

**Executive Council Minutes
March 19, 2019
Wilsey Conference Room**

Attendance: -=present, a=absent, t=telephone e=excused

Officers:

The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus Bishop and President **P**
Lane Ringlee Chair **P**
The Rev. Jane Stratford Vice Chair **P**
The Rev. Margaret Trezevant Secretary **P**

Ex-officio members:

David Frangquist Secretary of Convention **P**
Brad Barber Treasurer of the Diocese **P**

Other attendees:

Christopher Hayes, Esq. Chancellor of the Diocese **P**
Albe Larsen Standing Committee Representative **p**
Mary Louise Gotthold Recording Secretary **P**

Class of 2019

Ronald C. Johnson **P**
Jim Wiant **p**
The Rev. Margaret Trezevant **P**
Susan MacKenzie **P**
Bruce Morrow **P**

Class of 2020

The Rev. Jane Stratford **A**
The Rev. Debra Low-Skinner **P**
Thomas LaFrance **T**
Charles Mader **P**
Patrick Andersen **P**

Class of 2021

The Rev. Liz Tichenor **P**
Mary Jane Chetelat **P**
Saskia Tielens **E**
Richard Patenaude **P**
Donald Miller **P**
The Rev. Merry Chan Ong **P**

Bishop's Appointees

Robyn Amos **P**
Miguel Bustos **P**

Diocesan Staff

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

The Rev. Eric Metoyer Associate for Congregational Ministry P

Tom Ferguson CFO P

Jennifer Seaman Bishop's Assistant A

Call to order 4:28

Opening Prayer: Offered by Don Miller

Approval of minutes: Chancellor noted a change needed to the January minutes to read: Bishop Marc recused himself *and left the meeting*. February minutes to read: Tom Ferguson recused himself *and left the meeting*. Minutes approved as amended.

Discussion of assessment appeals: Debbie Low-Skinner referred to the draft language to the website included in the meeting materials and said the changes are minor and just need to change the dates of the timelines for the current year.

Bishops Time:

Bp. Marc had just returned from the House of Bishop's meeting in Kanuga (in Asheville, N. Carolina). The HOB meets twice a year in the Spring and Fall unless it is the year of General Convention. They had presentations by Bishops from the AME and Anglican Church on evangelism. There was much discussion regarding Archbishop Welby's decision to not invite spouses of same gender unions to participate in the Lambeth Conference activities. He noted that many conservative bishops in the Anglican Communion have opted not to come to Lambeth, thereby removing themselves from the conversation.

On Friday went to New Orleans to speak at their first Environmental Commission. After that he went to Austin, Texas, to the Annual Lutheran Policy meeting. He preached at their Eucharist service and gave the keynote address to the gathering.

Bp. Marc just finished his first podcast. He hopes that this, and the others to follow, will be a resource for parishes to use for discussion, and be able to participate in the programs offered at the Cathedral but which many are unable to attend. The first is on "the body", and what does it mean? He interviewed K.T. Nelson, the choreographer for the ODC dance troupe.

Bp. Marc noted that he had taken part of his sabbatical last year but was unable to work on his dissertation. This year he will be taking off July and August to complete the first draft which he hopes to be able to turn in by the end of August.

Change in CDSP: Bp. Marc noted that the Diocese of California had founded the seminary, with the first classes held in San Mateo, and later at the Cathedral. The Bishop of California has always had a seat on the board. Like many seminaries, CDSP has had financial challenges. Trinity Church Wall Street just made a land deal and now has \$9 billion in assets which they would like to use to fund 9 seminaries around the world with the emphasis on global leadership training. CDSP will now be a program of Trinity Wall Street, and be one of those seminaries. The arrangement wipes out CDSP debt and will be able to provide tuition-free education. The CDSP board Board is now identical to the Trinity Wall St. board, although by law will still retain a local advisory board.

Report on Essential Housing Initiative: Presented by Eric Metoyer. Initiative to provide affordable housing to essential workers in the community in collaboration with identified church communities. Land-use analyses have been completed for St. Cuthbert's and St. James Santiago in Oakland and currently with their clergy-in-charge. Church of Our Saviour in Oakland land-use analysis has been completed and their vestries have passed resolutions to go forward with the recommendations. Bp. Marc will go there for the launch on April 4.

Eric raised the issue that there is an 14-18 month gap during which conversations with the parish, planning committees, etc. need to happen before any income can be generated. The Finance Committee has been asked for a line of credit for gap financing during this period, which makes a statement regarding our commitment to the community. Four other congregations are currently in conversation to explore similar projects.

Miguel Bustos offered his expertise on these projects, which was warmly accepted.

Report on St. Dorothy's Rest: Katie Evenbeck and Dewey Watson.

Presented an outline of programs and review of financial health. SDR used to sit on 30 acres adjacent to Camp Meeker. An opportunity to purchase 240 acres of redwood forest became available and the board explored what it would mean to SDR programs to have the Redwood nature preserve, which had not been maintained. When the land went up for sale they also had to purchase the entire package in a bankruptcy sale. They are currently trying to prepare the unneeded parcels for sale, but this has been difficult. They anticipate a \$110,000 deficit driven by the land acquisition. Legal and consulting fees have been higher than expected. They are exploring the possibility of selling a conservation easement. Sonoma County has money to buy a conservation easement. Some of the lots aren't developable. They are requesting a subcommittee of EC to work on finding someone to invest in a conservation easement and forest management.

Charles Mader offered to work with them as a licensed real estate broker.

