scheduled for next weekend. Because of weather projections, she will be offering attendees three options to the normal schedule:

- Come to the event on Friday night before severe weather occurs.
- Come to the event between 1 and 4 p.m. on Saturday with an adjusted schedule of important events.
- Cancel attendance for a refund.

Ms. Schlabach presented requests for exemption from the Safe Church Policy from the Rev. Gar Demo, Rector of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Overland Park, relating to its Parents Day Out program:

- Since the parish hires state licensed staff for the program, it is requesting exemption from further background checks beyond that required for state licensing.
- Since program staff receive state required training, it is requesting exemption from the Safe Church training requirements.

Members of the Council of Trustees felt that more information, including an examination of local record keeping, is needed. Fr. Mays will discuss these issues with Fr. Demo and report to the Council. It was also noted that Safe Church training includes a theological component absent from the training required for state licensing. Ms. Schlabach noted that Fr. Demo also had questions about background checks for youth involved in programming and for a variety of ministry participants for whom the new policy now imposes requirements. Fr. Mays will also discuss these issues with Fr. Demo.

Fr. Wiley reported on his activities as Canon Pastor, including checks on clergy, checks on lay leaders in parishes without full-time clergy and his ministry to retired clergy and surviving spouses.

Canon Lightcap reported on transition ministry:

- Church of the Covenant, Junction City – Actively searching for a Priest-In-Charge. Their OTM portfolio is now available online and they are in recruitment mode. Have done one initial interview at the diocesan level with follow-up needed and taken a few other resumes.
- Saint Michael and All Angels, Mission – OTM profile now available. Parish profile went live yesterday on SMAA web site. The Canon is actively recruiting on behalf of the
parish and preparing to send the first batch of names. The Canon will be working with the search committee on interviewing competencies with clergy.

- Grace Cathedral, Topeka – Working with consultant David Seifert who is in touch with the Bishop-elect.
- Grace, Chanute – Rev. Helen Hoch continues to offer supply.
- St. Margaret’s, Lawrence – Now offering OTM profile and accepting/reviewing names while continuing with Charles Granger as a Locum Tenens priest. We are currently looking at two individuals.
- St. Paul’s, Leavenworth – Continues in development with search committee and profile creation.

Canon Lightcap noted that he was ill starting December 24th through the end of last week. Anyone who asked for assistance with something and has not heard back from him, should resend the request. He asked Mthr. Rohleder to report out on Iona Collaborative relationship with BKSM through current/former seminarians. BKSM has been written into a grant on “Thriving in Bi-Vocational Ministry” and four applications for training have been made and accepted. Canon Lightcap will soon be collaborating with Bishop-elect Bascom and Archdeacons to place ordinands during their one year of internship. Canon Lightcap and BKSM Dean Don Compier have started a conversation with the Diocese of Oklahoma around a pilgrimage related to racial reconciliation and the Tulsa race riots of 1921. We would like to build a real educational opportunity around it.

Canon Lightcap requested that Deacon Mary Becker be designated Diocesan Disaster Relief Coordinator. On motion by Fr. O’Connor, seconded by Mthr. Rohleder, and passed unanimously, the request was approved.

Bishop-Elect Bascom presented a written report on her activities since January 6, 2019 in a format that follows the Diocesan profile and her Letter of Agreement and discussion followed. She noted that she intends to follow Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s priorities, which are evangelism, racial reconciliation (which she suggested included economic justice) and creation care. Canon Lightcap suggested that the Liturgy, Arts and Music and the Congregational Development Commissions be re-vitalized.

Fr. Mays requested approval of the appointment of Mrs. Sue O’Connor to the Vestry/Bishop’s Committee of St. Timothy’s, Iola. Mthr. Billman moved, seconded by Mr. Howard that the Council of Trustees, acting as the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, approve the appointment of Mrs. Sue O’Connor to the Vestry/Bishop’s Committee of St. Timothy’s, Iola. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Fr. Mays asked Deacon Drury to dismiss the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk