

Executive Council Minutes

June 16, 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 **P**

Tom Matthews **P**

Anna Haight **P**

Birgit Eschmann **P**

Bishop's Appointees:

Robyn Amos **A**

Miguel Bustos **P**

The Rev. Liz Tichenor **P**

Ex-officio members:

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

Brad Barber Treasurer of the Diocese **P**

Diocesan Staff:

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

Tom Ferguson CFO **P**

Davey Gerhard Director of Development **P**

The Rev. Eric Metoyer Director of Mission Development **P**

Other attendees:

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

Albe Larsen Standing Committee **P**

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

4:37 PM Approval Item

--Meeting Agenda

Oasis is added to matters before council.

--Minutes of May 20, 2020 meeting

Tom M moves to accept the minutes from the 5/20/20 meeting. The motion passes.

4:40 PM Norms (Richard)

Richard cedes his time to the Bishop.

4:39 PM Bishops time

The Bishop expresses gratitude for the courage, compassion, and creativity of the diocese in this moment. There is a lot of work to do but it is our common will to engage in that work.

The Bishop announces that Tom Ferguson will be retiring at the end of August after eight years of service. Jane thanks Tom on behalf of the Council for all the hard work he has done for the Diocese and wishes him many blessings on retirement.

The first virtual ordination service was held on May 13 at Grace Cathedral. Liz Milner and Scot Sherman were ordained to the transitional diaconate. There are two more virtual ordinations on May 20 at St Gregory of Nyssa: AnnaMarie Hoos and Peter Levenstrong will be ordained to the priesthood. All are welcome.

Jane welcomes the Rev. Jon Owens to Executive Council, who is serving at St. John's Oakland and elected by the Alameda deanery.

5:05 PM Key Initiatives Update (DioCal Staff)

--COVID-19 congregational updates (Eric Metoyer)

Eric Metoyer updates the council on the state of congregational applications for PPP loans. Over 60 congregations applied and 11 have applications in progress. Over 80% have been granted (some portion of) a loan. With 70% of congregations reporting, at least \$3.7m has been granted. Consultants are available to help congregations apply.

Tom F. updates the council that the diocesan application for a PPP loan was granted.

The COVID19 response team and the regathering team are continually monitoring state/county/city guidelines and the guidelines of other dioceses in order to be able to write a plan to regather safely when the time comes. Such a plan takes spacing requirements, guidelines around singing, communion, and congregational responses, and the needs of vulnerable members into account. Congregations are being asked to write a regathering plan of their own, or let the

diocese know they are choosing to not regather at this time. June 28th is the first possible date congregations could regather; no one is required to.

Canon Abbott adds that every congregation must submit a plan to the Bishop's office, which will be reviewed deanery by deanery. All congregations in a deanery must have submitted a plan in order for permission for regathering to be granted.

A number of congregations are asking questions about enhancing online worship, or have a barrier to online worship because of low tech access and/or competency. Congregations will be offered consulting around digital mission to help improve or enhance their digital programming.

5:36 PM break

5:45 PM Financial Reports (Brad Barber/Tom Ferguson)

The diocese received net PPP loan proceeds of \$427,000, as well as two private gifts of \$225,000 slated for the Resurrection Fund. Other pledges have been received and there are still asks to be done. \$565,000 has been pledged to date and \$225,000 will be received this year. Between the PPP Loan and the Resurrection Fund the diocese has \$650,000 to their disposal in 2020, some of which will be used to grant multiple rounds of assessment relief while also thinking strategically about 2021.

The aging and arrears report shows cause for continued concern about St John's Clayton and St Michael and All Angels. The Finance Committee has discussed the possibility of recommending the diocese set aside funds in the event these congregations are unable to repay the amounts they owe, but are not making that recommendation at this time.

The line of credit report shows \$4.3m is currently outstanding. The Finance Committee recommends that the diocese require each borrowing congregation to submit year-end financial statements in order to be able to monitor the situation and anticipate problems.

Brad submits the 2021 budget to Executive Council for consideration. It has been approved by the Finance Committee and will go to the deaneries before being subject to a vote at Diocesan Convention in October.

The Council discusses the line item of \$1000 currently allocated to the non-functioning LGBTQ ministry organization Oasis. Canon Abbott explains the wish to retain funds for LGBTQ ministry in the diocese and the hope that disbanding Oasis may allow something else to grow.

Jane calls the vote. All vote in favor and the 2021 budget is accepted.

6:10PM matters before council

--assessment appeal

Debbie presents the status of the assessment appeals committee, referring to the document sent out to the Council before the meeting. Most of the applications are due to rent revenue not materializing due to COVID19. The committee will meet again in mid-July and are aiming to

make their recommendations to the Council at the September meeting before a second round of appeals.

--2021 budget (approval)

See the item at 5:45PM.

--Oasis

The Standing Committee has requested Executive Council provide a resolution to formally disband Oasis (a chartered organization).

The following resolution is moved by Tom Matthews and seconded by Don Miller. There is no discussion and the motion passes.

Resolved, Pursuant to Canon 17.10, the Executive Council formally dissolves Oasis/California, a chartered organization of the Diocese, and directs the Secretary of Convention to report this action to the next Diocesan Convention and note this action accordingly in the Convention Journal.

6:22 PM chancellor's time

Tom M. moves to enter executive session, seconded by Brad. The Council enters executive session at 6:22 and leaves it at 6:42PM.

6:44 PM standing committee

See the item at 6:10PM.

6:46 PM deanery reports

The Alameda Deanery has met and reelected officers for an additional year, but are still looking for a treasurer. Contra Costa will meet this week and the Peninsula deanery is hosting a virtual BBQ soon. Richard reports from the Southern Alameda deanery that Holy Cross Castro Valley is hosting their annual VBS online: VBS 2020 In the Cloud. It starts July 6 and features a new program every week for three weeks. All are welcome.

6:48 PM closing prayer

Bruce offers the closing prayer and Jane adjourns the meeting at 6:49

Respectfully submitted,

Mees Tielens

Secretary of Executive Council

