

**EDEO Diocesan Council
April 28-29, 2017
St. Andrew's, Burns**

Minutes of the Meeting

Present:

The Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell, Bishop

Class of 2017

The Rev. Georgia Giacobbe
The Rev. Jed Holdorph (SC)
Kim McClain S/C
Marjorie Thelen

Class of 2018

The Rev. Nancy Sargent Green (SC)
Karly Nash
Julie Reynolds, SC

Class of 2019

Adrienne Brown
The Rev. Mary Lujan (SC)
Mary Link (SC)
Beth Spell
The Rev. Charlotte Wells

Ex-Officio

Doug Harder, Secretary of Convention
Randy Heise, Treasurer

Seat and Voice

Lisa Boquist, Secretary to Council
Kim McClain, Executive Director, Ascension School

Absent

Vicki Mosier
Bill Taylor
The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake

A Standing Committee Meeting preceded the Diocesan Council Meeting

Call to Order

Beth Spell opened with prayer and called the meeting to order at 5:11PM.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was amended to include a discussion on which Sustainable Development Goal the Diocese would support in 2017.

Approval of Minutes from February 2017 Meeting

MSC Motion to approve the minutes from the February 2017 Online Diocesan Council Meeting.
(Karly Nash, Mary Lujan)

Ascension School Report – Kim McClain

Kim McClain, Executive Director of Ascension School Camp and Conference Center, gave an update on Ascension School.

- The Coe-Kerr building has already been rented for several events including the Senior Prom for Cove and Union High Schools.
- Cove Coordinator packets will be going out soon with summer camp information and she encouraged everyone to promote camp in their parishes and communities. There was a request from several council members that Resource Staff be given more information on camp before they arrive.
- Solar Eclipse weekend is a fundraiser at Ascension so lodging is available at a premium rate. The event corresponds with the annual Cove Cherry Fair which is also held at Ascension School.
- Armand “Bunkie” Larive will be leading this year’s Adult Education, August 24-27.
- Labor of Love weekend will be held over Memorial Day Weekend, it is a chance to come and help prepare Ascension School for the camping season as well as to enjoy the beautiful campus.
- A lawsuit has been filed against Ascension School by a guest who fell and broke her leg at a quilt retreat in 2015. The EDEO Chancellor, Jim Foster, is handling the details and working with Church Mutual Insurance Company, Ascension School’s insurance carrier at the time of the accident.
- Kim handed out a proposal from a company called the Wenaha Group. They would provide a professional assessment of the buildings at Ascension School which would give an overview of the state of buildings and create a master plan that would prioritize improvements and repairs. The total cost would be close to \$35,000. She asked council to take the proposal and read it and come back on Saturday with questions and to be prepared to vote on whether or not the proposal should be accepted and to discuss where the funds might come from.
- Kim will travel to Bend to promote camp at a COPY Fundraiser as well as at an Adult Forum at Trinity the weekend of May 5th.

Diocesan Convention and Committee Update – Bishop Pat

Bishop Pat gave an update on Diocesan Convention planning and the progress of the formation of the new committee.

- Theme: The theme of this year’s diocesan convention will be “Hospitality through Dialogue.” Bishop Pat hopes that Dr. Arthur Sutherland, this year’s keynote speaker, will help us understand how to engage those who we see as the “other” in a different way.
- Workshops: A couple of workshops are in the planning stages but Bishop Pat encouraged council to let the diocesan office know if they have any ideas or know of someone who might be interested in holding a workshop.

- Committees: Bishop Pat will begin appointing people to the various committees in the next couple of weeks.
 - Jed Holdorph will continue as Chair of the Resolution Committee
- Offering Designation: Council will make the decision about the offering designation at the August Council meeting in Ontario.
- Convention Committee: Roy Green has been named as Chair of the Convention Committee and Bishop Pat is working on appointing the rest of the members.

Dinner 6:00PM

Dinner was served at 6:00PM, the council continued to work through dinner.

Standing Committee Report

Kim McClain reported that Standing Committee signed 3 consents and dealt with an issue concerning a legal easement request through the church property in Heppner. Mary Lujan was elected as President of Standing Committee. Kim is stepping down from her role on the committee now that she is part of the Diocesan staff. The building in Nyssa is still empty as the Head Start program, who is hoping to lease the property, had some delays due to the rough winter but the discussions should resume in the spring.

