



Executive Council Minutes
March 20, 2018
Grace Cathedral - Wilsey A/B Conference Rooms

The Rev. Debbie Hawkins, Chair of Executive Council (EC), called the meeting to order at 4:33pm. Susan MacKenzie offered the opening prayer. Snack Provided by: Susan MacKenzie & Margaret Trezevant

Attendance: *p=present, a=absent, t=telephone*

Officers:

The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus p
Bishop and President
The Rev. Deborah Hawkins p
Chair
Lane Ringlee p
Vice Chair
The Rev. Matthew Woodward p
Secretary

Class of 2018:

Wendy Olson p
Bruce Morrow p
Scott Whitaker p
Robert Middleton p

Class of 2019:

Ronald C. Johnson p
Jim Wiant t
The Rev. Margaret Trezevant p
Scott Buckingham p
Susan MacKenzie p

Class of 2020:

The Rev. Jane Stratford t
The Rev. Debra Low-Skinner p
Thomas LaFrance p
Charles Mader p
Patrick Andersen p

Bishop's Appointees:

Brad Barber t
Robyn Amos p
Miguel Bustos p

Ex-Officio Members:

David Frangquist p
Secretary of Convention
Robert McCaskill p
Treasurer of the Diocese

Other Attendees:

Christopher Hayes, Esq. p
Chancellor of the Diocese
Dorothy Tsuruda p
Standing Committee Representative
Mary Louise Gotthold p
Recording Secretary

Diocesan Staff:

Canon Abbott Bailey p
Canon to the Ordinary
Tom Ferguson p
CFO
The Rev. Eric Metoyer a
Interim Canon to the Ordinary
Stephanie Martin-Taylor a
Working Group Head for Communications
the Rev. Jeremy Clark-King a
Congregational Ministries
Davey Gerhard p
Director of Development
Amy Cook a
Working Group Head for Faith Formation
Jennifer Seaman a
Bishop's Assistant

Guests

Business:**4:34pm Agenda Amendment**

The Agenda was amended so that the Chancellor could report immediately after the break and take a little more time over his report. The Finance report would be brought up earlier in the meeting.

4:35pm The Minutes

Minutes of Feb. 20 were received and approved.

4:36pm Assessment appeals committee

The new members of this committee will be Debbie Low-Skinner, Paul Fromberg, Scott Whitaker, Bruce Morrow. All were appointed by Executive Council.

Richard Patenaude may join this committee and will be approved at the next meeting if he agrees.

4:37pm Family Medical Leave Task Force

The makeup of the Family Medical Leave Task Force was deferred to next month.

4:38pm Bishop's Time

Bishop Andrus has just returned from the House of Bishops.

Meaningful conversations come from the House of Bishop's meetings, these meetings are not just about passing resolutions.

The climate change policies of the Episcopal Church have an impact in discussions at international bodies.

With regard to the situation in Sudan, Nancy Pelosi has said she is impressed with how much the Episcopal Church knows about Sudan, and how thoughtful our policies are there.

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Some of our resolutions are internal. Recently a resolution was passed to request dioceses to research and disclose how they benefited from slavery.

In July, at the General Convention in Austin, a resolution will be considered to bring Cuba back into the Episcopal Church.

A resolution will also be considered to move the Episcopal and Methodist churches closer to full communion.

It is almost certain we will pass a resolution confirming the Episcopal Church's commitment to the Paris climate agreement.

Costa Rica - Intra-spirituality conference. Bishop Andrus was able to share his research on Martin Luther King Jr and Thich Nhat Hanh at this conference.

On a personal note, Bishop Andrus' mother is very unwell, and he is leaving to visit her tomorrow. He asks prayers for her. She is 93 and has had Parkinson's for 17 years and is doing well. She is a blue dot in a red state in Tennessee. Her medical staff say it important for Bishop Andrus to visit at this time. Her name is Mary Frances, for our prayers.

4:47pm Episcopal Impact Fund - Kathleen Piraino

Episcopal Impact Fund used to be called Episcopal Charities, but changed its name to make sure that their name aligns with their intention to have an impact on those living with poverty. Kathleen Piraino handed out copies of their 2017 annual review.

They work in three areas with regard to those who live in poverty. Those areas are: Healthcare, education and the environment.

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They are in a strategic planning process. This is done on a three year cycle. Currently exploring whether they need to be more deeply involved in the housing crisis in the Bay Area.

They are engaged in area meetings within action networks in deaneries and have been for six years. They are considering whether this is the best method for engaging across the diocese. They made 26 grants last year and are asking if they make too many grants, which are therefore smaller. Could they do more good with larger grants to less bodies?

