

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

**Roll Call was taken.**

**Present:** Bishop Jeffrey Lee; the Rev. Joel Prather, Vice-President of the Executive Council; Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer; the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, 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 and Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq., Chancellor

**Absent:** Mr. Peter Larson; the Rev. Scott Leannah, Canon for Ministries; Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director of Trustees of Funds & Endowments and the ex-officio member (attendance is optional); the Rev. Ian Burch, President of Commission on Ministry

**Special Guests:** Ms. Judith Miller and Mr. Roger Mukasa

At 6:30 p.m. the Rev. Joel Prather called the meeting to order and offered the opening prayer.

**August 3, 2021 EC Minutes, Minutes from the Special Executive Council Meeting August 31, 2021 and Minutes from the September 14, 2021 Single Item Meeting**

The Rev. Joel Prather asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the Executive Council minutes of the August 3, 2021 EC meeting, the August 31, 2021 Special Executive Council Meeting and the September 14, 2021 single item meeting.

\*\*\*Ms. Janice Pauc moved and Dr. John Johnson seconded that the Executive Council minutes of the August 3, 2021 EC meeting, the August 31, 2021 Special Executive Council Meeting and the September 14, 2021 single item meeting be approved as presented. The motion carried.

**Norms for EC Meetings**

Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq., diocesan chancellor and corporate attorney, spoke briefly on the norms for Executive Council meetings.

He noted that:

- They break out into two themes: respect and confidentiality.
- Confidentiality is important legally and as a way of preserving internal discussions.
- The EC, in many ways, is a type of Board of Directors.

Bishop Lee added that there is a difference between *confidentiality* and *secrecy*, that confidentiality is a matter of "holding in trust."

**Update from Bishop Jeffrey Lee**

Bishop Lee spoke of:

- the Clergy Conference: which became more of a retreat; was held in a welcoming environment at a favorable time of year; brought clarity to the Diocesan Renewal Task Force

The Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller added that the “retreat” gave hope; felt like a renewal. – “We can do it; we just have to choose to.”

The Rev. Steve Capitelli felt that the site was a “great choice” and the time of year was a “stroke of genius.”

The Rev. Kevin Huddleston told of the Rev. Scott Leannah’s observation that after the retreat, there wasn’t the usual rush to clear out; many hung around and engaged in further conversation.

**NOTE:** Next Clergy Conference – October 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at Holy Wisdom, Madison

### **Continuing Update from Bishop Jeffrey Lee**

--Exploratory Group (Tri-Diocesan) meets Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> with consultant Rev. Anne Hallisey

**Review** of the first gathering by two of the Milwaukee diocese reps. – Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, positive and intentional; Mr. John Vogel, encouraging with breadth of dialog.

**Question** regarding our search for a bishop and the possible merging of the three diocese

**Response** – fluid; will be part of future Standing Committee meetings

--9 of the pastoral vacancies have been filled; 2 are on the verge (and Father Scott has been in the position only half a year!)

--The two support teams are up and running:

**The Diocesan Resource Team** that surveys (i.e. “views the diocese as a whole from the balcony.”) **FYI** The team includes: Ms. Margaret Done, Mtr. Esther Kramer, Fr. Jason Lavann, Fr. Scott Leannah, Fr. Gary Manning and Ms. Kelly Noles.

**The Parish Support Team** that walks with the parish. (“very much on the ground”)

**FYI** The team includes: Fr. Matthew Buterbaugh, Fr. Kevin Carroll, Mtr. Miranda Hassett, Fr. TJ Humphrey, Fr. Scott Leannah, and Mtr. Melesa Skoglund.

--Prayers for the Rev. Scott Seefeldt who is one the three finalists for the position of Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield.

“I feel stunned and humbled. See where God leads.” Scott S.

--He (Bishop Lee) was appointed as the Chair of the House of Bishop’s legislative committee for the Prayer Book (BCP) Liturgy and Music.

--There will soon be a decision regarding who will replace Ms. Liz Orelup as the church attorney, important to the Title IV process.

### **Update from the Standing Committee**

The Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, President of the Standing Committee, reported that:

--a number of requests regarding property issues were brought to the SC; one was approved and others are in need of refinement.

--the review of the Haiti project is ongoing

### **Planning for Bishop’s Annual Review**

Rev. Joel Prather wondered about the procedure for the Bishop’s Annual Review. Bishop Lee summarized the process that was used in Chicago and gave some suggestions:

--SC acts on behalf of the EC

--the use of an outside consultant

--a mutual ministry review

After further discussion and possible methods were reviewed, Bishop Lee suggested a sub-committee of Rev. Joel Prather, VP of the Executive Council, Rev. Jana Troutman, President of the SC, Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq. Diocesan chancellor and the bishop, develop a process and bring the recommendation to the next meeting.

### **Finance and Administration Report**

Canon Kevin Huddleston reported that:

- along with the Diocesan Resource Team, the Finance Committee is developing a loan policy and procedures to be brought to the EC for review and approval
- the Boy Scout bankruptcy issue is not going away; packets that need to be completed have been sent to the involved parishes
- assessment payments continue to come in; no one is behind; there is a good financial cushion

### **September 2021 Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Mike Weber, Treasurer, noted that:

- there is currently nothing to report

### **Orientation**

- will be in January
- topics: reading diocesan financial reports; best business practices
- date (doodle poll)

### **Final Thoughts:**

The Rev. Joel Prather expressed his appreciation to the outgoing EC members: Mr. Peter Larson, the Rev. Scott Seefeldt and Mr. John Washbush.

There will be no meeting in December. Meetings in 2022 TBD.

The Bishop's office will send out a Doodle Poll re: dates and method of meeting for 2022.

Bishop Lee, with the commemoration of the Faithful Departed in mind, asked the members of EC, if they chose, to speak the names of the deceased they wanted to remember; he then offered the final prayer in their memory.

Bishop Lee gave a blessing; Deacon Marge said the dismissal.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

**NOTE:** Though the members of the two support names were not mentioned at the meeting, I have included them for your information.

## Appendix I

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

**Tentative meeting dates.**

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.