

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EASTERN OREGON
DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting
August 9-10, 2013
First Presbyterian Church, Bend, Oregon

PRESENT:

The Rt. Rev. Bavi "Nedi" Rivera, Bishop

Class of 2013

The Rev. Anna Carmichael, S/C
Charles Cagle
Ruth Tsu
The Rev. Kathy Macek

Class of 2015

Ann Havill, S/C
Doug Boone
Karla Nash

Class of 2014

The Rev. Jim Mosier, S/C
Kim McClain, Class of 2014
The Rev. Rich Landrith

Ex-Officio

Doug Harder, Secretary of Convention
Jerry Frazier, Treasurer

Seat & Voice

Diane Adams, Secretary to Council
Neva DeMayo, Ecumenical Associate Member
Bergen Bull, Legal Advisor to the Bishop

Visitors

Jeanie Senior, Diocesan Communications Manager
Patty Lindsey, Ascension School Executive Director
Lisa Boquist, Ascension School Hospitality Manager

ABSENT

Laurance Kerr, S/C, class of 2013- excused
Julie Sarazin, S/C, class of 2014 - excused
The Rev. Dan Lediard, Class of 2015 - excused

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Friday, August 9, 2013

A Standing Committee meeting preceded the Diocesan Council meeting. The Diocesan Council meeting began at 5 p.m. with Evening Prayer lead by Ann Havill.

Doug Harder reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Rich Landrith **moved** to approve the agenda; **seconded** and **passed**.

Charles Cagle **moved** to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2013 meeting; **seconded** and **passed**.

Staff Changes

Bishop Nedi introduced Lisa Boquist as the newly hired Diocesan Administrator/Bishop's Executive Assistant. She also stated that the Diocesan Office would be moving to Morris Hall at Ascension School Camp and Conference Center. Some restructuring of job responsibilities for the three diocesan positions: Ascension School Executive Director, Hospitality Manager, and Bishop's Executive Assistant, and integration of offices was discussed.

Program Announcements

Bishop Nedi announced that the 2014 Adult Education Camp presenter will be Brian Fairbanks, St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle, offering a music program for adults and High School students.

Invitation for participation in ChurchNext has been sent to each congregation. Cost per parish is \$100, paid by the diocese. Discussion of set-up and procedure for class registrations followed.

Ascension School

Patty Lindsey reported on excellent attendance for Summer Camp programs. She noted that Bishop Nedi was able to be present for a week of pre-camp staff training and for debriefing with the staff post-camp. Patty stated that it was a challenge to get clergy and resource staff for camps. Discussion followed. It was agreed that clergy involvement was a topic for a Collegium gathering.

Patty reviewed the results of the discernment process for an endowment campaign. The next step is a feasibility study.

Anna Carmichael **moved** that Patty Lindsey, Ascension School Executive Director, continue working with The Episcopal Foundation, in the next steps of planning for building up the Ascension School Endowment. This will include working with Erin Weber-Johnson, Foundation Consultant, and moving into the feasibility study phase of the process.; **seconded** and **passed**.

Patty reported that a UTO grant for \$11,265 has been received for "Growing Food, Building Community" project. In addition to the gardens for raising food for camp use, community meals, and food pantry, a greenhouse and community nutrition classes are in the development stages. A food philosophy statement for Ascension School is also being developed.

Patty reported on some larger camp maintenance projects that have been undertaken.

2013 Diocesan Convention

Following dinner at 6 p.m., business continued with further discussion of the Ascension campaign, then turned to planning for Diocesan Convention.

Bishop Nedi announced that the keynote speaker will be Anthony Guillén, The Episcopal Church Missioner for Hispanic Ministry. She reviewed the Mission Enterprise grant offering from The Episcopal Church for working with the Lutheran Church in Hispanic Ministry. Nedi also mentioned that partner ministry outside the diocese was a topic for Convention. She reported on worship planning and stated that there will be multi-cultural elements in Convention worship.

Theme ideas were shared. Agreement was expressed for "In Christ There Is No East or West."

Diane Adams reviewed a list of workshop possibilities. Additional ideas were offered. It was suggested that one workshop be a conversation time with topics, such as Altar Guild, being offered for those who would like to share ideas with others.

Jim Mosier reviewed the plans for the Friday evening program.

Diane asked for input and decisions on Convention committees that would be needed.

Nominations Committee: Ruth Tsu volunteered to work on nominations for Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, and General Convention Deputies. Kathy Macek, Charles Cagle, and Anna Carmichael also agreed to work on nominations.

Resolutions Committee: Doug Harder offered to chair the committee.

Time and Place of Convention: Following discussion, it was agreed that Diane will confirm with the parishes scheduled for hosting 2014 and 2015. Doug Harder will develop a survey for distribution at Convention to gather information on preferences regarding time and place of Convention. Diocesan Council will continue conversation about when and how to do Convention in the future with the intention of moving forward on the considerations prior to the 2014 Diocesan Convention in preparation for the 2016 Diocesan Convention.

Convention Offering: Ideas were shared for designation of the offerings to be received at Convention. Discussion followed. Decision was postponed until Saturday.

The meeting recessed following Compline at 8:25 p.m.

Saturday, August 10, 2013

The meeting reconvened with Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m.

Financial Report

Jerry Frazier reported on Diocesan House rental.

He distributed and reviewed a collapsed spreadsheet financial report of diocesan income and expense through June. A balance sheet, the "green sheet" of fund balances, a fund definition document, and a 20-quarter investment report were distributed and reviewed in preparation for 2014 budgeting.

