

EDEO Proposed Diocesan Council
Minutes of the Meeting
November 1-3, 2018
Cove, Oregon

Present:

The Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell, Bishop

Class of 2019

The Rev. Mary Lujan (SC)

The Rev. Charlotte Wells

Beth Spell

Class of 2020

The Rev. Jed Holdorff (SC)

The Rev. Joseph Farber

Class of 2021

The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake

The Rev. Roy Green (SC)

Kit Morgan

Julie Reynolds (SC)

Kay Sharp

Ex-Officio

Doug Harder, Secretary of Convention

Randy Heise, Diocesan Treasurer

Seat and Voice

Lisa Boquist, Secretary to Council

Lee Kiefer, Canon for Transition Ministry

Absent

Gregg Henton (SC)

Barbara Mayo

Adrienne Brown

James Foster, Chancellor

Standing Committee met prior to the Diocesan Council meeting at 4:00pm.

Thursday

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. and then Beth Spell opened with prayer.

Introductions

- Bishop Pat welcomed the Rev. Roy Green, Kit Morgan, and Kay Sharp as the newly elected members of Diocesan Council. He informed council that The Rev. Roy Green was elected president of Standing Committee during the meeting that preceded the Diocesan Council meeting.
- The Bishop reviewed the norms for Diocesan Council meetings.

Election of Co-Chair

M/S/C *Motion to elect Beth Spell as the Co-Chair of Diocesan Council. (Doug Harder, Joseph Farber)*

M/S/C *Motion to elect Joseph Farber as the Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council. (Beth Spell, Mary Lujan)*

Approval of the Consent Calendar

M/S/C *Motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. (Charlotte Wells, Randy Heise)*

Consent Calendar

- ***Approval of Minutes from August 2018 Meeting in Cove***
- ***Resolution on Housing Allowance:***

WHEREAS, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to him or her as part of his or her compensation for services as a minister, to the extent used by him/her for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and

WHEREAS the Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell is employed as a minister of the Gospel by the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon which does not provide a residence for him, Diocesan Council resolves that of the total compensation received during 2018, \$896.67 per month shall be designated a parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986.

The Diocesan Council also resolves that the amount designated as housing allowance shall apply to 2019 calendar year and all future years unless amended by the Diocesan Council.

Standing Committee Report

Mary Lujan gave a brief report on the Standing Committee's meeting.

- There is a one year term vacancy on Standing Committee. Mary asked that if anyone had any potential candidates to please send those to Roy Green.
- St. Andrew's, Prineville has accepted the terms of the sale of their building to the Calvary church and are currently discerning the purchase of a promising new property.
- Standing Committee voted not to consent to the election of the Bishop in Haiti.

Dinner

Dinner was served at 6:00pm.

The Way of Love

- After dinner the Bishop introduced a video made by Bishop Rickel in the Diocese of Olympia discussing The Way of Love. Bishop Pat presented his plans to have council participate in an exercise throughout the weekend around The Way of Love, based on a handout from the national church called Reflection and Discernment. Council would break up into groups of 3 or 4 throughout the weekend and follow the guidelines in the handout. Each session would be based on a different aspect of the Way of Love:
 - Turn
 - Learn
 - Pray
 - Worship
 - Bless
 - Go
 - Rest
- The groups were formed and met to discuss the first step in The Way of Love - TURN.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

- Roy Green offered a closing prayer and Council was dismissed for the evening with plans to reconvene at 8:45 on Friday morning.

Friday

The meeting was called back to order at 8:45am.

The Way of Love

- Members broke into their small groups to discuss the next step in The Way of Love – LEARN.

Financial Report

Randy Heise gave an introduction and report on the current EDEO finances.

