

Standing Committee
March 10, 2020
6:30 p.m. -- St. Mary's, Dousman

Present: Celia Fine, Andy Jones, Scott Leannah, Gary Manning, Tammy Prather, Sheryl Slocum, and Marcus White

Excused: Jana Troutman-Miller

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, there was an informal conversation between members present and Standing Committee Liaison to the Search Committee, Tammy Prather. Prather updated members present relative to COVID-19 issues, and how the Search Committee was developing plans to include virtual meetings, etc. Prather noted there was much work to do in this regard to keep the process moving forward.

The meeting was called to order by Scott Leannah at 6:37 p.m.
An opening prayer was offered by Celia Fine.

A. Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Celia Fine and second by Andy Jones, the minutes of December 10th, were approved unanimously as amended.

Upon a motion by Andy Jones and a second by Marcus White, the minutes of January 14th were unanimously approved.

B. Update from Search Committee -- Tammy Prather

Prather presented a draft of the budgetary schedule, (attached), and walked the members of the Standing Committee through the process. The Committee was unanimous in its appreciation of her work to deliver a realistic budget.

Upon motion from Sheryl Slocum and with a second by Celia Fine the Search Committee Budget of \$143,090.00 was unanimously approved.

Leannah noted that the Finance Committee of the Diocese is scheduled to meet at St. Thomas of Canterbury in Greendale, WI on April 22nd at 1:00 p.m., and that he and Prather plan to attend and present the draft budget.

Following the Committee's approval of the Search Process Draft Budget there was additional conversation relative to particulars of the Search Process itself, as well as a discussion about when "the Search" ends and "the Transition" begins -- particularly as this relates to costs of an electing convention, costs of background checks/psychological evaluations of the candidates, relocation costs for the next Bishop, and the costs related to offering Bishop Miller's a proper farewell.

Leannah and Prather agreed that an "Addendum to the Search Budget" needs to specify the Standing Committee's understanding that there will be additional costs related to Relocation, Bishop Miller Farewell, Staff severance, Transition staff, etc. The draft budget, once it has cleared the Finance Committee will be forwarded to the Executive Council for final approval.

Prather outlined the general agenda of the upcoming Search Committee listening sessions. Presently the Search Committee anticipates conducting 34 such sessions across the Diocese. Again the Standing Committee expressed its appreciation of Prather's efforts as liaison.

C. Confirming Bishop Miller's Retirement Date

There was significant conversation amongst Standing Committee members to understand our Process Timeline in light of the ambiguous date of the present Bishop's proposed retirement. A number of scenarios have been discussed, but nothing concrete has been decided. In the end, the Standing Committee authorized the President, Scott Leannah, communicate with Bishop Miller once again requesting a date certain for retirement, and asking Bishop Miller to inform the Standing Committee of his decision by March 31, 2020.

D. Episcopal Consents

Upon motion by Andy Jones with a second by Tammy Prather, the Standing Committee consented by acclamation to the elections of the Rev'd. Paulson Reed (Oklahoma), the Rev'd. Craig Loya (Minnesota), and the Rev'd. Glenda Curry (Alabama)

E. St. Matthew's, Kenosha Petition

The Vestry of St. Matthew's petitioned the Standing Committee for permission to sell a house on non-contiguous property, which was gifted to the parish as a bequest.

Upon motion by Tammy Prater and with a second from Marcus White, the Standing Committee unanimously granted permission to the Vestry of St. Matthew's to sell the property in question.

F. New Business

Leannah noted that he was in possession of a memo from Diocesan Staff stipulating all of the particulars related to an Electing Convention. He noted that he would be having a phone call with Anne Hallisey on Thursday, March 12, 2020 to clarify the timeline as we now have it, with an eye towards an Electing Convention in February 2020. Several locations for said Convention were discussed (Our Savior ELCA in Oconomowoc, Zion in Oconomowoc, and the Italian Cultural Center in Milwaukee were among the venues named).

Leannah noted he would be in conversation with Vice Chancellor Liz Orloff to clarify timelines about electing deputies to the Electing Convention.

G. Transition Team

Andy Jones noted that nominations to the Transition Committee could now be received, and that there were already a few folks on that list drawn from among the nominations the Standing Committee had received for the Search Committee.

A closing prayer was offered by Sheryl Slocum, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 21st, 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Dousman...