

**Executive Council Minutes  
December 15, 2020  
Meeting held over Zoom**

Attendance: Present Absent Excused

*Officers:*

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus** Bishop and President **P**

**The Rev. Jane Stratford** Chair, Class of 2020 **P**

**Richard Patenaude** Vice Chair, Class of 2021 **P**

**Mees Tielens** Secretary, Class of 2021 **P**

*Class of 2020:*

**The Rev. Debra Low-Skinner** **P**

**Aidan Jobe** Sea **P**

**Thomas LaFrance** **P**

**Charles Mader** **P**

**Patrick Anderson** **P**

*Class of 2021:*

**Bruce Morrow** **P**

**Eleanor Prugh** **P**

**Don Miller** **P**

**The Rev. Merry Chan Ong** **P**

*Class of 2022:*

**Marj Leeds** **P**

**The Rev. Ginger Strickland** **A**

**Tom Matthews** **P**

**Anna Haight** **P**

**Birgit Eschmann** **P**

**Jon Owens** **P**

*Bishop's Appointees:*

**The Rev. Liz Tichenor** **P**

**Miguel Bustos** **A**

*Ex-officio members:*

**The Rev. Richard Edward Helmer** Secretary of the Convention **P**

**Lane Ringlee** Treasurer of the Diocese **P**

*Diocesan Staff:*

**The Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey** Canon to the Ordinary **P**

**Jim Forsyth** CFO **P**

**Davey Gerhard** Director of Development **P**

*Other attendees:*

**Christopher Hayes, Esq.** Chancellor of the Diocese **P**

**Albe Larsen** Standing Committee **P**

**Sherry Lund**

**Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore**

**Kathleen Piraino**

**Krista Fregoso**

**Lindy Bunch**

#### **4:34 PM Call to Order and Opening Prayer (Jane)**

Jane thanks Executive Council for their hard work and perseverance in the past year. Debbie, Thomas, Charles, and Patrick are rotating off the council and are thanked for all their work, and Sherry, Jeannette, Lindy, and Krista are welcomed at the start of their terms.

#### **4:37 PM Approval Item**

- Meeting Agenda
- Minutes of November 17, 2020 meeting

Marj Leeds moves approval of the minutes, seconded by Debbie Low Skinner. Motion passes.

#### **4:39 Financial reports**

It has been a favorable year to date, thanks to the generous gifts received. The Title IV proceedings have led to increased administration costs.

There is no activity on the line of credit report. The aging and arrears report shows that St. Matthew's closed out its balance and St. John's reduced it by \$17,000. Ecumenical House paid off \$18,000.

#### **4:40 PM Bishop's Time**

#### **4:45 PM Update on SMAA/St. John's (Cn. Abbott)**

Liz Tichenor moves the council enter executive session. Don Miller seconds. Any guests present leave the Zoom room. EC enters executive session at 5:03PM and exits at 5:12PM. Guests re-enter the Zoom room.

#### **4:55 PM Matters before Council**

- Approval of Housing Allowance

Jane explains the procedures around clergy housing allowance to new members.

Don Miller moves to approve all of the housing allowances. Patrick Anderson seconds. The motion passes.

- Alameda Deanery proposal

The congregations in low-income communities have noticed a real need for universal wifi; without reliable internet access members cannot participate in church services during the pandemic. For the most vulnerable, the church is closed both in person and online. The Alameda Deanery proposes creating a task force to take this issue to Diocesan Convention. There is no funding involved, just a request for partnerships to support Alameda.

Jane suggests we recruit from the deaneries for this work, at the very least to assess this issue throughout the diocese. The core of the task force will be provided by Alameda, and every other deanery will recruit one member to join this work.

It might be possible to use the Resurrection Fund if/when funding is needed; this is a clear social justice issue that touches the parallel problem of access to school for underserved children.

Tom Matthews moves Executive Council supports the existing work of the Alameda Deanery and commits to finding people to join them; the task force will report back to Executive Council in June 2021 of their findings. Don Miller seconds. The motion passes.

- St. Dorothy's

The Finance Committee has recommended SDR sell buildings; they did not feel they could recommend the continuation of the loan.

St. Dorothy's Rest is able to meet the 2020 payroll but not January 15<sup>th</sup> 2021. Without help they will have to let their staff go and do any restructuring without staff. If EC does not approve continuation of the loan there are still costs associated with SDR as we will still own the land. The Expanding Horizons has \$399,000 earmarked for SDR. Not all of it is cash in hand (seven years of pledge receivables), although SDR's portion could be accelerated at the expense of delaying the funding of some of the other line items.

The Bishop cautions against giving SDR more money without safeguards and says the board and diocese are going to have to struggle with the levels of support that are appropriate.

Jane suggests EC approves three months' worth of funding; SDR will need to provide a plan before any more money is given.

Bishop Marc moves EC authorize the Bishop and Davey Gerhard, with the advice of the Finance Committee, to extend money from the Expanding Horizons proceeds designated for St Dorothy's Rest over a four month period at a level that will cover basic business operations (including personnel), contingent on transparency and monthly financial reports. Bruce Morrow seconds. In the discussion, Lane recommends that the diocese take this opportunity to do strategic planning around all the camps and retreats. Bishop Marc suggests the council members who serve on the SDR board receive five minutes to report to the council every month.

The motion passes.

A motion to sell the buildings as recommended by the Finance Committee is withdrawn to be revisited in January when more information from SDR is available.

- Election of Officers

Slate:

Richard Patenaude: Chair

Jon Owens: Vice Chair

Mees Tielens: Secretary

Birgit moves to accept the slate. Bishop Marc seconds. The motion passes.

### **5:37 PM Chancellor's Time**

Verizon Wireless leases a small portion of the premises of St. Anselm's, Lafayette, for an antenna. Verizon wants to expand their footprint for an extra \$500 a month and requests that the diocese corrects the easement so they can correctly identify the route of an underground fiber optic cable.

Marj Leeds moves approval of the amended lease. Tom Matthews seconds. The motion passes.

~~5:25 PM Talking points~~

### **5:40 PM The meeting ends and Standing Committee joins the Zoom room.**

Respectfully submitted,



Mees Tielens