Disaster Preparedness Update – Bishop Pat

Bishop Pat reported that Judy Warren has resigned as the Diocesan Disaster Preparedness Coordinator. He expressed his gratitude for her willingness to serve and the hard work that she put in to the position.

Project Resource – Bishop Pat

Bishop Pat informed council about Project Resource which is a workshop that will be offered April 10-12, 2018 at Camp Allen in Texas and will focus on a programmatic approach to stewardship and fundraising. The program will be designed exclusively for small dioceses and they will be offering it to the dioceses at no cost. Bishop Pat would like to send a team of 6 people from EDEO which may be made up of a team from one congregation with the hopes that they would run a pilot program and two people from Council to help inform the diocese at large about the program. He would like to have the team in place by the August council meeting.

Sustainable Development Goals

Council discussed which Sustainable Development Goal they would like to support for 2017. Discussion centered on # 16 Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. Council suggested that a workshop could be offered at Convention around the SDG that is chosen and several suggestions for recipients of the budgeted financial report were offered, including: The Oregon Law Center, Gorge Ecumenical Ministries, or Protect Oregon's Workforce. A decision was postponed until the August meeting to allow council members more time to consider the options.

Adjournment

Georgia closed the evening with prayer and the meeting recessed at 7:25pm.

Saturday 8:00AM

Diocesan Council reconvened at 8:07am.

Additions to the Agenda:

The following items were added to Saturday's agenda:

- A Report from Marjorie Thelen on the situation in Burns.
- A request to adjust the Ascension and EDEO Budgets to the Treasurer's Report.
- A vote on the Ascension School facility assessment.

Update on Burns

Marjorie Thelen updated council on the events at St. Andrews Episcopal + Peace Lutheran. They now have a Congregational Board that includes all members, both Lutheran and Episcopalian. They are supporting Crossroads Ranch, an equine therapy center, as one of their projects this year. They also host a community dinner and have a women's group that meets the 2nd Sunday of every month. There are still undercurrents of the militia presence in the community but the group is not as vocal as it was before.

Treasurer's Report – Randy Heise

- MSC** ***Resolution for Signature Authority***
Resolved that the authorized signers on the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon US Bank checking accounts ending in 7424 and 6846 be: Randy Heise, Diocesan Treasurer; Arnold Coe, Finance Committee; Kimberly McClain, Ascension School Executive Director; Kathryn Macek, Rector of St. Peter's, La Grande and Patrick Bell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon. (Jed Holdorph, Adrienne Brown)
- MSC** ***Resolved that the authorized signers on the Diocesan CB Financial checking account be: : Randy Heise, Diocesan Treasurer; Arnold Coe, Finance Committee; Kimberly McClain, Ascension School Executive Director; and Patrick Bell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon. (Jed Holdorph, Adrienne Brown)***

Diocesan Council Liaison to Finance Committee

Kim McClain's position on Finance Committee as Diocesan Council liaison is now vacant and new member of Council needed to be appointed. Kim remains part of Finance Committee in her new capacity as Executive Director of Ascension School. Bishop Pat appointed Jed Holdorph as the new diocesan liaison and the appointment was approved by council.

Cohn Fund Status

Randy noted that the Cohn Fund is currently held with the non-endowed funds at Wells Fargo and he recommended that the fund be moved to the endowed fund category as that is how it is already being managed. There was a short discussion on the history of the fund and the reasons why it was categorized that way in the past.

MSC *Motion to move the Cohn Fund from the unrestricted Funds into the restricted endowed fund category within the EDEO investment portfolio. (Mary Lujan, Nancy Green)*

Audit Update

Randy reported that the 2015 Audit is finalized. The 2016 Audit dates are in the process of being scheduled for the end of May or the 2nd week in June and the audit should be done by the end of July.

Financials

A Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet, and Invested Funds Report was given to Council for review. Randy will now be presenting the entire financials to Council instead of only the EDEO Operating Fund which had been the previous practice. Bishop Pat encouraged Council to be prepared to explain these changes and also to help others in the diocese who might have questions understand that the income and expenses, especially for Ascension School, are cyclical and the times of income do not always correspond with expense output.

Randy noted that the total Income is less than 1 percent under the mark, which is not concerning at this point. The Physical and Real Property expenses are high in part due to higher utility costs from the cold temperatures this winter.

