

**Standing Committee Meeting**  
**September 10, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**  
**St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church, Pewaukee, WI**

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

6:00 p.m. – Opening prayer – Prather

Consent to the Episcopal election of The Rev. Martha “Marty” Stebbins to the Diocese of Montana – unanimously approved

Approval of June, July, and August minutes: the minutes will be sent to Sarah Bittner

Discussion of the separation package for Bishop Miller, items discussed included:

Expressions of gratitude for Bishop Steven Miller’s 16 years of leadership

Confirmation that Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s proposed visit to the Diocese of Milwaukee has been rescheduled

Plans of diocesan staff:

Canon for Congregations Peggy Bean will reduce her hours to half-time in January 2020

Other diocesan staff may retire at the same time as, or soon after, the bishop. These considerations support the Bishop’s desired timeline of electing a new bishop by November 2020

Both the Executive Council and Finance Committee have urged the Standing Committee to be aware of diocesan finances and to be transparent

A decision was reached to:

Offer the right for the Bishop to retain the email, [bishop11@diomil.org](mailto:bishop11@diomil.org);

Agree that the Bishop retain his iPhone and iPad;

Give the 2016 Envision that he currently uses to the Bishop with grateful acknowledgement that he utilized his General Motors A Plan in the purchase of vehicles during his 16-year tenure;

Accept the Bishop’s proposal of a sabbatical from January through mid-March 2020; and

Agree to a terminal sabbatical for November and December of 2020; but

Decline to pay a portion of the Bishop’s health insurance after his retirement date of December 31, 2020, because there appear to be no examples of this benefit being offered to other clergy or to those who retire from secular employment.

The above was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Leannah will draft a letter to the Bishop detailing our response to his proposed retirement package. Leannah will route the letter to the members of the Standing Committee for their approval. Once approved, the letter will be sent to the Bishop and a copy of it will be attached to

these minutes. In addition, it was agreed to offer to meet with the Bishop at our October meeting if he would like to speak with us regarding our decision.

Leannah announced the upcoming Zoom interviews with two possible consultants:

The Rev. Ann Hallisey at 7 p.m. on September 23

The Rev. Gary Butterworth at 6 p.m. on September 24

If needed, we will contact the 3<sup>rd</sup> consultant recommended to us for an October interview

Leannah stated that we are already receiving possible names for the Search and Transition committees, but we must hire a consultant before selecting names to put forward. The timeline for the immediate future is to:

Send our response letter to the Bishop's proposed separation package

Interview possible consultants

Hire a consultant

With the consultant's help make decisions about the process we will follow

Reorganize the Standing Committee after the upcoming diocesan convention

Prather suggested and it was agreed that we should reach out to the staff at Nicholson House to express our concern for their well-being and to ask about their intentions regarding their employment during and after the transition. We should arrange to have a conversation with them after the first of the year.

Jones brought up that he has heard from the new priest at St. Francis House that he has not yet been paid, and he has recently hired an office coordinator. Jones was recommended to urge him to send a letter to the Executive Council and the Standing Committee so that the situation can be dealt with.

Leannah announced that without the knowledge or consent of the Standing Committee, an e-mail went out stating that Clergy Day was cancelled because the Standing Committee didn't have anything to report yet. This was due to poor communication, giving the impression that we fell down on the job. In the future, we must be very clear with our communication.

With that in mind, it was agreed that as soon as we choose the consultant for the transition process, we need to release a formal letter to the diocese.

8:00 p.m.: Closing blessing by Jones.