

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EASTERN OREGON  
DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting  
August 3-4, 2012  
St. Andrew's, Prineville

PRESENT:

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

Class of 2012

Arnold Coe, S/C

The Rev. Paul Morton, S/C

Sue Powers

Terry Rahmsdorff

The Rev. Roger Fairfield

Class of 2013

Laurance Kerr, S/C

The Rev. Anna Carmichael, S/C

Ruth Tsu

Visitors

Dave DeMayo, Heppner

Jan Uffelman, Prineville

The Rev. Steve Uffelman, Prineville

Class of 2014

Julie Sarazin, S/C

The Rev. Jim Mosier, S/C

Don Dickinson

Ex-Officio

Jerry Frazier, Treasurer

Terry Joakimides, Secretary of Convention

Seat & Voice

Diane Adams, Secretary to Council

Bergen Bull, Legal Advisor to the Bishop

Neva DeMayo, Ecumenical Associate Member

ABSENT:

The Rev. Kathy Macek, Class of 2013 – excused

Kim McClain, Class of 2014 - excused

The Rev. Rich Landrith Class of 2014 - excused

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**Friday, August 3, 2012**

A Standing Committee meeting preceded the Diocesan Council meeting. The Diocesan Council meeting opened at 5:10 p.m. with Evening Prayer. (All worship for the meeting was from the Corrymeela liturgy.) Dinner followed with Standing Committee continuing their meeting in a separate room during dinner. At 6:30 p.m. the full group reconvened for cake and singing to celebrate the wedding anniversary of Dave and Neva DeMayo.

Terry Rahmsdorff opened the meeting and the proposed agenda was reviewed and approved.

Audit Status

Jerry reported that the 2005 and 2006 audits are completed. The 2007 materials are ready for audit and the 2008 materials are in process. Jerry stated that a proposal letter from Dahlen and Boschma, CPAs has been received the 2007 and 2008 audits at the same rate

for which the 2005 and 2006 audits were done. The proposal has been accepted by himself and Edd Doorn as appointed by Council. Jerry stated that the next two audits should be completed by November and that he hopes the remaining audits will be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2013.

Jerry Frazier **moved** acceptance of the audits for 2005 and 2006 as produced by Dahlen and Boschma, CPA, as recommended by Finance Committee. The motion **passed** unanimously.

### Financial Report

Jerry reviewed the financial statement for January through June 2012. He noted the low assessment income. In expenditures, he noted the high percentage on payroll taxes and stated that it would be checked. He also noted the lack of expenditure under the Youth line item and referred to Bishop Nedi who commented on the curriculum license for the whole diocese from Leader Resources purchased at General Convention. It was noted and questioned why General Convention Deputies do not show on this financial statement.

A question was asked whether the budgeted amount for Ascension School Support is a ceiling amount or whether it is okay to go above that amount. Jerry responded that there is no firm mandate about that.

Jerry reminded Council that the transfers from other income are made at the end of the year.

The assessment summary for July 31, 2012 was reviewed. Discussion of decrease in revenues followed.

Jerry called attention to the endowment and non-endowment account reports.

### Clergy Compensation

Terry R called on Sue Powers for presentation of the clergy salary recommendations. Sue reported that the proposal was fully borrowed from the ELCA. Discussion followed concerning the large range under each year of experience and whether the proposal was for a mandate or a recommended guideline. Sue noted that the ELCA also has a worksheet to assist in determining the placement within the range. The Annual Clergy Compensation Report from the Church Pension Group was also noted as a resource for assisting in placement within the range.

Julie Sarazin **moved** Diocesan Council approval of the EDEO Clergy Salary Recommendations for 2012 as a guideline for compensation. The motion was **seconded**. Discussion followed. The motion **passed** unanimously.

There was request for the ELCA worksheet. Sue said that she will send the worksheet to Council.

Paul Morton commented on the need to revise the supply clergy compensation policy. The revision was placed in the "Parking Lot" for later consideration.