It was acknowledged that Dorothy Tsuruda was on the board of Episcopal Impact Fund.

At this point Kathleen Piraino opened the floor for questions.

Question: What would a response to housing look like?

San Francisco interfaith council has been working on a path for religious organizations with non-strategic property to contribute that to some housing project, initially for essential workers. It could be that Episcopal Impact fund could create a fund to help research and initiate projects of this kind.

St Paul's in Walnut Creek is going to break ground on 44 units of Veterans housing, and EIF sent them some of their seed funds 5 years ago.

In Marin, St. Monica's (made up of St Paul's, San Rafael and St John's, Ross) has a desire to build housing for young mothers. They are at the early stages of this. EIF gave them a grant to help with some of the set up costs.

All Souls', Berkeley is working on an apartment building that they own. EIF are not currently funding them, but this is another

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way that churches are using creative approaches to their land or resources to improve housing issues.

In response to a question about the brand of the Episcopal Church being associated with these projects, a response about the naming of St Luke's Hospital was offered.

St Luke's will lose that name when it reopens. But within the new institution there was a grant from EIF to found a Perinatal unit which will include a board room that contains a link to its historic name. Bishop Andrus would like to discuss, with their board, the final name for the former St. Luke's Hospital in hopes it will retain name as Sutter- St. Luke's.

Question: How many Units are needed to make essential housing projects viable?

Kathleen responded that 50-70 is a good rule of thumb, but there are other ways to make smaller developments viable depending on the population that is being served.

5:04pm Finance issues - Tom Ferguson

Tom Ferguson reported that the Diocese owns an equity share in the home of retired Bishop William Swing. Bishop Swing is refinancing his mortgage to receive a better rate. The diocesan interest is subordinated to Bishop Swing's current mortgage, and the Diocese has agreed to subordinate its interest to the new mortgage. There is no net change in the position of the Diocese.

The former site of St Alban's Brentwood was sold in the fall of 2017, and in December 2017 Executive Council set aside the proceeds of the sale as a board-designated fund in the hope that the funds would be used to develop a new church on vacant diocesan-owned land in Brentwood. Bishop Marc and Canon Abbott met with the St Alban's, Brentwood and St George's, Antioch congregations on Sunday, March 18, 2018, and

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discussed commencing a feasibility study for such a project with a budget of up to \$75K to be led by Rev. Jeremy Clark-King working with the two congregations to determine the best path forward. On behalf of +Marc and Canon Abbott, Tom Ferguson requested that a resolution be put to the Executive Council to the following effect.

Motion: Expend \$75k from the St Alban's Brentwood board designated fund created in December 2017 to be used for fees for a consultant to help develop a strategy for land use.

Proposed: Bob McCaskill, Seconded: Lane Ringlee

Further discussion took place about the closure of their building and the new relationship between St Alban's and St George's.

The Diocese owns land in Brentwood, and the Diocese and the two congregations would like to explore how to use that land, possibly for the construction of a church and other facilities. Diocesan staff and the congregations do not have the capacity, by themselves, to take on a planning function for this decision. So, money is being requested for a 1 year contract to use Jeremy Clark-King to work as a consultant on this project.

Question: Why does it cost \$75k to discern this question?

Bishop Andrus answered that Jeremy Clark-King would spend 3 days per week working on this project. Exploring possible approaches to land use with the parish and the local community. Some costs will also be associated with program expenses.

David Franquist said he would vote for the motion, but would appreciate in future to have written materials presented to the Executive Council.

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Tom Ferguson said that time had been tight for getting this issue to the Executive Council, but that this was a point well made and he would attempt to provide written materials in future. A full year of contract work would commence this month until March 2019.

Canon Abbott Bailey said that regular updates would be brought to the Executive Council in future.

The Executive Council voted unanimously for the motion.

5:16pm Finance Report - Robert McCaskill

A small surplus was reported so far in 2018, but this will likely move into deficit as the year continues due to the continuing unbudgeted ESC legal expenses.

Regarding the Ageing report, the list is the shortest Bob has seen in the last 10 years. Three of the churches on the list (St. Columbia's, St. John's, Clayton and St Michael's and all Angels) are congregations that continue to have financial challenges.

The Union Bank Line of Credit report contains nothing unusual. The committee did start to discuss a request that was submitted by ECS (Episcopal Community Services). ECS has a \$2m line of credit that is used in a rolling way during the year. They have asked for an increase in that line of credit from \$2m - \$3m. The Finance Committee is entering into a conversation with them about this, but has some concerns, not least that \$3m is 1/3rd of our line of credit. Their request is not time critical, further discussions will take place, and this item is likely to be brought back to the EC.

