

Diocese of Milwaukee
Executive Council Minutes
January 5, 2019 10:00 a.m.
St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee

Present: The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller; Mr. Clyde Bachand, Diocesan Treasurer; Ms. Kada Bush; the Rev. Kate Byrd; the Rev. Dr. Jonathan Grieser; the Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski; Mr. Ron Johnson; Mr. Peter Larson; the Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee; the Rev. Joel Prather; the Rev. Scott Seefeldt; the Rev. Debra Trakel and Mr. John Washbush

Others present: Canon Peggy Bean, Canon for Congregations; Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director, Trustees of Funds and Endowments and Ms. Marlene Udovich, Financial Officer

Absent: Ms. Janice Watter, Vice-President of Executive Council; Ms. Kristen Wold and the ex-officio member (attendance is optional); the Rev. Ian Burch, President, Commission on Ministry

At 10:09 a.m. Bishop Miller opened the meeting with the Our Father.

As an ice-breaker Bishop Miller asked the council members to give their name, parish, length on Executive Council and a Christmas memory.

Orientation Items:

The **roster** was passed around for updating.

The **Conflict of Interest** forms were distributed, signed and returned to the Executive Secretary for filing.

Bishop Miller read the current **Norms for Executive Council Meetings**. He felt that in matters of conflict of interest, the person should not only recuse himself/herself, but also leave the room. No other changes were suggested.

***The Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski moved and Mr. Ron Johnson seconded the motion to accept the norms as amended. Motion passed.

The **2019 meeting dates** were reviewed.

Action Items.

Approval of November minutes

Bishop Miller asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the minutes of the November 10, 2018 Executive Council Meeting. Hearing nothing, Bishop Miller declared the minutes from the November 10, 2018 Executive Council Meeting approved as presented.

Bishop's Remarks

Bishop Miller reflected:

--EC works best with specific work to do

--But seems not as successful with group meetings between EC meetings

--Consider, for this next term, that the EC would work in committees for the first part of the meetings and then come together for group reports and general business matters.

--Three committee areas:

Haiti Project – move to 501 3C, to be related to the diocese in a more formalized way

Diocese of Eau Claire – look at potential of Bishop Miller serving as the provisional bishop of Eau Claire

Canons – continue work in progress

The discussion that ensued encompassed the topics of Diocese of Eau Claire, the new meeting procedure as well as the need to establish the proper placement of a property committee.

Regarding Bishop Miller serving as provision bishop of Eau Claire:

- Currently Eau Claire has 3 FT; 10 PT congregations and a part time Bishop who is retiring
- Advantages: strengthen parishes; reduce expenses
- Bishop of New York willing to assist; Michigan also considering a similar possibility
- Involves a lot of initial hard work to define and clarify
- Needs serious discussions within the Milwaukee diocese

Regarding Property Committee

- Bishop Miller would like the Standing Committee to take the lead
- Important to get clarity around the issue
- Mr. John Washbush has material regarding the Canons and role of Standing Committee in property issues/very tangled
- Establish a way to keep the EC in the loop
- The Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski; the Rev. Jonathan Grieser and Mr. Ron Johnson are interested in being part of that group

Regarding new meeting procedure

- The model would be: working groups/business meeting
- Meetings end by 12:30
- Because each area is quite comprehensive, other members of the diocese can be invited to be part of the committee work during the opening hour or so of the EC meeting.
- Each member is to e-mail Bishop Miller with their choice of committee; he will appoint a chair and meet with them.

Additional Action Item

Re-election of Ms. Jan Watter as Vice-President of the Executive Council

Bishop Miller noted that Ms. Jan Watter has agreed to continue as vice-president.