Doug Harder asked for the record to show that he inquired about the status of a \$50,000 loan from the Foundation that was intended to be matching funds for a previous EDEO capital campaign that was never paid back, as far as he knew. The terms of the loan indicated that if the \$50,000 was not matched then the monies would go back to the Foundation and he believed that those funds were never raised. He asked if those funds were being held in the CB Financial account in The Dalles. Bishop Pat responded that the Foundation is in the process of trying to rebuild the history of some of the activities and he will do the research on this matter and report back at August meeting

There was discussion about the Audit Reserve. The reserve was not placed in an actual account but was reflected in the carryover each year.

Ascension Budget Adjustment

A typo was found in the 2017 Ascension Budget that was approved at Convention. The budget line for Heating Fuel was listed as \$1000 when it should have said \$8300. The Program Director salary was also slightly increased which was also not reflected in the budget that had been presented to Convention. There was a brief discussion about the need for Council to vote on any changes made to the budget or is a report to Council about the changes sufficient. It was determined that a vote would provide a record of the action.

- MSC** *motion to adjust the 2017 Budget presented to Convention by \$7900 to cover an entry error in the heating fuel line item and increase in the program director salary in the Ascension School budget. (Marjorie Thelen, Adrienne Brown) 1 Dissenting Vote*

It was suggested that the budget presented to Convention include footnotes of changes/amendments made by Council.

The proposal for the facility assessment at Ascension School was discussed and voted on.

- MSC** *Motion to approve the facilities assessment of Ascension School proposed by The Wenaha Group and for Kim McClain to go forward with signing the contracts with the required funds to come from the remainder of the 2016 budgeted transfer funds and the balance of the cost to come from the gift from Tish Croom's estate. (Karly Nash, Randy Heise)*

Executive Director Update by Bishop Pat

Bishop Pat updated Council on the status of the Executive Director transition and Kim McClain's contributions to the position. There is a housing shortage in Cove at this time that is making it difficult for Kim to find adequate housing in her price range and the Bishop asked council to consider assisting in some way with the purchase of a home for her. Kim recused herself while Council discussed the options available.

- MSC** *Motion to approve the use of up to \$50,000 of Tish Croom's Estate gift as a 0% interest loan to Kim McClain to assist with the purchase of a home in Cove with details to be determined later. (Doug Harder, Jed Holdorph)*

Diocesan Canon Change Proposals

Bishop Pat reviewed proposed Diocesan Canon changes. Many are small typos or cosmetic issues such as a lack of a Table of Contents. It is proposed that in Canon IV Section 7 the name of the *Ascension School Board* be changed to *Advisory Council to Ascension School*.

A substantive proposed change is to Canon V Section 7 which deals with how the number of lay delegates to Diocesan Convention are determined which is currently by membership #'s reported on the

parochial report. Two alternatives are being proposed, either to use the Average Sunday Attendance or have equal representation from each parish.

The Bishop is asking clergy and Senior Wardens to take this proposal to their vestries and report back their feedback back to him by the beginning of July.

Bishop's Report

Bishop Pat gave a report on some of the other things happening in EDEO:

The Commission on Ministry had a fruitful meeting in March in Bend. Marilyn Roth was elected Chair. The committee is talking about how to consider and develop ministry in the diocese. There are plans to attend the IONA Initiative gathering in Austin, TX which focuses on encouraging local people into ordained ministry. The Commission will meet again at the end of May at Ascension School.

Cursillo leaders are meeting at Cove the first weekend of May. The Bishop is hosting the leadership to discuss the future of the program and what is necessary if it is to continue in EDEO.

Collegium is now gathering twice a year and met in The Dalles in March for the 3rd time since the Bishop's ordination. The Bishop is encouraged by the level of participation and energy of the group. The conversations in March were around immigration and deportation and how the issue relates to the Gospel.

Bishop Pat shared that he intends to work with council on addressing the future of the diocese at the August meeting in Ontario and will include time at all future meetings to speak to the issue. The Bishop of Idaho and his staff are planning a trip to Cove to meet with EDEO staff and there is hope of expanding that partnership.

Adjourn 12:07 adjournment

Beth Spell closed with prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 12:07PM

Next Meeting August 4-5 Ontario