

**Diocese of Milwaukee
Executive Council Minutes
January 13, 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; Mr. 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. Kevin Huddleston, Canon for Finance and Administration; Canon Peggy Bean, Canon for Congregations; Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director of Trustees of Funds & Endowments and Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq., Chancellor

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

At 6:33 p.m. The Rev. Joel Prather called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

November and December Minutes

The Rev. Joel Prather asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the Executive Council minutes of November 7, 2020 and the December 9, 2020 special session Executive Council minutes. For the November minutes, Mr. John Vogel clarified that the Rev. Geoffrey Ward serves as a resource person to the De Koven Task Force; he is not an actual member of the task force.

***Ms. D'Arcy Becker moved and Mr. John Vogel seconded that the November 7, 2020 Executive Council minutes and the December 9, 2020 special session Executive Council minutes be approved as presented with one clarification. The motion carried.

Special Announcements

The Rev. Joel Prather announced that our long serving chancellor, Mr. Stuart Parsons, Esq. died.

He also read a thank you note from Bishop Miller.

Orientation Paperwork

- The EC roster was completed via e-mail and is in drop box
- Conflict of Interest Policy for new members can be signed, copied and sent via e-mail
- Meeting dates are attached to the agenda and to the minutes

Orientation

--Election of Vice-President

***The Rev. Scott Seefeldt moved that the Rev. Joel Prather continue on as Vice-President of the Executive Council. It was seconded by many.

***The Rev. Scott Leannah moved to close elections and it was seconded by the Rev. Steve Capitelli.

***Since there was no objection, the Rev. Joel Prather was declared elected as Vice-President of the Executive Council by acclamation.

--The Rev. Joel Prather read the 2020 norms for meetings, and they continue, without change, for 2021.

--The Rev. Joel Prather led the council in table reading Canon 7. Certain areas that have not been regularly addressed as well as areas that need clarification were noted for further discussion and review.

Separate Order of Business

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston tendered his resignation from the Executive Council. He cannot serve as a member of the council since he is, now, a member of the Diocesan staff.

***Mr. John Vogel moved to accept the resignation of the Rev. Kevin Huddleston as a member of Executive Council. It was seconded by Mr. Mike Weber. The motion carried.

Diocesan Finance Overview

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston, Canon for Finance and Administration, did a QED (quite easily done) presentation covering:

--the difference between finance and accounting

--budget

--source of Diocesan funding

--working guidelines

--what the monthly report will look like

--the relationship between the Executive Council and the Finance Committee

Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer added that "the idea is to keep it simple but with adequate details."

Trustees of Funds and Endowments Overview

Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director, Trustees of Funds and Endowments, first addressed the fact that Canon 7, Section 3 of the Diocesan Constitution and Canons stipulates that it is the president of the TFE who is to participate in EC. It will be up to the EC if/how any changes will occur.

Ms. Jill Heller then presented an overview of the ministry of TFE as providing financial solutions for the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee through a Combined Investment Fund, Charitable Gifts of Stock and Endowment Building and Planned Giving.

Finally, she submitted to the council a summary of the funds owned by or benefitting the Diocese as of January 7, 2021.

Standing Committee Report

The Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee reported that:

--The Standing Committee is now the Ecclesiastical Authority.

--They are/will be assisted by:

The Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter until February 15, 2021

The Rt. Rev. Keith Whitmore from February 16, 2021 through March 31, 2021

- The Provisional Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Lee will begin serving April 1st, with a convention in late June, by Zoom, to officially elect him; his term of office is negotiable.
- The work of the Standing Committee is pastoral and administrative.
- The Standing Committee is now meeting twice a month.

Canon for Congregational Development Report – written

Canon Bean called attention to up-coming planning meetings to address budgets and parochial reports. She noted that material regarding parochial reports has been added into drop box.

Action Items

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston called attention to:

- the document, Recommendation to the Executive Council, in drop box. This document lays out criteria for loans in 2021. It will be discussed and voted on at a future meeting.

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston brought to the Executive Council a request from St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Racine for a matching \$10,000.00 grant as well as that the Diocese act as co-signer on an approximately \$54,760.00 loan. The Finance Committee recommends accepting the requests

After a brief discussion:

***Mr. John Washbush moved that the requests be separated. Dr. John Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

***Mr. John Washbush moved that the Executive Council approve a matching grant of \$10,000.00 to St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Racine, with the funds coming from the Permanent Development Fund. Dr. John Johnson seconded the motion, The motion carried.

***Mr. John Washbush moved that the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee serve as co-signer on a loan, which has been approved by the Standing Committee and secured by St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Racine, for roof damage. Dr. John Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston brought to the Executive Council a request from Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Sun Prairie for forgiveness of a \$126,000.00 loan.

It was noted that all the original conditions for forgiveness of the loan were met; however, it was not done within the stipulated time frame. The Finance Committee recommends accepting the request.

***The Rev. Scott Leannah moved to approve forgiving the \$126,000.00 loan made to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Sun Prairie. Mr. John Vogel seconded the motion. The motion carried with one dissent.

Discussion on the 2021 Convention and Task Force was put on hold. The Standing Committee will be meeting January 26th and will have recommendations for dates for both conventions by the next EC meeting.

The Mother Pippa Lindwright moved and Mr. John Vogel seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

The Rev. Pedro Lara led closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Carry-over Items:

Document regarding future approval of loans: Recommendation to the Executive Council

Date for and discussion/establish a Task Force for 2021 conventions.

“Deep dive” into Canon 7

The Executive Secretary will search previous minutes for any references/resolutions regarding authorization to sign documents.

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.

February 2nd

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.