***Ms. Kada Bush moved the re-election of Ms. Jan Water as vice-president of EC and Mr. John Washbush seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Haiti Project – Bishop Miller

A lengthy discussion began, to address the move of the Haiti project to 501 3C noting:

- time and money currently being invested in the project that is not being compensated
- the need to formalize the situation as boundaries are being pushed
- it is not about ending the ministry but creating a corporate veil
- relational, emotional, organizational, risky fiduciary issues and vulnerability in legal issues
- its replication of the Camp Webb situation
- there is support for the move coupled with the need to communicate and manage it carefully
- the need to reframe the move from a negative to a positive: a great moment to be free-standing, get grants; not a closing but a spinning off, "If a ministry is of the spirit, it will continue, just in a different way." (Rev. Debra Trakel)

St. Andrew's, Kenosha – The closing service is January 7th at 4:00 p.m. The intent is to sell the property because of its location and the number of needed repairs.

Finance Report

Ms. Marlene Udovich stated that:

- the year-end finance report would be submitted at the next meeting
- the 2018 audit would be put into drop box a.s.a.p.
- the finance committee will be interviewing the new finance reviewers with a planned "kick-off" of the new audit process April 1st

Mr. Clyde Bachand stated that the diocese is in good shape financially.

Ms. Jill Heller noted that;

- the finance committee has created a job description for Marlene's position and is beginning to interview for that position
- the finance committee is clarifying the position of book keeper (in-house/outsource)

Canon's Report – Canon Peggy Bean

From her written report Canon Peggy Report highlighted the following;

- COMD is creating a checklist for healthy developing congregations.
- St. Mary's. Dousman is in the interviewing stage.
- The Ref. Kevin Stewart continues as chaplain especially to MPS teachers and families.
- The Hospitality Service is an example of new rising out of the old.

Bishop Miller's Report

St. Luke's Hospital, Racine – Bishop Miller noted that a second letter was sent to Ascension Aurora with no response.

St. Martin's, Brown Deer – Bishop Miller indicated that though other churches have expressed interest in purchasing the property, he is hoping to sell it to the Brown Deer School District as a straight cash offer.

St. Luke's, Whitewater – Talks with the former owners are still ongoing.

The Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski presented two bids regarding St. Luke's, Whitewater:
\$600.00 to move appliances from St. Luke's, Whitewater to Fort Atkinson.
\$800.00 to turn off water/winterize St. Luke's, Whitewater

***Mr. Clyde Bachand moved and Mr. Ron Johnson seconded the acceptance of the two bids. The motion passed.

Bishop Miller noted:

--the Celebration of New Ministry for the Rev. Scott Leannah, St. Thomas of Canterbury, Greendale and the Rev. Pedro Lara, Christ Church, Delavan.

--the clergy retreat at DeKoven from January 21st-23rd

***Mr. Peter Larson moved and the Rev. Joel Prather seconded the adjournment of the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting is March 2, 2019 at St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Margaret (Marge) M. Kiss
Executive Secretary & Recorder of the Minutes

Current EC Task Forces and Members

EC Constitution and Canons

Mr. John Washbush
The Rev. Elisabeth "Liz" Tester
The Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee

Diocesan Organizational Chart(s)

Mr. John Washbush
Ms. Kada Bush
Mr. Ron Johnson

Shape of Convention in General/Planning for the 2019 Diocesan Convention

Ms. Jan Watter, Vice-President of the Executive Council
The Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski
Mr. John Washbush

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Appendix I

**ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT ST.
BARTHOLOMEW'S, PEWAUKEE**

Future Meeting Dates for 2019 Executive Council

March 2, 2019	10 AM
April 6, 2019	10 AM
May 4, 2019	10 AM
June 1, 2019	10 AM
September 7, 2019	10 AM
October 5, 2019	10 AM
November 2, 2019	10 AM

Appendix II

2019 Norms for Executive Council Meetings as amended at the January meeting

Begin with prayer

Start and end on time

Receive and Review material one week ahead of time of meeting

Respectful communication

 Assume good/best intentions

 Seek to model reconciliation

 Look for the best in others

 Give the best we have

 Gentleness first

Recuse oneself, leave the room and abstain from matters in which one has conflict of interest

Respect the “confidential nature” of the discussion (Identify if confidential)

All responsible for the process at the table; Pay attention/Be actively engaged

All members of Executive Council are authorized to raise their hand, to call for a pause in the process, and to ask for a moment of prayer from the Bishop

We are always The Church