

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

March 26, 2025

PRESENT: Ms. Liz Salamone, Ms. Roxanne Gaylord, Rev. Nita Byrd, Mr. Richard Little,
Rev. Columba Salamony, Rev. Elizabeth Harden, Rev. Rob Picken,
Rt. Rev. Kara Wagner Sherer, Mr. Jim Burch

1. **Call to Order:** 6:30pm
2. **Opening Prayer:** Jim
3. **Welcome and Round Robin:** Quick introductions and welcome.
4. **Approval of February 26, 2025 Minutes:** Motion to accept made by Rob, seconded by Jim, carried unanimously.
5. **Bishop's agenda and consult**
 - Pastoral Concerns:
 - Reported recent death of the Rev. Gary Sawtelle, formerly at St. Thomas-Rochester
 - Retired clergy contact list updated—over 70 names.
 - Ember Letter
 - Columba's move from St. Mark's, Penn Yan to Trinity, Geneva.
 - Johnnie Ross retirement.
 - Replacements after retirement discussion.
 - New Website/Brand Development Update
 - Causewave (formerly Ad Council of Rochester)-private company. Columba agreed to act as a liaison with Sarah to reach out to them regarding their services/cost. Fact Sheet: [CAUSEWAVE Community Partners](#)
 - Title IV Update

6. Review of Ordination process:

- Review - Carla Aslakson-Yarnal
 - Application; additional information; outdated materials
 - Candidacy approved for ordination: Motion by Rob, 2nd by Columba.
Approved unanimously
- +Kara initiated discussion on the Ordination Process
 - Personnel: Sarah- spreadsheet, Virginia-liaison with CoM, Mike Laver-CoM, +Kara has final decision.
 - SC responsibilities: Checklist, request documents, timeliness of interview.
 - Interview questions: Switch from Title IV-based method to a “Review of (clergy) Expectations.” *If SC approves, is the candidate up to the task?* Perhaps a tiered approach with 2 interviews/meetings.
 - A task force of Nita, Rob, Elizabeth and Liz was appointed to resolve the process: ***Add new questions, TEC Canons.***
<https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/31954>
 - Upcoming Candidates for Review:
 - Carla Aslakson-Yarnal - Vocational Diaconate
 - Carl D'Angio - ~~Postulant~~ (Note: Corrected at 4/23 meeting - Not a Postulant)
 - Joel Wilbur - Priest
 - Maria Hartz - Transitional Diaconate
 - David Jutsum - Transitional Diaconate
 - Lydia Arnts - Transitional Diaconate

10. Closing Prayer: offered by Richard.

.

11. Close Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Little, Secretary

April Meeting: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 on Zoom