

The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
The Standing Committee
June 2017

Attendance: Sarah Peters, Michael Hartney, Lois Giess, Susan Woodhouse, Christopher Moore, Richard Hamlin (on Conference call)

Absent: Virginia Mazzarella, Robert Picken

Guest: The Bishop attended the entire meeting.

The meeting was convened in the diocesan offices at Saint Peter's, Henrietta, Suite 100, at 4:02 p.m.

The opening meditation/prayer was offered by Bishop Singh. He shared remarks from Byron Rushing, Vice President of the House of Deputies, regarding the Collect for the Fourth of July in the *Book of Common Prayer 1979*.

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

The minutes, as corrected, of May 24, 2017, were presented. Moved (Susan)/Seconded (Lois) Passed.

The report of the conversation between the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee was presented by the President. The conversation centered on the role of the Standing Committee as it relates to the canonical process. According to Title III.6.4(b) & Title III.8.4(b), the Standing Committee approves a Postulant for Candidacy after an interview and review of the documentation. Thereafter the Standing Committee only certifies documentation prior to ordination to the Diaconate, Title III.6.6(c), (and to the Priesthood, Title III.8.6(d)). The President and Richard will prepare appropriate questions to be used by the committee at the interview prior to certification for Candidacy.

The Bishop presented his report a) the former sign of Saint Philip's Belmont is now installed at Saint Philip's Buffalo; b) the ordination of three Deacons in early June was a holy and beautiful time; c) deaths of Claudia Uffman, Tom McCart and Charles Grover's son-in-law; d) Leslie Burkhardt will be installed as Rector of Saint Thomas' Rochester in September; e) summer chapels are open now; f) Zion Avon continues its discernment; g) Deaf

Ministry (Ephphatha) is being re-visioned and will continue in a new way in the Diocese; h) The College for Congregational Development to be held in July is full; i) Episcopal Youth Event in Oklahoma – six are attending from the Diocese; j) the PRIDE parade in Rochester will be held in July; k) the Missionpalooza event in late July/early August is picking up speed for this year. More than Rochester city churches are involved this year for a whole week of mission; l) the Bishop and Roja will have two open house times at their residence in August; m) a Tri-Diocese (Rochester/Western New York/Central New York) Evensong will be held in August at Saint Peter's Henrietta to bring together the various bishops and staffs.

The Bishop asked us to reflect on the issue of Formation for young persons (young persons, students, young adults). The Diocese needs a formation program that is not a specialized ministry, but a program that incorporates young persons into the church.

A draft of an Anglican Studies Certification at Crozer Divinity School was shared by the Bishop for our comment.

It was reported that Trinity Geneva has received the approval of the city planning commission for its proposed development. The proposed development is being considered by the Trustees.

It was agreed to cancel the scheduled Standing Committee meeting in July. The August meeting, if necessary, will be at the call of the President.

[Susan left the meeting at 5:43 pm]

As required by our Behavioral Covenants the committee members shared their feelings regarding the process observed for today's meeting. Words offered were: helpful, understanding, fruitful, relaxed, smooth, fulfilling.

Prayer Requests before adjournment:

Sarah: Thanksgiving that Gretchen Lane's health has improved. Prayer for people who are travelling this summer

Lois: Prayer for the wedding of a grandson in mid-July and Karen Hanson's up-coming surgery

Christopher: Prayer for the widow of a late brother

Bishop Singh: Thanksgiving for Roja's improved health; Prayer for the Uffman, McCart, and Grover families in their grief
Richard: Prayer for a friend and colleague who is seriously ill in California.

The closing prayer was offered by Sarah incorporating our prayer concerns & and Prayer of Saint Francis.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hartney, Secretary