



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA
MEETING of the STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 5:00 PM
At Diocesan Office
Minutes as Approved May 8, 2018

Call to Order at 5:04 PM by McCausland.

Clergy present were Jo Ann Jones, Sean Mullen, Michael Rau. Laypersons present were Colin Johnstone, Norman McCausland, Eric Rabe and Pat Smith.

Excused: Clergy Liz Colton and Hillary Raining, and Layperson George Vosburgh.

Also present were Bishop Daniel Gutierrez and Chancellor Mary Kohart.

The Agenda was approved unanimously.

The opening prayer was offered by Jones.

Minutes/Notes of March Meeting

- The minutes were approved unanimously and the notes received.

Ministry Approvals:

- None this month
- McCausland reported on the status of candidates for ordination. Standing Committee must approve four potential candidates before ordination in June. Two are for transitional diaconate. However, our two representatives to the Commission on Ministry cannot attend today's meeting. Additionally, Standing Committee continues to sort out the appropriate process for the Committee to fulfill its role in the Canonical approval of candidates. The Commission on Ministry met a week ago, and Standing Committee would have had little time to review the final packets on candidates before tonight's meeting. For these reasons the approval of four candidates for ordination will be delayed. Materials will be distributed electronically.
- Standing Committee agreed to hold a special meeting on May 8 to consider the four candidates.

Diocesan Staff Reports (as needed/submitted electronically)

- Staff has provided reports in a revised format this month in response to Standing Committee's comments last month. All appreciated the new format for the reports.



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Executive Committee Report

- McCausland reported that the Executive Committee is focused on the ordination process described above.

Bishop's Report

- Staff of the Diocese appreciates the support of Standing Committee and hopes members will be ambassadors for Diocese of Pennsylvania
- Work underway is underway on the 2019 budget. The Budget Subcommittee of Finance is working to address deficits and produce a budget that is balanced.
- The Bishop believes that his work until now has been to understand and support congregations, but it is now time to put into action initiatives to empower congregations. "Too often we wait for the next person to be the answer to our prayers; we should be the answer to the world's prayers, he said."
- St. Jude and the Nativity located at 203 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA is reorganizing.
- The new Diocese Growth and Development Fund has applications for capital improvements at 49 churches. A committee has reviewed these and recommends 10 for funding using the entire 2018 allocation.
- The new committee to consider Review of Endowment Funds met on April 23, 2018.
- The Bishop has identified three areas of important need in the Diocese and hopes to fund work in these: Congregational Life and Development (mediation teams); Development supporting disciples and parishes; and Clergy support.

Chancellor's Report

- Standing Committee must consider and pass a resolution to provide for governance of St. Jude and the Nativity parish under Canon 13.4.
- Renovations of the residence at St. Mary's Bainbridge are complete now and the apartment is on the market for rent.

Finance Committee Referrals

- Finance requests that Standing Committee appoint new committee to review options for Diocesan office space. Finance recommends the committee include representatives of Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, Finance and its Property Subcommittee.



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- ***A resolution was made and seconded that Standing Committee form a committee to consider options for office space after the current lease expires in 2019. The new committee will have two members each from Standing Committee, Finance, and Diocesan Council and a single person from staff. Standing Committee and the Bishop will have the final decision on a location of office. (Smith/Jones) Approved unanimously.***

Communications – none.

Old Business – Planning for a Standing Committee retreat with the Bishop continues.

New Business

Recommendations for Nominating Committee - The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for various Diocese governance elections at the November Convention. Amanda Eiman, of the committee, requested an updated description of Standing Committee roles and responsibilities, and McCausland provided one. Mullen and Smith are in the last year of their first terms, and are eligible for reelection should they decide to run for election in 2018.

Diocesan Commission/Committee Reports (as necessary)

- Finance Rabe/Rau
Rau reported that, with latest letter of appeal to parishes, we are seeing increased pledging, but pledging remains below the need. The “Fair Share Committee” under The Rev. Tim Stafford, is looking at the giving by churches. The committee believes assessments must increase. Finance and the Budget Subcommittee are considering alternatives.
- Incorporation Smith
McCausland has discussed the status with chair Frank Allen. Smith distributed a report on the committee’s work. Committee expects to offer a resolution to Convention in 2018 to endorse the concept of incorporating.
- Congregational Life and Development Team Jones
This Team met on Wednesday, April 18. In order to support most-distressed churches, the Committee and Bishop believe we will need outside professionals. This Committee will serve those churches that are stable and yet in transition.
- Constitution & Canons Johnstone
No report



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- Commission on Ministry Raining/Vosburgh
No report
- Diocesan Council Colton/Vosburgh
No meeting in the past month
- Episcopal Elections Colton
None
- Bishop's Special Budget Committee Mullen
Committee met for a wide-ranging discussion of question will be addressed and how to get there.

The closing prayer was offered by Jones.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm by McCausland.

Standing Committee Monthly Meetings/Upcoming Events

- May 8, 2018, 3:00 PM **Special Meeting** of Standing Committee to consider candidates for ordination. Diocese Office Conference Room
- May 22, 2018, **May Standing Committee meeting**
 - May 22, 2018 Opening/Closing Prayers: Colton/Vosburgh
 - May 22, 2018 Pre-Ordination Actions
- June 9, 2018 10:00 A.M. Diaconal Ordinations at the Cathedral
- Date TBD: Standing Committee Retreat