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

July 17, 2019

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc. met at Upton Hall, Bethany Place, Topeka, Kansas, on July 17, 2019. The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Chittenden Bascom, Bishop and Chair, convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. with reflection on the Rt. Rev. William White, First Presiding Bishop, in preparation for the election of a new President of the Council and prayer for the election.

Members of the Council of Trustees present were:

Bishop Bascom
Mr. Todd Allison
Mrs. Elizabeth Doll
Deacon Suzi Drury
Mr. Jack Dutra
Mr. Tim Flynn
The Rev. David Jenkins
The Very Rev. Laurie Lewis
Mr. Stephen Mann
Deacon Rex Matney
The Rev. Andrew O'Connor
The Rev. Casey Rohleder
Mrs. Myrline Winkler

Council of Trustees members absent were:

The Rev. Sharon Billman
Mr. Scott Howard

Also present as advisors to the Council of Trustees were:

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

Also present were:

Mrs. Jeanne Atha, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller
Mrs. Melodie Woerman, Director of Communication
The Rev. George Wiley, Canon Pastor and Chaplain to Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses
Ms. Michael Funston, Associate for Youth and Campus Ministry
Bp. Bascom presented the Minutes of May 15, 2019. Corrections were noted and Mthr. Rohleder moved, seconded by Fr. O’Connor, to approve the Minutes as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

Bp. Bascom called on Mr. Currie for the Treasurer’s report. He reported on the financial statements for the end of the second quarter of 2019. The balance sheet reflects that cash is low and he will probably draw the budgeted payment from endowment income in August. The investment portfolio has done well, and the value of the endowment is about $6.7 million. Apportionment payments are consistent with recent history. The operating income statement reflects a shortage of $32,455.53, primarily due to timing. The budget payment to Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, a computer contract and funding of health savings accounts were paid in advance and some Bishop transition costs were paid in 2019 rather than in 2018. He projects that the income statement will track with budget as the year progresses. The most significant change to the endowment income statement in the addition of the Cooper bequest in the amount of $117,373.91 to the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry.

Bp. Bascom presented requests for consent to several episcopal elections:
- Mr. Dutra moved, seconded by Mr. Allison, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Dr. Jonathan H. Folts as Bishop Diocesan for the Diocese of South Dakota. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Allison moved, seconded by Mthr. Rohleder, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Vermont. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mthr. Rohleder moved, seconded by Deacon Drury, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Michigan. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Mann moved, seconded by Mr. Dutra, that the Council of Trustees, acting as the standing committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Canon Lucinda Ashby as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of El Camino Real. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Geary reported that the Finance Committee met on July 16 and needs to add members. He also reported that the 2020 Mission Plan has now been provided to the Council of Trustees and to Convocation Boards. He will email Convocation Deans and Presidents again to request their feedback on behalf of the Convocations prior to the August Council of Trustees meeting. Mr. Geary left the meeting.

Ms. Funston presented written reports on Mega Camp, Mini Camp, Happening #94 and Mission Wichita, which were discussed by the Council of Trustees. Bishop Bascom thanked Fr. O’Connor and Good Shepherd Parish, Wichita, for accommodating Diocesan youth events. Fr./O’Connor noted that he is impressed with youth work in the Diocese, including the dedication of leadership and youth activities that foster spiritual formation in real time. There followed a discussion of the quality of camp activities and the development of young adults with a sense of call. Ms. Funston also presented a written report on Youth and Campus Ministry.
Fr. Wiley reported on his activities as Canon Pastor and Chaplain to Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses:

- He and his wife Kay hosted the Rev. Peter Munson of the Diocese of Colorado for two days during his walk across the United States to raise funds for children’s charities.
- He and Kay hosted a light dinner attended by 18 people for clergy with connection to Trinity Parish, Lawrence.
- He had the opportunity to talk with the Rev Foster Mays about his new opportunity in ministry as he was waiting in line at the Ohio Department of Motor Vehicles.
- He has had conversations with newly ordained interns, all of whom appear to be doing well.

Mr. Mann reported on the Alleluia Grant Fund:

- The Easter season fund raising appeal raised $5,701.00 after expenses.
- Grant applications are due August 16, 2019.

Mthr. Rohleder reported that 12 new students attended orientation for Bishop Kemper School for Ministry on the weekend of July 13-14. The new students represented all four participating Dioceses and the Central States Synod of the ELCA and all levels of ministry.