### Mutual Ministry Review

At 7:30 p.m., Council members entered discussion of the Mutual Ministry Review process and results of Convocation meetings. The discussion began with sharing of personal

experience, learnings, and insights. Observations included delight with the turnout at the meetings; surprise by the energy in the conversations; observation that parishes are proud of their accomplishments and want to share; there is desire for parishes to get together and to do things together. An expression of appreciation for communication at the meetings was noted and discussion followed regarding communications, opportunities for input via blogs, etc., and accessing available resources of all kinds.

### Standing Committee Report

Jim Mosier reported that Standing Committee is reviewing the relationship between the Diocese and parishes with local rentals.

Laurance Kerr reviewed the status of Diocesan House as a rental. He noted that the west side of the house needs re-roofing and the bid is \$6950; the south side of the house needs the shingles replaced and the bid is \$6500; the bid for painting the house is \$12,000. He reported that Standing Committee's recommendation is to replace the roof this fall and to approach the Foundation for funds in the form of a loan or grant for remaining repairs. Discussion followed.

Arnold Coe **moved** that necessary repairs be funded as a loan from the Property Fund to be paid back by rental income. The motion was **seconded** and **passed**.

Jim reported that, given the results of the Convocation Mutual Ministry Review meetings, Standing Committee recommends extension of Bishop Nedi's contract, to be reconsidered in March, 2015, and that the Diocese wants to have a part-time bishop, both short-term and long-term, and to continue forward as the Holy Spirit leads.

The meeting recessed at 8:50 p.m. with Compline.

### **Saturday, August 4, 2012**

The meeting reconvened with Eucharist at 8:00 a.m.

### Mutual Ministry Review Cont'd

Further personal reflection on the Mutual Ministry Review process was invited. Conversation then moved to what was learned through the MMR process. An anonymous letter received by Council and Standing Committee in their pre-meeting packets and was discussed.

Discussion followed concerning Diocesan Council's response to Standing Committee's recommendation. Arnold proposed that Council endorse Standing Committee's recommendation. It was noted that Standing Committee is aware and observing and have the flexibility to adjust as the Diocese moves into a new model. Ruth Tsu noted that Standing Committee had two recommendations: 1) continue the part-time bishop model; 2) extend Bishop Nedi's contract. Discussion of a resolution to take to Convention followed. Jim and Paul agreed to work on a resolution.

### 2013 Budget

The Finance Committee budget recommendation was reviewed by Jerry. He noted that the Duncan Farm Income was increased because the money is available. Question was raised about the accounting practices involved in "Prior Year Assessment." Jerry stated that he

will ask the CPA about that change noting that there would be a fairly major gap in income in the year that such a change in practice would be made. It was suggested that Diocesan House Rental Income be handled through a separate fund.

Under expenses, the Chancellors' Conference line was discussed. Bergen Bull commented on his status as legal advisor rather than Chancellor and stated that he would look into the conference to decide if it would be of value to him.

Use of the funds in the Outreach line item was discussed in terms of partnerships. Bishop Nedi commented that she had been encouraged at General Convention to consider the Companion Diocese program, specifically with the Diocese of Salisbury in England and the Diocese of Wau in Sudan. She commented that the Outreach funds might be used as start-up funds for such a partnership.

The Youth line item was discussed and \$2000 was added to the line for renewal of the curriculum license. Conferences and Memberships was reduced to \$2500.

It was noted that there was a mistake in the Ascension School Program support line, which should be \$18,000. Jerry commented on the recommendation to move the Ascension staff costs for Executive Director and Hospitality Manager to the diocesan budget. Extensive discussion followed regarding budget process, transparency of reframing diocesan responsibility for Ascension School, honoring the work of the Ascension staff as diocesan employees and the perception of Ascension as part of the Diocese. The need for extensive narrative in the budget was noted.

Communications budget line was discussed. A change of title from Communications Coordinator to Information Coordinator was suggested.

It was noted that the audit line item has been reduced in keeping with the cost of the audits just completed and the proposal received for the following two year audits. Discussion followed concerning the funds reserved in Accounts Payable for those audits. The importance of maintaining the Audit line item was noted.

The line item for Diocesan House under Maintenance and Repair was discussed. It was suggested that the cost for roof repair be put into the line, into the Property Maintenance reserve line, or into a Diocesan House Fund line.

