

**Standing Committee Meeting**  
**August 13, 2019, 5:45 p.m.**  
**St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church, Pewaukee, WI**

**Attendees:** Jamie Cairo, Celia Fine, The Rev. Andy Jones, The Rev. Scott Leannah, The Rev. Gary Manning, Tammy Prather, Sheryl Slocum, The Rev. Elizabeth Tester,

6:00 p.m. - Opening prayer - Leannah

Prather brought in the last of the SC notebooks from Kada Bush and gave it to Tester, who will go through the notebook to be sure it is organized and to gather important information from it.

Three diocesan bishop elections were unanimously consented to:

- Diocese of El Camino Real – The Rev. Canon Lucinda Ashby
- Diocese of Vermont – The Rev. Dr. Shannon McVean-Brown
- Diocese of Michigan – The Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry

Draft Letter Concerning Parish Property Records – Tester reminded the SC of the rationale behind the letter; namely, that it has come to our attention that the property records at the diocesan office are incomplete. It was agreed that sending this letter is the right way to begin to rectify the situation. Tester's draft was discussed, including suggestions for including a due date and a short anecdote to illustrate to the parishes why this is a good thing for them to do.

Discussion followed about the optimal time for sending the letter. It may be best to announce and distribute the letter at Convention or at the September Clergy Day. It was agreed that Tester will revise the draft so that the letter is ready for distribution.

Approval of Minutes: Slocum will send out the minutes from the June 4<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup> meetings so that they can be reviewed and approved via e-mail.

6:30 p.m. Bishop Steven Miller arrived with Bishop Todd Ousley from the national Office of Pastoral Development ([tousley@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:tousley@episcopalchurch.org) 646-983-9445)

Bishop Miller opened with prayer.

Bishop Miller announced his plan to retire at the end of this next visitation cycle. He stated that his announcement letter will go out to the diocese tomorrow. The Bishop added that he feels the timing is good for electing the 12<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Milwaukee because there is a strong Standing Committee in place.

Bishop Ousley's presentation:

- He is the Presiding Bishop's representative to take order with diocesan elections
- Ousley will help us explore what this means for the Diocese of Milwaukee. The process is not rigid; rather, it is a creative process carried out with the Standing Committee, staff, and sometimes other boards.
- Best practice is for the Standing Committee to manage the election process
- The Bishop remains in charge of the diocesan convention

- The Standing Committee will walk together with the rest of the diocese to put together the election process, including
  - Hiring a consultant
  - Thinking about who will serve well on the Search & Nomination committee
  - Thinking about who will serve well on the Transition Committee
  - Helping to develop a timeline for the process

Bishop Ousley distributed a handout from the national church as a guide for the Standing Committee

Bishop Ousley described the flow of events:

- A Consultant is hired
- The 2 committees are formed
- The 2 committees and maybe the SC go on retreat
- A profile is developed
- The Search and Nomination Committee's discernment process results in 3-5 candidates' names being presented to the SC
- The SC affirms the names and opens up a time (no more than 2 weeks) for petition nominees
- The Transition Committee manages the walkabouts and gets nominees ready for election
- The Transition Committee manages post-election work

Bishop Miller described the timetable he envisions for his retirement and the election, adding that he feels his suggested timetable is optimal due to the vagaries of the housing market in this part of the country. Also, past history from when the diocese was without a bishop makes a swift transition desirable.

Bishop Ousley pointed out that the Bishop's timetable is tight but doable for a Standing Committee that is well organized.

- He will send us the names of at least 2 consultants almost immediately after the Bishop Miller's letter is released
- The overall cost of a transition is probably about \$200,000 over the course of 2 years. Fortunately, it looks as if the diocese will be fine because we already have \$50-60,000 in a fund
  - Consultants cost about \$10,000 (\$660/day) with travel and prep days at half that price

Bishop Miller added that in his process, the Search and Transition committees did a good job

Bishop Miller handed out his Proposed Separation/Retirement Package and a copy of the original Compensation Package he received

- Bishop Ousley pointed out that it's a good covenant: the compensation is on track for this part of the country

The SC needs to endorse the Proposed Separation/Retirement Package, and then Leannah will take it to EC

At this point, Bishop Miller left the meeting so that Bishop Ousley and the SC could discuss the upcoming transition

- The timing of Bishop Miller's retirement and the election of a new bishop was discussed.
- Ousley described several different possible consultants for the SC.
- Leannah confirmed with Ousley that we will soon receive the names of several consultants. Our next item of business will be to select one of them to work with us.
- Ousley suggested that the SC send a statement to the diocese within the next several weeks in order to keep communication transparent and to allay concerns about the upcoming transition. Leannah will compose a draft and circulate it to the SC by e-mail for comment and approval.

Bishop Ousley left the meeting.

It was agreed that the SC will interview the consultants via Zoom meetings and that Slocum will distribute a draft of these minutes as soon as feasible.

8:30 p.m. Closing blessing by Leannah