Peggy Green, Rulac Austin, and Gabriele Stand-Bruce stood down from the Finance Committee last month to comply with term limit requirements. Bob praised their service. We are

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fortunate we have two qualified new members. Thomas LaFrance and Arthur Perkins, both with experience in finance.

Question: A question was asked about the reason for ECS request for funds.

It is to provide a cash flow bridge between the time that the City has made a grant but before the funds have been received from the City. ECS uses the Diocesan line of credit for programming, and when they receive grant money from the City they repay the rolling line of credit.

5:25pm We broke for snack time.

5:35pm The meeting was called back to order.

5:35pm Chancellor's Report - Christopher Hayes

The Chancellor requested an executive Session. The Chair took us into Executive Session.

5:54pm Executive Session ended.

5:54pm Discussion of Agile Church: Intro and chapter 1 - Canon Abbott Bailey

Canon Abbott Bailey introduced our new study book. It is about being as deeply attentive to those outside the church as those inside the church.

A conversation about the first chapter of this book took place.

Canon Abbott Bailey drew our attention to one particular phrase: Traditioned Innovation. This seems like an oxymoron, but it means bringing forth what is new in relation to what has been.

This conversation led to a reflection on innovative ministries within churches members of the Executive Council were

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associated with. Including a reflection on when innovation ceases to be 'church' - but also how we might see church differently within the new generation.

6:18pm Capital Campaign update - Davey Gerhard

Davey reported that the campaign we are engaged in has an innovative side. We are doing something in this diocese that not many dioceses are doing. At a recent conference Davey and Amanda's presentation on this campaign drew a large crowd.

We have been doing this for 3 years, and it may not seem as exciting after three years, but this is a genuinely innovative campaign.

Finished congregational campaigns in Ross and San Mateo. These were great campaigns that met and exceeded their goals.

Two more congregations are starting this week. Christ Church, Alameda and St Ambrose, Foster City are both commencing their campaigns soon.

Some doors that were closed have been reopened. Christ Church, Los Altos want to do a school/church campaign.

Major Gifts are going well. Presentations were put together for donors who remain interested, even though they may have felt an earlier ask was too high. A new response has been made to them, and they seem excited about that.

6:23pm Deanery Reports

Bruce Morrow, Alameda now has new officers. Julie Wakely-Lynch has agreed to be on diocesan nominating committee.

Questions are being asked about how congregations should operate within their 501(c)3 status, and how to work with

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tenants. A request was made for a consultant to work with parishes to make best use of their space within our tax restrictions. That may be too much to fund for the diocese. But some guidelines might be published to help with this. Tom Ferguson responded about the diocesan audit process, and noted that there is an increased interest in letting space and he would agree to putting some policies, best practices or advice around this issue on the web site.

From the Southern Alameda Deanery Thomas LaFrance reported that Richard would agree to serve on the Assessment Appeals Committee.

Jane Stratford from the Contra Costa Deanery reported that the deanery went through a process of asking “who are we,” “what would we like,” “what would we like to change.” Jane is working on creating a report. There is a real hunger for mission and ministry, but there is a burden to living this out by caring for ageing buildings.

Wendy Olson reported the Marin Deanery has made some changes. They are working on three parts to the meetings: Social, business, and Spiritual. During business the Deacons are being asked to make a report. The Deanery is also starting a grant program to support ministries across the deanery. These discussions will be ongoing.

The Rev. Matthew Woodward reported that the Peninsula Deanery is seeking to schedule a meeting with Canon Abbott Bailey and Eric Metoyer.

Canon Bailey said that she would welcome invitations to deanery meetings.

David Frangquist encouraged deanery representatives to make sure that the Diocesan website details are up to date.

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6:36pm Talking Points for the month

1. Canon Abbot Bailey is open to invitations to Deanery meetings.
2. We are reading "The Agile Church" by Dwight J Zscheile and will be talking about spirit filled innovation this year at the Executive Council.
3. Pray for Bishop Marc Andrus as he travels to visit his unwell mother, and pray for her also. Her name is Mary Frances.
4. Exciting proposals are moving towards the General Convention including welcoming Cuba as a part of the Episcopal Church again, and forming communion with the Methodist church and confirming the Episcopal Churches support of the Paris Climate agreement.

6:42pm Closing Prayer was offered by Bruce Morrow and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Matthew Woodward
Secretary of Executive Council

Mary Louise Gotthold
Recording Secretary

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