

Minutes of the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
Zoom Meeting 6:30 – 8:30 pm
November 29, 2023

PRESENT: Bishop Lane, Columba Salamony, Liz Salamone, Cam Miller, Roxanne Gaylord, Floyd Bayley, Ruth Ferguson, Nita Byrd

- Call to Order - 6:30
 - Meeting called to order by Liz at 6:32 p.m.
- Opening Prayer
 - Cam gathered us in prayer
- Reading of the Covenant? (Do we wish to continue this?)
 - The Covenant was read and discussed. Bishop Lane reviewed the history of the document dating back to 2015. A consensus was formed to table discussion of the Covenant and revisit it again in the Spring when the new bishop joins us.
- Round Robin - Three words as we enter Advent
- Approval of draft minutes
 - Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. A few amendments were reviewed regarding spelling and meeting date clarifications. Cam moved to accept the minutes; Floyd seconded. The motion passed without further discussion.
- Petition process update - any applicants & process discussion
 - Roxanne and Floyd comprise the subcommittee regarding petition candidates, though we have yet to receive any further names. Bishop Lane remarked he has heard really positive comments regarding the slate.
- Bishop's agenda and consult
 - Bishop Lane reviewed the purpose of the Bishop's Agenda and Consult portion of the meeting for the benefit of the new SC members.
 - Pastoral care
 - Bishop Lane shared pastoral concerns of the diocese
 - Standing Committee vacancy candidates (process/strategy)
 - The SC discussed how to fill the vacancy left by Jeremy Cooney. Bishop Lane will draft a list of names to present at the next meeting for the SC to appoint someone for the remaining year of Jeremy Cooney's term.
 - Staff changes
 - Bishop Lane reviewed staffing changes.
 - Bishop Lane gave a brief update on the Title IV process. The process will continue into the spring.
 - John Taylor study
 - John, a retired scholar based at St Johns, Canandaigua, has considered doing a study on churches in post-Covid recovery. He's proposed doing a study beginning in April, but is conscious of access to parishes and privacy of parishioners. Diocesan Council is considering its feasibility; Bishop Lane has recommended the SC to help be a responsible party for ensuring the ethical basis of the study. He invites us to review the study

materials in the shared drive and Bishop Lane will invite him to join us, if we are interested.

- Clergy retreat canceled
 - Bishop Lane communicated with the clergy today that the Advent quiet day has been canceled due to the complexity of everyone's schedules.
- Transition plans - Tour, election, consecration
 - The Transition Committee has arranged that the consecration will be at First Asbury Methodist in Rochester.
 - Bishop's vacation

Bishop Lane will be on vacation across the Christmas holiday and into January. He will be available electronically if there's an urgent need.
- INTERVIEW FOR CANDIDACY: Joel Wilbur - Joel joined at 7:30 for his interview
- Plan for an in-person gathering for D&NC / SC
 - Liz has spoken with Keisha regarding a potential joint meeting. Julie C. is considering planning a brunch in January. Ruth hopes we will identify what we would like to accomplish as a final meeting—is it a 'thanksgiving' for the discernment and discharging the D&NC from the hard work they did? Is there a timeline, or can we do a simple dinner and thanksgiving? Bishop Lane shared that in some dioceses, there is a joint discharge for the D&NC and Transition Committee; maybe that's a suitable/helpful alternative.
- Schedule a December meeting for SC to review petition candidates
 - Meeting will be scheduled later if we need it.
- How did the meeting go?
 - Floyd requested an updated roster with everyone's contact information.
- Closing Prayer
 - Columba closed us in prayer.
- Close meeting - 8:30
 - The meeting closed at 8:40 p.m.