Financial Report: Brad Barber

No big changes from previous report.

The Bishop had received a letter from St. Clare's Pleasanton saying that because of their loan of \$67,000 from the Diocese they will be suspending their assessment payments until September. Tom Ferguson reported that they have reserves of \$200,000 from their preschool, and suggests that they use their reserves to repay their loan and continue their assessment payments. The Diocese will be having a conversation with Ron Culmer, St. Clare's rector about this. Suspension of assessment appeals need to go the Assessment Committee. Executive Council recommends using their reserves and to remind them that the Assessment Appeals process must be used rather than unilaterally deciding to suspend payments.

Report on Task Force for Family Medical Leave Policy: Matthew Burt reported via telephone.

The Task Force has been unable to find an insurance company that deals with family leave. Most employees have this provided by the state through employee deductions. Insurance companies don't have a product of this type. Also family leave differs from medical leave in that parental leave doesn't require a medical evaluation of need, (you either have a child either by birth or adoption/fostering, or you don't). Parental leave would be easier to achieve but the question remains who would pay for it. Burt noted that many of the church employees are part-time and/or paid fairly low wages, so even a 1% employee contribution would be significant. Tom Ferguson reports that there are currently 450 employed by the diocese. Question raised as to whether the policy would apply to part-time employees. Consensus of the Council was that it should. Church Pension Group is currently convening a task force on the issue, to be presented at the next General Convention. Tom Ferguson raised the question as to who would administer these policies, and diocesan staff is currently unable to handle a program of this magnitude.

Resolved: Matthew Burt is directed to develop a proposal for Family Leave, and wait for CPG to develop their proposal for Medical Leave. Charles Mader recommended Tom Matthews, an actuary, to assist.

Report on St. Michael and All Angels and St. John's: Rev. Debbie Hawkins and Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey

See Report from Board packet for 3-19-19

Debbie Hawkins, Matthew Woodward and Abbott Bailey met with the Bishop's Committees of both parishes. Both congregations continue to make some payments but are unable to keep up with current bills and won't be able to do so until the pre-schools are expanded (St. MAA/up and running/ St. John's). Progress is on schedule and there is a waiting list for the preschools, so they don't anticipate enrollment to be a problem. Committee is cautiously optimistic that

they will be able to manage financially once the preschools begin operation. Abbott wanted to acknowledge all the hard work that Debbie Hawkins and Matthew Woodward have put into resolving these issues.

Canon to the Ordinary Report: Rev. Canon Abbott Bailey

Congregational consultations with fragile congregations continues. Dissolution of St. Luke's Rossmoor has been finalized. Abbott went to St. Paul's Walnut Creek to welcome St. Luke's back into the congregation, which was a very warm and joyful occasion. This Sunday Abbott will be representing Bp. Marc at the organizing meeting of the newly-constituted St. Anna's parish (formerly St. George's and St. Alban's)

Chancellor's Report: Christopher Hayes, Esq.

Reported on legal challenges to the clergy housing allowance, which has caused some consternation in the diocese. He reports that last week the Federal Appeals Court in Chicago turned the challenge back, and he is optimistic that there will be no further challenges.

6:27 Entered into executive session. Ended at 6:35

Report from the Committee on Governance: Jim Wiant

Due to time constraints discussion of this item has been postponed to April. Lane Ringlee will notify the council soon whether or not that will be a telephone meeting or an in-person meeting at Grace. Please read the report which was included in the board packet for 3-19-19.

Report from Standing Committee: Albe Larsen

Standing Committee approved three candidates for ordination.

Deanery Reports:

Alameda: Has set up a Deanery Google Calendar so everyone can see events that are coming up, and see what other parishes are doing. Christ Church Alameda will continue their shelter program 2 days/week until April. All Soul's is collecting money for Camp Fire victims. St. Alban's operates a shower program every Friday.

San Francisco: Had an environmental presentation at their Deanery meeting. John Kirkley said their Faith In Action consortium is concentrating on criminal justice reform, voter engagement, and affordable housing. Discussed requirements for implementing background checks.

Marin Deanery: Meeting cancelled because of a major storm.

S. Alameda: Planned joint activities for the year. On June 1 will be going to Tijuana for a building program. Sacred Space is exploring setting up a mobile shower. table shower.

Bp. Marc requested an executive session. Entered at 6:47 Exited at 7:01

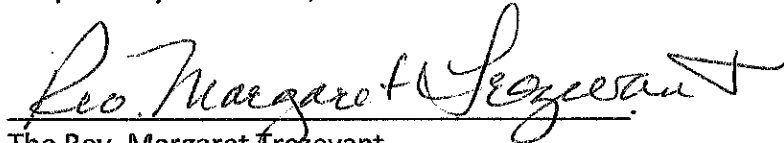
Talking points:

- Bp. Marc will be on sabbatical during July and August this year to finish the first draft of his dissertation which he hopes to turn in at the end of August.
- Alameda Deanery has instituted a Deanery-wide Google Calendar, which other deaneries may wish to institute.
- Bp. Marc has finished his first podcast! An interview with K.T. Nelson, choreographer for ODC Dance Group on "the body, and what it means" for use by parishes for discussion.
- St. George's and St. Alban's have merged congregations and will begin services on Sunday as St. Anna's, after Deaconess Anna Alexander, winner of last year's Lent Madness Golden Halo!

Closing prayer offered by Liz Tichenor

Adjourned at 7:05

Respectfully submitted;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Margaret Trezevant". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

The Rev. Margaret Trezevant
Secretary to Executive Council