- **Budget** The current budget with year to date numbers shows income and expenses in line with previous years.
- **Invested Funds** The most current invested fund report was presented as well as a document that described the history and purpose of each fund. Randy pointed out that several of the funds have been marked inactive and their tracking has been moved into the General Fund to simplify the accounting processes.
- **Ascension School** A report on the financial status of Ascension School will be presented at the January meeting. Staff needs more time to gather the pertinent information and figures.
- **Property** There was brief discussion around the ownership/fiduciary responsibility of the Diocese with regards to parishes in the Diocese. In the event of the closing of a parish the Diocese is then responsible for that property and any funds that come from that action.
- **Wells Fargo** Randy announced his intent to begin researching the possibility of moving the invested funds from Wells Fargo to the Episcopal Church Foundation. Discussions had previously been had but were stalled due to some concerns over the type of investment funds that EDEO's monies would be moved into. Randy would like to re-open the discussion and bring it to Finance Committee and Diocesan Council. A suggestion was made to also investigate other, private, investing firms.
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)** Bishop Pat presented the idea of allocating the budgeted 2018 Sustainable Development Goals to support the pension plans for the clergy in the Diocese of Cuba, which was re-welcomed into the communion at General Convention. The national church is urging diocese to consider assisting the Cuban clergy. Doug Harder will draft a letter to parishes, to be sent out in January, encouraging them to consider contributing as well.

M/S/C *Motion to use the allocated SDG funds towards support of pension funds for clergy in Cuba and to put a call out to parishes to respond as well. (Joseph Farber, Aletha Bonebrake)*

The Way of Love

- Members broke into their small groups to discuss the next step in The Way of Love – PRAY.

Lunch

Lunch was served at noon.

Haiti

- After lunch Standing Committee members and Bishop Pat discussed the situation in Haiti and their reasons for deciding to vote to not consent to the election of the Bishop there.

Bisbee Grant Committee

- Kay Sharp, Aletha Bonebrake, and Charlotte Wells volunteered to be on the Bisbee Grant Committee. The Bisbee Grant applications are due by November 30th. The committee members will review the grants and make a recommendation to Diocesan Council at the January meeting. Kay Sharp is Chair of the committee.

2019 Diocesan Council Meeting Dates

- January 26 - Online 10:00
- May 17-18 - Central Oregon (Location TBD)
- September 6-7 - St. Andrew's, Burns
- October 31-November 2 - Ascension School

Ascension School

- Kim Lee and Patty Olson-Lindsey joined council to share what is happening at Ascension School.
 - Patty has come back on staff in a part time capacity to help with various projects including:
 - Completion of Coe-Kerr, especially the audio visual and acoustic work that still needs to be done, as well as equipment that needs to be purchased. An audio-visual consultant will be coming from Tri Cities on November 7th to look at the facility and give recommendations.
 - Updating and following up with the Capital Campaign and getting in touch with donors in order to thank them for their gifts and encourage them to consider continuing their support through the annual giving.
 - Following up on communication to the Diocese, including assisting with writing and sending out The Circle, the twice-yearly newsletter, that has not been sent out since 2016.
 - Working with Nod Palmer and local and state representatives on the possibility of Ascension School becoming a future location for Outdoor School.
 - Kim Lee reported on the current projects and business happening at the camp, including:
 - Important partnerships that she has been fostering with varying community agencies that are making use of the new Coe-Kerr building. Two important groups are the Cove School District, which will be hosting an awards banquet in the building for over 100 people, and the Union County Commissioners who are hosting an all-day meeting and forum for the county.
 - The weekend bookings are growing and there are very few weekends left available in the spring and fall, with groups booking as far ahead as 2020.
 - New tables and possible audio-visual equipment will be in place at Kimsey Commons at the latest by Spring 2019.
 - Bishop Pat followed up the discussion with reports on the following:

- He attended a meeting of the COPY program in Central Oregon and was encouraged by their enthusiasm and commitment to that project that raises money to send kids to camp.
- He discussed his plans for working with the Confederation Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation and local natural resource agencies on the replanting of natural grasses on the previously leased farm land at Ascension School and his plans for the path around the property. He is contemplating naming the trail the Letitia Croom Nature Trail.
- He announced that the theme for next year's summer camp program will be The Way of Love and his hope is to bring Christian education at camp "back to basics" and to create a curriculum that would be carried out over several years.
- Consultants from the Episcopal Camps and Conference Centers (ECCC) will be with the staff at Ascension School on November 15-16 and will be creating a report on recommended next steps for the staffing/organization of the center.
- Kim and Patty will both be attending the ECCC conference at Camp Waycross in Indiana in January. There is also a possibility that Melanie Tromp Van Holst, the Ascension School chef and kitchen manager, will be attending a conference in Colorado in December.