Deacon Matney thanked Mthr. Lewis for her assistance with support for a parishioner from Church of the Covenant, Junction City, on the occasion of back surgery.

At 11:30 a.m., Deacon Drury 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 12:15 p.m.

Bishop Bascom called for nominations for President of the Council of Trustees. Mthr. Lewis nominated Mthr. Rohleder. Mrs. Winkler moved that nominations cease and that Mthr. Rohleder be elected by acclamation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

In the absence of Canon Lightcap, who is on vacation, Bp. Bascom presented the Canon’s report on Clergy Transition Ministry:

- Church of the Covenant, Junction City (Priest-In-Charge) – The Rev. Doreen Rice has been selected and had a Letter of Agreement reviewed and signed.
- Saint Michael and All Angels, Mission (Rector) – The Rev. David Cox has been selected and had a Letter of Agreement reviewed and signed.
- Grace Cathedral, Topeka (Dean) – Profile information (both parish profile and OTM profile) has been made available to the congregation and the church at large, and recruitment now begins in earnest.
- Grace, Chanute (priest) – No change since last report.
- St. Margaret’s, Lawrence (Rector) – The Rev. Marco Serrano has been selected and had a Letter of Agreement reviewed and signed.
- St. Paul’s, Leavenworth (Priest-In-Charge) – The Rev. Steve Lipscomb has been selected and had a Letter of Agreement reviewed and signed. A second Letter, expressing appointment by Bishop Bascom as the Senior Pastor of the proposed KC North Minster, is being looked at.
• Four new openings since May Council of Trustees meeting:
  a. Epiphany, Sedan (Rector) – Looking for supply assistance.
  b. St. Francis, Overland Park (Vicar) – Looking for supply assistance.

Bishop Bascom also reported that Canon Lightcap is working with Rev. John Bullock at St. Aidan’s, Olathe, since Rev. Shawn Streepy retired July 1. The Canon will be there 13 Sundays between July 7 and December 22; John will be there 17 Sundays. They will share liturgical and preaching responsibilities with the Canon supervising. John will also be mentored by Kelly Demo.

The Bishop also reported that the diocesan Board of Examining Chaplains and the Commission on Ministry have been working with Bishop Bascom to create a new process that will help our candidates for Deacon be hopefully even more prepared for serving congregations once they leave BKSM. They will be asked to assemble portfolios of their work while at BKSM and to write three papers talking about what they have learned and how they see integrating that knowledge into their future ministries.

Fr. O’Connor asked about Deacon Ashley Mather, who is an intern at Grace Cathedral, in the absence of a Dean. The Bishop noted that she and Mthr. Rohleder are both providing mentoring for Deacon Mather.

Fr. O’Connor, Chair of the Commission on Ministry, noted that a shepherd (from the Commission on Ministry) and a chaplain (from the Board of Examining Chaplains) are working with candidates to address issues suggested by General Ordination Examinations, including a transition program for existing candidates.

Mthr. Lewis noted that Mthr. Kathy Swain has completed her internship at St. Jude’s Parish, Wellington, and is now assigned to Grace Parish, Winfield. Mthr. Lewis also noted that she will be beginning a ten-week sabbatical leave after the meeting.

Bishop Bascom presented her written report on Episcopal actions since the last Council of Trustees meeting and a written report on her activities by call area as listed in her letter of agreement; the Council of Trustees had a brief discussion of her reports. She also reported several applications for discernment, seed and growth Mission Enterprise Zone grants:
  • A discernment grant for Bethany House supporting creation care and a possible community garden and partnering with a shelter for victims of domestic violence in Kenya.
  • A discernment grant for the minster project for organization of the Diocese.
  • A growth grant for St. Paul’s Parish, Kansas City, to extend its activities with leverage from the use of its Rectory.

There followed an extended discussion of the potential for grant funding.

The Council of Trustees went off the record to conduct a confidential discussion of personnel issues. The Council of Trustees recessed at 2:00 p.m. to allow setup for an electronic presentation. At 2:05, Mthr. Lewis presented an advertisement prepared by the national church
at the request of members of the Southwest Convocation to be televised as a part of an advertising package purchased at a charity auction for use in Wichita. The advertisement is available for use elsewhere in the Diocese.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned with a dismissal by Deacon Matney at 2:17 p.m.

L. Franklin Taylor, Clerk