

The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
The Standing Committee
26 September 2018

Attendance: Members - Sarah Peters, Michael Hartney, Lois Giess, Carolyn Mok, Cameron Miller, Robert Picken, Susan Woodhouse; Bishop - Prince Singh

Absent: Richard Hamlin

The meeting was convened in the Diocesan offices at Saint Peter's Church, Henrietta, New York, at 4.01 p.m.

An opening prayer was offered by Carolyn observing the Fall Equinox.

The Agenda was presented, as amended. Moved (Robert)/Seconded (Carolyn) Passed.

The Minutes of June 27, 2018 were presented. Moved (Robert)/Seconded (Lois) Passed.

[CFO Todd Rubiano joined the meeting, 4.10 p.m.]

Consideration of a Boundary Agreement at Trinity Canaseraga: After discussion it was Moved to Approve the agreement. Moved (Carolyn) /Seconded (Lois) Passed.

Consideration of an Easement Agreement at Saint Luke's Brockport: After discussion it was Moved to Approve the agreement. Moved (Robert) /Seconded (Lois) Passed.

Saint Andrew's-by-the-Lake Webster. The Committee received an update on the transfer of the property of Saint Andrew's-by-the-Lake Webster from Diocesan ownership to the Church of the Good Shepherd, Webster. The Trustees have approved the transfer. Though not required by NYS Law or Canon, the Standing Committee will be asked for its consent at the October meeting.

[CFO Todd Rubiano left the meeting, 4:18 p.m.]

Consent to the Election of a Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Western Kansas was considered. Moved (Susan)/Seconded (Robert) Passed.

Consent for the Election of a Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Texas was considered. Moved (Robert)/Seconded (Carolyn) Passed.

Consideration of the archiving of Minutes/Agendas of the Standing Committee in the Dropbox. A discussion was held regarding what/how long/etc. to hold information in the Dropbox. It was moved that seven years of minutes and supporting documents be kept and transferred to the Diocesan Google.doc file. Additionally, it was moved that every year hereafter a year be dropped, retaining only seven years at a time. Moved (Cameron)/Seconded (Susan). Passed.

Nominations for Standing Committee leadership 2018-2019 were discussed. Sarah is willing to continue as President. Robert is willing to be Secretary for 2018-2019; Carolyn is willing to serve 2019-2020. It was discussed whether we should have a Vice President of Standing Committee to take over duties as necessary from time to time.

Commission on Ministry interviews for Candidacy will be conducted October 13th. Three postulants will be interviewed. We will invite them to come to our October meeting for the Committee interview. Possible questions were distributed that have been prepared previously by Richard Hamlin.

Update on a Mutual Ministry Review of the Diocese with Bishop Singh. The President reviewed that the diocesan leadership has met and believes that a regular 3-year review is appropriate. An outside facilitator, Dan Martin of Oregon, will be employed for the first review. It is expected that the review will be accomplished in March 2019. The composition of the committee will be lay/clergy from each of the major committees plus at-large members, as appointed. It will be an inclusive group (old/young, male/female, geographical, etc.) of 8-10 persons. The Committee will be asked to provide representatives to be considered.

[Chancellor Fileri joined the meeting at 4.58 p.m.]

Consent to the Election of a Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Haiti was considered at length. Chancellor Fileri, who served as counsel to the Court of Review for the Diocese of Haiti's election, offered background information. Motion not to Consent: Moved (Robert)/Seconded (Cameron) Passed unanimously.

The Bishop's report was considered. He presented highlights:

- Conversation regarding the Bishop's appeal has begun.
- Dean appointments will be made at the Diocesan Convention. Terms expiring are Lance Robbins and Eric Thompson.
- A soft launch of a mini College for Ministry with Children Youth and Young Adults will coordinate with the Saint Paul's Rochester Lecture Series. The lecturer is Lisa Kimball of Virginia Theological Seminary, a leading Christian Educator.
- The Convention offering will be designated: ½ to a Diocese of Alaska ministry and ½ to the diocesan story-book project.
- The ELCA Bishop and the Diocese are in conversation regarding mutual ministry opportunities.
- The College for Congregational Development graduated its first class this summer. An additional format is being considered to include several weekend trainings.
- As required by Title III.8.3(f), the Bishop reported that Dale VanWormer has been removed as a Postulant of the Diocese.

[Chancellor Fileri left the meeting at 5.45 p.m.]

As required by our Behavioral Covenants the committee members shared their feelings regarding the process observed for today's meeting. Reflections were: efficient, open, good discussion, good leadership, smooth, grateful, thoughtful, prioritization was good, communication with COM is greatly improved.

Prayer Requests:

Bishop: Recovery for Ruth

Sarah: The Diocese of Haiti, recovery for Peter & Gretchen

Cameron: Discernment for Mark

Carolyn: For the Senate Judiciary Committee and the President

Lois: For Victor, John

Robert: Discernment for Steve

The closing prayers were offered by Susan.

Motion to adjourn. Moved (Robert)/Seconded (Carolyn) Passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5.52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Hartney, Secretary