

# DRAFT

## EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EASTERN OREGON DIOCESAN COUNCIL RETREAT

Minutes of the Meeting  
March 10, 2012  
via Adobe Connect and AT&T teleconference

### 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 2014

Julie Sarazin, S/C

The Rev. Jim Mosier, S/C

Don Dickinson

Kim McClain

#### Ex-Officio

Jerry Frazier, Treasurer

#### Class of 2013

Laurance Kerr, S/C

The Rev. Anna Carmichael, S/C

Bobby Fox

Ruth Tsu

The Rev. Kathy Macek

#### Seat & Voice

Diane Adams, Secretary to Council

Bergen Bull, Legal Advisor to the Bishop

Neva DeMayo, Ecumenical Associate Member

### Visitors

Jeanie Senior, Diocesan Communications Manager

### ABSENT:

The Rev. Rich Landrith, Class of 2014 - excused

Terry Joakimides, Secretary of Convention - excused

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### **Saturday, March 10, 2012**

At approximately 9:15 a.m., Bishop Nedi opened the meeting with worship from the Corrymeela Community.

### Approval of Minutes

It was **moved** by Paul Morton, **seconded and passed** to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2012, meeting as presented.

### May meeting

It was **moved, seconded and passed** that the next Council meeting will be May 19, 2012, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. in The Dalles.

### Financial Report

Jerry Frazier reviewed the draft 2011 year-end financial statement.

Jerry Frazier **moved** acceptance of the 2011 year end statement. The motion was **seconded and passed**.

Arnold Coe **moved** that it be standard procedure that Ascension School financial statements be part of the regular Diocesan Council meeting documents. The motion was **seconded and passed**.

Jerry stated that it is a given that the Ascension School financial statements will be part of the available financial documentation with the new accounting system. In response to questions about covering the year-end overage, Jerry said that the options remain open and that the Proceeds of Property Sale fund or other funds are possibilities.

### Trinity Request

The **tabled motion** of February 25 was returned to the floor. Discussion followed concerning the impact that forgiveness of assessment might have on the diocesan budget. Bishop Nedi recommended giving a grant equal to the proposed assessment relief. Paul Morton **withdrew** the tabled motion; the amendment was also **withdrawn**.

Arnold Coe **moved** that Diocese Council grant Trinity \$9000 for 2012, to be paid in three equal installments. The motion was **seconded and passed**, with Terry Rahmsdoff abstaining.

### Mutual Ministry Review (MMR)

The timeline for the Mutual Ministry Review process was reviewed: March – approval of process, Eastertide – congregation work, June/July – Council meet with Convocations, August – work with data, report to Convention.

Anna Carmichael **moved** approval of the timeline as presented. The motion was **seconded and passed**. Ruth Tsu proposed that the May Council meeting be focused on preparation for Convocations; **accepted as friendly amendment**.

Documents for the process were reviewed and discussed.

It was **agreed** to accept the MMR outline with the addition of “Communications.”

**Consensus** was expressed for acceptance of the definitions.

The proposed cover letter was discussed. Suggestions were made for editing of the first sentence and some minor corrections. **Consensus** was expressed for acceptance of the cover letter with minor changes affirmed.

The Congregational summary report was reviewed and discussed. It was noted that it will be important to capture stories and to explore how congregations can support each other. Discussion continued regarding Collegium testing the process and reporting back to Council. Ruth suggested that a question be added regarding what people are willing to let go of.

The congregational summary report was **affirmed** with modifications.

Later in the meeting, it was decided that Nedi, Kathy, and Anna would design the process for the Convocation meetings. It was also clarified that Council members will receive the dates for the Convocations following the Collegium meeting on March 13 and will be asked to sign up to facilitate the meetings.

