

**Diocese of Milwaukee
Executive Council
Minutes
February 2, 2021 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM**

Roll Call was taken.

Present: The Rev. Joel Prather, Vice-President of the Executive Council; Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer; the Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee; Ms. D'Arcy Becker; the Rev. Steve Capitelli; Dr. John Johnson; the Rev. Pedro Lara; the Rev. Pippa Lindwright; Ms. Janice Pauc; the Rev. Scott Seefeldt; Mr. John Vogel and Mr. John Washbush

Others present: The Rev. Dr. Kevin Huddleston, Canon for Finance and Administration; Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director of Trustees of Funds & Endowments and Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq., Chancellor

Absent: Canon Peggy Bean, Canon for Congregations; Mr. Peter Larson and the ex-officio member (attendance is optional): the Rev. Ian Burch, President of Commission on Ministry

At 6:30 p.m. The Rev. Joel Prather called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

January Minutes

The Rev. Joel Prather asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the Executive Council minutes of January 13, 2021 Executive Council minutes.

***The Rev. Scott Seefeldt moved and Ms. Janice Pauc seconded that the January 13, 2021 Executive Council minutes be approved as presented. The motion carried.

Monthly Finance Report

Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer, presented the diocesan financial report for February, noting: "We are doing fine."

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston, Canon for Finance and Administration, reported that:

--The new payroll process went well; more user friendly.

--Letters of Agreement/Memos of Understanding are being created for all entities the diocese is funding; essential paper trail.

Executive Council members requested a short "class" on the diocesan loan policy, previous loan decisions and current outstanding loans.

DeKoven Center – Mr. John Vogel

Mr. Vogel gave a short history of the DeKoven Center task force progress to date and stated that they had a better sense of the purpose and direction of the committee.

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston noted that financial memorials for the Rev. Dr. Steve Peay will most likely be held by TFE for a "Rev. Dr. Steve Peay Archives at DeKoven Center."

Standing Committee Report

The Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee, reviewed the names/dates of the Assisting Bishops

He reported that:

--The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Lee will begin serving April 1st, with a convention on June 26th, via Zoom, to officially elect him as Provisional Bishop.

--The annual diocesan convention will be October 9th; how and where it will be held is still under discussion.

--The Standing Committee, along with Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Chancellor, the Rev. Anne Hallisey, diocesan consultant, and the Assisting Bishop of the moment meet twice a month.

--Members of the Standing Committee are calling/meeting with parish leadership and the diocesan office:

1. to “take the pulse”
2. to be proactive, if financial assistance is needed
3. to address the underlying culture in the diocese, the way we communicate and operate, the many aspects of common life

The Rev. Joel Prather also called attention to the positive/proactive discussion at the Finance committee meeting with the Standing Committee liaison – handling financial assistance relationally.

Haiti Project Report

The Rev. Steve Capitelli noted that:

--The fourth quarter was good; they were able to fully fund the school until the end of the year.

--Overall sustainability is murky.

--Jenjenio Conserve, the “on-the-ground” liaison, has resigned.

--There is restructuring on the steering committee.

--Redevelopment after Bishop Jeffrey Lee is on board is a goal.

2021 Convention and Task Force

--Previous convention planning binder at least 10 years old.

--Ms. Barbara Klauber, Administrative Assistant, is preparing a list of convention roles and responsibilities

--Any names of “wedding planners” should be submitted to the Rev. Kevin Huddleston.

Final Thoughts:

The Rev. Joel Prather reflected that these are transitional months and that any “deep dives” will be held until the Right Reverend Jeffrey Lee is on board.

Mr. John Washbush wondered about filling the vacancy left by the resignation of the Rev. Kevin Huddleston; he said that the process is not noted in the Canon.

The Rev. Joel Prather will follow up with an e-mail asking for input.

Mr. John Vogel moved and the Rev. Steve Capitelli seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Rev. Joel Prather led closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m. (a gift)

Carry-over Items:

- A review for the EC of the Diocesan Loan Policy, the special loans and current loans
- Task Force for Conventions
- “Elect” a replacement for The Rev. Kevin Huddleston

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

Appendix I

2021 Meeting Dates -- Executive Council Tuesday at 6:30p.m. via ZOOM

Tentative meeting dates.

March 2nd

no April meeting / Holy Week

May 4th

June 1st

no July meeting

August 3rd

September 14th (pushed back for Labor Day)

no October meeting / Convention

November 2nd

no December meeting

Appendix II

2021 Norms for Executive Council Meetings

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 a 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.