

The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
The Standing Committee
29 November 2017

Attendance: Sarah Peters, Michael Hartney, Lois Giess, Susan Woodhouse, Robert Picken, Carolyn Mok, Cameron Miller, Prince Singh
Absent: Richard Hamlin

The meeting was convened in the offices of Saint Paul's Church, Rochester, NY, at 4.04 pm.

An opening reflection (*Just Listen*) was offered by Sarah.

The Agenda was presented. Moved (Robert)/Seconded (Lois) Passed.

The minutes of October 25, 2017, were presented. Moved (Lois)/Seconded (Susan) Passed.

The minutes of October 28, 2017, were presented. Moved (Lois)/Seconded (Robert) Passed.

A review of the role of the Standing Committee was presented by the President and discussed. Information regarding consents to the elections of Bishops and the ordinations of Deacons and Priests was shared.

Committee members introduced themselves to each other.

The Behavioral Covenants were presented by the President and discussed by Committee members.

The certification of The Reverend Deacon Michael Laver to be ordained a priest was considered. Moved (Carolyn) /Seconded (Cameron) Passed.

The Bishop's report was considered. He highlighted: a) the Diocesan vision; b) the four elected bodies: COM, Trustees, Council, and Standing Committee and the various members of the Diocesan structure; c) Eric Thompson inducted as Rector in Dansville; d) Zion Avon has an interim; e) new Priest at Savona (a Priest of the Church of South India); f) Task Force for a Diocesan Plan on the Christian Formation on Children and Young Adults; h) consideration of a half-way house for drug rehab.

The Bishop provided a list of Postulants. They are; Mark Brummitt, Melanie Duguid-May, Keisha Stokes, Dale Van Wormer, Jr., Josh Barrett and Nate Kohlmeier.

The Bishop asked for, and received, the Committee's advice regarding congregations that are "struggling." The question that was considered was: how can the Diocese be helpful without being threatening?

The Bishop consulted with the Standing Committee regarding his appointment of Harold Kurland as Church Attorney for 2019 (Diocesan Canon 21.7).

The meeting schedule for December 2017-December 2018 was distributed. There will be no scheduled July 2018 meeting. The rota for opening and closing prayers was distributed.

As required by our Behavioral Covenants the committee members shared their feelings regarding the process observed for today's meeting. The reflections were: a comfortable feeling, the participation of new members is strong, we have 'come a long way', it 'feels good to be in a better place', and gratefulness for new members.

Before the closing prayer the Bishop invited the Committee to share words of gratitude. They included: for REACH Advocacy, for good friends and family, for the Sisters of Saint Joseph, for good health and opportunity to use the mind, for the opening of a new storefront Church office; for grandchildren; for being present with each other; and for the life and witness of a colleague.

The Bishop closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 5.53 p.m.

Following adjournment, the Standing Committee and the Bishop enjoyed dinner together.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Hartney, Secretary