

**Diocese of Milwaukee
Executive Council Minutes
November 7, 2020 9:30 a.m. via ZOOM**

Roll Call was taken.

Present: The Rev. Joel Prather, Vice-President of the Executive Council; Ms. D'Arcy Becker; the Rev. Steve Capitelli; Ms. Joann Faull; the Rev. Kevin Huddleston, Canon for Finance and Administration; Mr. Ron Johnson; the Rev. Pedro Lara; Mr. Peter Larson; the Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee; the Rev. Scott Seefeldt; the Rev. Debra Trakel, Mr. John Vogel and Mr. John Washbush and Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer

Others present: Canon Peggy Bean, Canon for Congregations and Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director of Trustees of Funds & Endowments

Guests: Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq., chancellor and
Ms. Liz Orelup, Esq., vice chancellor
New Executive Council Members:
Mr. John Johnson
The Rev. Pippa Lindwright
Ms. Janice Pauc

Absent: The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller and the ex-officio member (attendance is optional):
the Rev. Ian Burch, President of Commission on Ministry

At 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Joel Prather called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

September Minutes

The Rev. Joel Prather asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the Executive Council minutes of September 20, 2020.

***Mr. Ron Johnson moved and Mr. John Vogel seconded that the September 20, 2020 Executive Council minutes be approved as presented. The motion carried.

Finance Report – Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer

Mr. Mike Weber reported that:

--All parishes except one are current with assessments.
--St. Matthias is at least three months behind; it is before the finance committee for review.
--twelve parishes have requested the pro-offered month's waiver of assessment totaling about \$40,500.00.

***Mr. Peter Larson moved and Mr. Ron Johnson seconded that the Executive Council receive the financial report as presented by Mr. Mike Weber. The motion carried.

Standing Committee Report – The Rev. Scott Leannah, President

The Rev. Scott Leannah reported that:

--a Q&A message was sent to the diocese.
--There will be two Assisting Bishops, each serving 1-2 months, due to timing.
--The Assisting Bishops will serve as resources and will not be salaried.

- The Provisional Bishop will begin serving @ April 1st, with a convention, by Zoom, to elect him/her in June/July. The deputies to this convention are the deputies elected in 2021.
- Liaisons from the Standing Committee will keep in touch with diocesan staff and other diocesan entities to build community.
- “We have a lot of work to do.”

Task Force Updates

DeKoven Center – Mr. John Vogel

Mr. Vogel reported that:

- The Rev. Geoffrey Ward is now on the committee

Note: Mr. John Vogel clarified that the Rev. Geoffrey Ward serves as a resource person; he is not a member of the committee.

- He has a dual focus regarding DeKoven – its service to the diocese and its financial status
- Discussion brought in the need to clarify the by-laws and the relationship of DeKoven to the diocese -- ultimately who is responsible for DeKoven.

Constitution and Canons – Mr. John Washbush

Through discussion it was determined that, in this transitional time, the task force and review of the Constitution and Canons will be put on hold.

Haiti Project Report – written

The Rev. Steve Capitelli noted that:

- The life of the Haiti project is perilous.
- “Full discussion of the future sustainability and possible exit strategy will be held at the January, 2021 meeting.
- The Executive Council, led by the Rev. Steve Capitelli, prayed for the health and sustainability of Haiti.

Chancellor’s Report

The Rev. Joel Prather congratulated Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq. the new chancellor of the diocese, and thanked Ms. Liz Orelup, Esq. for her continuing work with the diocese.

Mr. Mark Ehrmann reported that he is working with the Rev. Scott Leannah on the agreement for the Provisional Bishop.

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston spoke about the legal issue surrounding the Boy Scouts of America bankruptcy case and any relationship they have/may have had with any parish. The date for the reports from the parishes is November 16.

Canon for Congregational Development Report – written

Canon Bean called attention to:

- the need to pay attention to the rural churches
- up-coming planning meetings to address formation, the annual meeting and worship

Canon for Finance and Administration – written

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston called attention to:

- webinars being offered
- that the finance committee has received:
 1. Approximately \$80,000 in requests from parishes for financial assistance in 2021.

2. A request from St. Bart's Pewaukee for a 2nd month of Assessment forgiveness.
3. A signed offer on the Lazarus House in Janesville. Tentative closing date is November 16, 2020. Both the Bishop and Standing Committee have agreed to the sale of the property.

--brought the following motions --

***The Rev. Kevin Huddleston hereby moved that The Reverend Kathy Monson-Lutes be authorized as the legal representative of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee by the Executive Council for the purpose of conducting any and all business related to the sale of the Lazarus House in Janesville, Wisconsin. Mr. Ron Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

***The Rev. Kevin Huddleston moved the 2021 Housing Resolutions for the clergy employed by the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee be approved. (see below) Mr. John Vogel seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Housing Resolution for 2021 for

The Reverend Canon Dr. Kevin D. Huddleston

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Reverend Canon Dr. Kevin D. Huddleston during 2021, \$30,000 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Reverend Canon Dr. Kevin D. Huddleston for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2021 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Housing Resolution for 2021 for The Rev. Donald Fleischman

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rev. Donald Fleischman during 2021, \$30,000 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of St. Francis House providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rev. Donald Fleischman for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2021 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Housing Resolution for 2021 for The Rev. Kevin Stewart

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rev. Kevin Stewart during 2021, \$21,848.00 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rev. Kevin Stewart for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2021 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Housing Resolution for 2021 for The Rev. Seth Raymond

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rev. Seth Raymond during 2021, \$24,000 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rev. Seth Raymond for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2021 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

--Finally, The Rev. Kevin Huddleston recommended setting, as soon as possible, the date for the 2021 convention and establishing a 2021 Diocesan Convention Task Force.

Vice-President Updates

The Rev. Joel Prather asked that the Executive Council read closely and carefully Canon 7 – Of the Diocesan Corporation and Executive Council. It will be part of the January orientation meeting along with how to read financial reports.

He also asked the members to consider new meeting dates and times (week nights? early a.m.?) He will send out a survey.

He thanked the outgoing members for their service and commitment to the Executive Council:

Ms. Joan Faull

Mr. Ron Johnson

the Rev. Debra Trakel

Mr. John Washbush noted a error in the minutes—the name of the parish that was sold. The minutes were corrected.

The Mr. Peter Larson moved and the Rev. Steve Capitelli seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.

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.

January 5th - 2021 Orientation

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

2020 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.