It was noted that the General Church Apportionment is 19% and is based on 2011 income.

Jerry Frazier **moved** approval of the outline of the proposed budget for 2013. The motion was **seconded** and **passed**.

#### Approval of Minutes

It was **moved, seconded, and passed** to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2012, Diocesan Council meeting.

#### "Here" project

Roger Fairfield reviewed the proposed "Here" project for Convention. Council agreed that Roger be authorized to get the items needed for the project. It was suggested that parishes be invited to bring supplies for the project. Discussion followed. It was agreed that parishes be asked to provide white tube socks. A goal of filling 1000 bags was suggested.

Roger asked about sending \$1000 to an orphanage in Haiti (House of Hope) that has suffered severe funding cuts. Bishop Nedi stated that funds given for the “Here” portion of “Haiti and Here” could not be redirected. She suggested that a separate offering might be taken for that need, but asked for further information. Roger stated that he would forward the email requesting aid.

### Convention

Discussion turned to planning Convention in light of the results of the Mutual Ministry Review. The following items were agreed to:

- Theme should reflect desire for partnerships: “Hand in Hand Into the Future”
- Friday Evening budget hearings followed by at least two readings of the budget.
- Friday evening “Here” project – Bishop Nedi will assist Roger with logistics for the project. Conversation about homelessness during the project preparation and debriefing following the packaging was discussed.
- Three sessions of workshops on Saturday. Workshops on lay ministry training were requested through the MMR process. Workshops using local presenters might include partnerships, General Convention, Anglican Communion, and others.
- Sunday scheduling should not include any “heavy” items that would be rushed by moving into Eucharist and adjournment.
- No keynoter. In keeping with requests from MMR, presenters will be local and might include Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon regarding ecumenical partnering.

Committees for Convention were discussed. It was decided to form an ad hoc Nomination Committee. Volunteers for the committee were Terry Rahmsdorff and Sue Powers. Another member was suggested. A Response to the Bishop’s Address committee was discussed. Ruth Tsu will chair the committee.

Rules of Order for budget and resolutions were discussed. It was noted that process for resolutions is covered by the Canons.

Terry Joakimides **moved** that Diocesan Council recommends to Convention that the 2011 proposed Rules of Order on budget be the ongoing Rules of Order. The motion was **seconded** and discussion followed. The motion **passed** unanimously.

### Ascension Report

Arnold reported that a BPA training for 100 people was held at Ascension in June and is scheduled to use the facility again in 2013. It was noted that the Cove Farmer’s Market and Community Garden are on Ascension property.

Arnold stated that the kitchen improvements and dishwasher installation at Founders Hall were over budget and that the lawnmower is out of service and needs to be replaced.

He reviewed the American Camping Association accreditation process and the status of the endowment campaign. Jerry commented that Ascension is only contracted for the first phase of a 3 or 4 phase campaign process.

Bishop Nedi commented on the animated conversation at General Convention about grants for camps for children with incarcerated parents. She noted that those kids are incorporated into the regular camp sessions at Ascension.

### Mission Strategy

Bishop Nedi stated that each year she needs to write a letter to Church Pension Group (CPG) about her continued work after retirement. She commented that CPG has asked about the mission strategy of her continued work. She stated that the discussions in the MMR show that partnership strategy at every level is major. Discussion followed about the resolution proposed by Standing Committee and the geography of the diocese in relation to the mission strategy. Nedi reported that Canon Chuck Robertson has been in conversation with her about meeting with CPG to talk about small budgeted parishes.

### Reflections and Wonderings

Council closed the meeting by sharing reflections about the meeting. Thanks were expressed for the “amazing hospitality” shown by St. Andrew’s, Prineville. Terry R commented that it was his last meeting. Appreciation for his work was expressed.

Bishop Nedi adjourned the meeting with prayer at 2:15 p.m.

*Minutes of August, 2012 meeting prepared by Diane Adams, Diocesan Staff.*

## **2012 Meeting Dates:**

### **October 12-14, Convention, Bend**

- Report results of MMR

### **November 9-11, Retreat, Ascension School**

- Review of Council Rules of Order
- Supply Clergy Compensation
- Review of Convention