2014 Budget

The minutes of the Finance Committee meeting and the budget recommendations from Finance Committee were distributed pre-meeting. Jerry reviewed the budget recommendations. It was noted that Council might wish to consider an increase in the amount requested as a grant from Foundation for Retired Clergy Medical Insurance. An error was recognized in the line item "Total Staff" resulting in a bottom line surplus.

There was discussion of Ministry Formation considerations for those in process to Holy Orders. A line item was added for Ministry Formation and \$3000 was budgeted. Continuing Education Scholarships line item was increased to \$3000.

It was suggested that a sub-committee be formed to consider the Bishop's stipend.

Audit Status

Jerry reported that the audits for 2008 and 2009 are in process and he will tell the auditor that they are needed for Convention. Jerry commented that 2010-2012 bookkeeping was done by the CPA firm and the audits should go more quickly. He hopes to have them mostly complete by December, 2013.

A Council member asked how much is in the audit reserve. It was realized that the audit reserve is not on the "green sheet." Diane and Jerry will look into this. [*The audit reserve is not a fund; it is held as a payable. There is approximately \$61,000 being held for audit payables.*]

Ruth Tsu **moved** acceptance of the 2014 proposed budget as received from Finance Committee and to authorize the Treasurer to use up to \$20,000 from Strategic Development fund to balance as necessary; **seconded** and **passed**.

2013 Budget Adjustment

Changes to the 2013 budget for overlapping salaries for Bishop's Executive Assistant/Secretary and for moving the office were discussed.

Bishop Nedi **moved** \$15,000 from Bishop's Search and Transition fund (fund 69) be added as income to the 2013 budget to be used for overlapping salaries (\$10,000) and office moving and transition expenses (\$5000); **seconded** and **passed**.

Conversation followed concerning the future of the present Diocesan Office building in The Dalles. Jerry suggested that ownership and use of the building needs to be maintained. He suggested possible rental of individual office space. Discussion continued.

Convention Offering

Following a break, discussion returned to the suggestions that had been made on Friday evening regarding designation of the Convention offering. Bishop Nedi commented that she has been asked about the possibility of the Diocese supporting one seminarian in the Diocese of Wau, Sudan, for one year at the diocesan seminary.

Rich Landrith **moved** that Council adjust the 2014 budget using \$1500 from Fund 85 to fund a seminarian in the Diocese of Wau; **seconded** and **passed**.

Jim Mosier **moved** that half of the 2013 Convention offering be given to the Next Chapter Food Pantry in Ontario and half to Episcopal Relief and Development Gifts for Life for purchasing a portion of a well and clean water education; **seconded** and **passed**.

Social Media Guidelines

Jeanie Senior reviewed the proposed Social Media Guidelines which were distributed in the pre-meeting mailings. Discussion followed. It was suggested that the guidelines be posted on the website and sent to clergy and Sr. Wardens.

Anna Carmichael **moved** Diocesan Council endorsement of the Social Media Guidelines with the understanding that they will be disseminated to the parishes; **seconded** and **passed**.

Discussion continued. Karla Nash asked about liability issues. Jerry stated that he will check with the insurance carrier. Council agreed to review the diocesan sexual conduct policies at their November meeting to be sure that best practices are addressed, i.e. supervision by non-related adults.

Finance Committee

Bishop Nedi asked Council to review the composition of Finance Committee as outlined in the Appendix to the Canons. She stated that the Ascension School Executive Director should be a member of the Finance Committee; she also noted that the diocese no longer has a Chief Financial Officer.

Bishop Nedi **moved** that "Chief Financial Officer" be changed to "Ascension School Executive Director" in the Appendix of the Diocesan Canons; **seconded** and **passed**.

General Convention Resolutions

D022: Churchwide Response to Bullying

Karla reported that she has emailed a query to the leadership of parishes regarding anti-bullying programs in their community and whether there is interest in developing programs through the parishes. She has received a few responses noting that there are programs in the schools. No other interest has been expressed.

D067: Dream Act

Ann Havill reported that she has discovered that though legislation is in place in Oregon, it is not easy to establish scholarships for undocumented students. She and her partner are working with Oregon State University Foundation on scholarship language that will be acceptable to all.

D003: Gun Free Zones

Ann stated that she believes that gun free zone conversations within parishes, as expressed at the March meeting, are important and that "violence free zone" is too broad. She stated that she would like to have a conversation about the proposed template with Julie Sarazin. Discussion followed. After review, the study guide and template will be sent to Council for comment. It was suggested that the study guide would then be sent to the parishes with

the General Convention resolution; the parish conversations will direct the parish's response to the resolution.

A125: Recommit to the Work of Anti-Racism and A127: Recommit to Being Anti-Racists for the Next Three Triennia

Ruth Tsu, Doug Harder, Rich Landrith, and Alison Dingley have expressed interest in pursuing diversity training possibilities for the diocese. Diane noted that the Diocese of Oregon is developing its own program based on Eric Law's work and that there will be training on Sept. 28 in Hillsboro which they may attend to determine whether Eastern Oregon might benefit from shared trainings.

Other Business

Council members were asked to share their reflections on the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. with Noonday Prayer.

Minutes of August, 2013 meeting prepared by Diane Adams, Secretary to Council.

2013 Meeting Dates:

August 9-10, begin at 5 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Bend

- Feedback from 2012 resolution in Response to Bishop's Address
- 2014 budget
- Convention planning
 - o Possible focus on Evangelism, including social media

October 11-13, Convention, Ontario

November 15-17, Retreat, Ascension School

- Group Norms
- 2013 MDG distribution
- Bisbee Grants