

**Executive Council Minutes
November 17, 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 **P**
Thomas LaFrance **P**
Charles Mader **P**
Patrick Anderson **P**

Class of 2021:

Bruce Morrow **A**
Eleanor Prugh **P**
Don Miller **P**
The Rev. Merry Chan Ong **P**

Class of 2022:

Marj Leeds **P**
The Rev. Ginger Strickland **P**
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 **A**

Other attendees:

Christopher Hayes, Esq. Chancellor of the Diocese **P**
Albe Larsen Standing Committee **P**

4:34 PM Call to Order and Opening Prayer (Birgit Eschmann)

4:36 PM Approval Item

- Meeting Agenda
- Minutes of October 20, 2020 meeting

Eleanor moves to accept the minutes, Merry seconds. The motion passes without discussion.

4:37 PM Bishop's Time

The Bishop discusses St Dorothy's Rest and the Bishop's Ranch, highlighting the new members he has appointed to the SDR board. With Jim Forsyth and now Liz Tichenor and Aidan Jobe-Sea, Executive Council is well-represented; Robyn Amos (Standing Committee) has also agreed to take a seat on the board, as has Dewey Watson. The Bishop and the chair of the board will meet after Thanksgiving. The Bishop's Ranch, then, is adjusting the job description for the Executive Director, which includes making it a term-bound contract. The Bishop tells the Council that St Dorothy's, the Bishop's Ranch, and St. Columba's are all open to working together to streamline operations.

The ordinations in December include ordinands from other dioceses as well as our own. Only the necessary people will be present for the ordinations, taking the appropriate measures, and everyone else will be able to participate virtually.

Please take a look at the resources the diocese is providing around liturgy and music for Advent and Epiphany in this week's newsletter.

The San Francisco Interfaith Council prayer breakfast is next week, where Bishop Marc will give the meditation on healing.

4:46 PM Financial Reports (Lane Ringlee/Jim Forsyth)

Lane discusses the financial reports, highlighting in the arrearages report that St. Michael and All Angel's preschool has essentially paid off their debt. The church does have a remaining balance. The Ecumenical House is hitting troubled times and can now be found on the arrearage report. We remain in a solid financial position thanks to the substantial gifts received earlier this year.

4:49 PM Matters before Council

- Assessment Appeals (Debbie Low Skinner)

Six congregations applied for assessment relief, totaling \$225,472. Most of the need arose due to the pandemic shutting down schools affiliated with the churches, and the committee expects the parishes to bounce back once the restrictions lift. The committee therefore recommends Executive Council approve each church's application.

Birgit moves to accept the recommendation for approval. Charlie seconds. The motion passes. Jane thanks Debbie and the rest of the committee for their hard work.

- Revision of housing agreement between St. Clare's Episcopal Church, Pleasanton, Rev. Ron Culmer, and the Diocese of CA

Bishop Marc moves we discuss this request in executive session out of privacy concerns. Don seconds. The Council enters executive session at 4:55PM and exits it at 5:02PM.

Tom moves to accept the chancellor's recommendation to approve the revision of the housing agreement and allow the refinance to go through. Ginger seconds. No discussion. The motion passes.

5:03 PM Chancellor's Time

Bishop Marc moves we enter executive session due to pending potential litigation. Liz seconds. The motion passes. Executive session is entered at 5:04PM and left at 5:19PM.

Anna Haight enters the meeting.

5:19 PM Break

5:30 PM St. Dorothy's discussion

Jane moves the council enter executive session. Executive session begins at 5:32 PM and ends at 6:27 PM.

Richard Edward Helmer moves to allow St Dorothy's Rest to go public with their financial struggles and solicit support. Liz seconds. No discussion. Motion passes.

Jon moves to extend the line of credit at the lowest level possible. Aidan seconds. After a question about what the lowest level is, Jon amends to motion to specify the lowest level requested in the October presentation to Executive Council. Aidan seconds. There is discussion about the advisability of this motion before the Finance Committee can give its recommendation and Jon withdraws the motion. We will receive the Finance Committee's recommendation on the matter at our December meeting.

Richard Edward Helmer moves to table the other two requests (extending the line of credit and approving the potential sale of buildings) until December. Seconded by Anna. No discussion. The motion passes.

6:36 PM Standing Committee Report (A. Larsen)

Albe updates the Council on the work of the Standing Committee.

Ginger Strickland leaves the meeting.

6:37 PM Deanery Reports

The San Francisco deanery met to elect new officers and approve four grants to support Sojourners Chaplaincy, St. Aidan's food programs, the San Francisco Night Ministry, and St. John's outreach work in the Mission.

The Peninsula deanery met but wasn't able to elect a new president with few deanery reps present.

Contra Costa is meeting next week and will talk about leadership then.

Alameda's meeting included time with the tech chaplains, a presentation from Deacon Dani Gabriel from St. Alban's, and discussion about adapting the grant program in light of Covid. A resolution about wifi access for underprivileged communities and churches was passed and will come to Council.

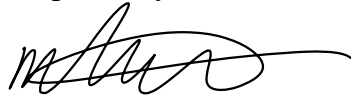
Southern Alameda is meeting on December 20th. Thomas LaFrance reminds the Council that he will be rotating off at the end of the year and as he is the Council's representative to the Finance Committee, someone will have to be appointed to take his place.

Marin Deanery is working hard and will have something to share soon.

Our next meeting is on December 15th at 4:30 PM. The Standing Committee will join us at 5:30PM.

6:44 PM Closing Prayer (Albe Larsen)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mees Tielens', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Mees Tielens
Secretary of Executive Council
December 30, 2020**