#### Open Table Resolution

The resolution and theological explanation as prepared for submission to General Convention were reviewed and discussed. Anna commented that she wanted to make sure that people who contributed to the writing of the resolution were acknowledged but that the guidelines for submitting resolutions are stringent. Suggestion was made that the word “relentlessly” be replaced with “persistently” or “consistently.” Jim Mosier spoke to the importance of Deputies from Eastern Oregon being present at the General Convention hearings for the resolution. Affirmation of the resolution and appreciation for the authors were expressed by Council members.

#### Rules of Order

Arnold reviewed the proposed rules of order documents. He recommended that Diocesan Council members read Roberta's Rules of Order by Alice Collier Cochran. Bishop Nedi stated that by-laws are not needed for Council because the structure and function of Council is covered by Canon which supersedes by-laws. Discussion followed. Paul Morton stated that he was more concerned with operation within Convention and suggested having a parliamentarian at Convention. It was suggested that Council try living into the proposed Rules of Order. Bishop Nedi suggested that the Rules of Order be reviewed at Council retreat in November. During this discussion, Julie excused herself from the remainder of the meeting due to a commitment at Noon (MDT).

**Consensus** was expressed for using the proposed *Special Rules of Order of the Diocesan Council of the EDEO* and reviewing their use at the Diocesan Council retreat, November 9-11, 1912.

#### Long Term Communication Strategy

Kim McClain reviewed the document sent to Council preliminary to the meeting. She added that among the parishes there are seven e-newsletters and eight print newsletters. She stated that the next step is to get information from Vestries regarding what parishes are currently doing and how the diocese can help. In response to a question from Anna, Kim acknowledged that it would be helpful to know of electronic sermons posted on parish or personal clergy websites. Discussion followed regarding 2008 Convention offering funds for communication and location of webcams purchased with those funds. Paul cautioned that what is posted on the internet is forever.

#### Copyright

Diane Adams presented a proposal made by Christian Copyright Solutions to partner with the diocese in providing copyright information, education and licensing resources by having a link on the diocesan website. Diane acknowledged the importance of copyright

education and assisting parishes in following appropriate licensing practices, but commented that CCS, which is linked with CCLI, does not seem to be the appropriate resource as they do not license most of the music resources used in Episcopal churches. She also raised the question of companies advertising through the diocesan website. Discussion followed. Jeanie Senior commented that she opposed any type of advertising on the diocesan website. There was general agreement that the proposal be dropped.

### Ascension Capital Campaign

Jerry Frazier reported on the meeting of a campaign steering group with Erin Johnson, Episcopal Church Foundation, regarding management of the capital campaign. He stated that there are three steps in the campaign with specific contracts for each of the steps: Discern, Study, Ask. He stated that the decision was made to proceed with the first step (Discern). He stated that the cost of the first step will be negotiated, but will be approximately \$3000 and that outside money is available for the expense. Laurance Kerr commented that a successful campaign will reduce the amount of diocesan support for Ascension. Jerry commented that there are broader implications for the whole diocese. In response to question about need for Council action, Bishop Nedi stated that Council has previously approved Ascension School moving forward on the campaign. Council members responded with applause to commend the actions of the group.

### Convention Planning

Diane reported that Paul has reserved the Boys and Girls Club for the meeting venue for the 2012 Convention. She stated that Trinity Vestry has reserved blocks of hotel rooms and are moving forward in recruiting leadership for committees. Paul commented on the venue and proximity to Trinity.

### Reflections and Wonderings

Council members expressed appreciation for meeting electronically and noted that some rather complicated work was done. They expressed some limited concerns about audio clarity and discussion followed concerning how audio could be improved. Appreciation was expressed for Anna's work on the open table resolution and Kim's work on communication strategy.

Prayer requests and intentions were offered. Bishop Nedi closed the meeting with a blessing from the Corrymeela Community. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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

## **2012 Meeting Dates:**

### **May 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., The Dalles**

- Planning for Convocations
- Clergy standards & LoAs
- Report on Haiti and Here
- Lay Personnel Policy

**August 3-4**

- 2013 Budget
- Convention preparation

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

- Report results of MMR

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

- Review of Rules of Order