Diocesan Leadership Initiative

- Patty and Lisa gave an update on the Diocesan Leadership Initiative. The team, which now includes Kim Lee, has had their first meeting with their Coach – Chris Holmes. They have begun their first steps in working towards the project of creating a generational bridge between older and younger generations in the church by compiling a list of names from each group that they will contact and invite into conversations with each other and members of the other group. The plan is to make those contacts by the first of the year.

The Way of Love

- Members broke into their small groups to discuss the next step in The Way of Love – WORSHIP

Eucharist

- The Rev. Joseph Farber presided over Eucharist.

Dinner

Dinner was served at 6:00pm.

Saturday

The meeting was called back to order at 8:45am.

The Way of Love

- Members broke into their small groups to discuss the next step in The Way of Love – BLESS.

Policy

- Kit Morgan expressed some concerns over the current Sexual Misconduct Policy and that led to the discussion around the work that needs to be done at the Diocesan level on creating a more comprehensive policy manual and how that information can be more effectively shared with the parishes and leadership within EDEO.
- Several people expressed concern over the online Safeguarding God's People program and how they prefer in person training. Doug Harder, Charlotte Wells, Randy Heise, and Aletha Bonebrake agreed to create a proposal on how best to make the program more accessible, and what is needed to recertify trainers in EDEO.

Diocesan Convention

- Roy Green led a discussion on Diocesan Convention and asked the council to share any thoughts with him to take back to the Convention Committee which was having a post-convention meeting in Redmond on Monday, November 5th.

Convocations and Southern Congregations

- The council discussed the origin of the convocation model and why it was no longer a viable model for EDEO. Bishop Pat has worked, through convention and collegium, to create a more cohesive diocese. The hope is that the partnerships between parishes would form naturally and mutually rather than being mandated by the diocese. The southern parishes, Bonanza, Klamath Falls, and Lakeview are geographically distant from much of the rest of the diocese and have often operated naturally as their own convocation due to that geography. The bishop is making a concerted effort to try and make sure those parishes feel more included at the diocesan level. He spent 9 days in September in that region, meeting with each congregation and its members as many times as he could. The Rev. Cn. Lee Kiefer will be going to spend a week with them after the 1st of the year, and the Bishop and staff are planning on making a visit there in the spring.

Communion with the Methodists

- The committees from The Episcopal Church and the Methodist church met on October 1st to discuss the possible formal communion between the two denominations. No decision was made but an action document was drafted and will be presented to each respective church. The Office of Episcopal Public Affairs has the entire article.

Faithful Innovation Learning Community

- Luther Seminary is continuing the work that was presented to the diocese by Dwight Zscheile at convention and is developing a program for this spring and summer that brings together diocesan leaders and teams that would receive training and then go out to the diocese and train parishes. There is a 2 week training for 4 in Minneapolis and monthly coaching for a year as part of the process, which costs \$10,000, not including travel and lodging. Bishop Pat has already been approached by 4 people interested in begin a part of this team. The Bishop is asking council to consider supporting this initiative and share their thoughts at the January meeting.

Important Dates

- November 17, 2018 – Ordination of Kelly Mahon to the Priesthood. 10:30 @ St. Mark's, Hood River
- January 12, 2019 – Ordination of AnnMarie Harder to the Transitional Diaconate. 2:00 @ Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton.

Adjournment

- Beth Spell closed with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.