

Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of California

Minutes

Meeting July 6, 2010

Present: Mr. Paul Evans (*president*), the Rev. Ron Culmer (*vice president*), Dr. Ron Johnson (*secretary*), Ms. Peggy Greene, the Rev. Bruce Smith, Mr. Bob Birss, the Rev. David Ota, the Rev. Nina Pickerrell

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by President Paul Evans. The Rev. Nina Pickerrell gathered us with prayer.

Minutes:

MSCU (Bob, Ron C.) to approve corrected minutes of June 1, 2010.

Deanery Task Force

Bob reported that the DTF was aware of the deadline for resolutions. There was continued discussion among SC members regarding the DTF objectives, accomplishments, vision. There was concern that the DTF is not adequately reporting out these goals to the diocese. DTF may not have sufficient time before convention to present any new information for discussion in the Deaneries.

Executive Council Report

Nina reported that there was an assurance that women's voices were now being heard and listened to. There were extended discussions about assessments and assessment appeals. A plan that reviews the assessment process will be coming to convention.

Compensation

John Tornquist has agreed to chair the Committee on Compensation. The committee is seeking a real estate broker to help determine gain if Lyon Street were to be sold. Members of the committee are John Tornquist, Bob Birss, Bruce Smith, Bob Adams, Brenda Paulin and Roulac Austin.

Institutions

The Bishop is to appoint a chair for this committee. Georgene Keeler was suggested. There was some concern about her availability to commit the time due to personal circumstances.

St. Peters

Paul suggested possible scenarios to consider when the Bishop arrives – close St. Peter's or replace it. Is it a parish or a mission? Discussion to be continued when the Bishop arrives.

Bishop Marc and the chancellor, Mr. Christopher Hayes, were welcomed to the meeting

St. Peters

Paul proposed to the Bishop the possible options that may be considered for St. Peter's. (1) Close St. Peter's down and move on. (2) Determine if they are a parish or mission. (3) Change rectors/vicars. Chancellor's suggestion is to invite St. Peter's back to SC. This will ensure that they will have had a fair hearing. They will have the opportunity to respond to (1) Standing Committee questions regarding conditions specified in the HUD agreement that stipulate the use of funds gained from the grant, and (2) the Standing Committee's support of the bishop's decision to change St. Peter's from parish status to mission status.

Deanery Task Force

There was continuation with the Bishop of previous discussion of the DTF. +Marc agreed to contact Melissa Ridlon and Rob Keim to get their plans for the next steps in preparation for convention.

Bp Marc and Mr. Hayes departed the meeting

The Standing Committee welcomed Mr. Peter Jensen, Chair of the Committee on Governance

Governance

1. Mr. Jensen summarized the committee's work thus far in organizing the 161st Convention. The committee considered the concerns of many about a Friday night session. Theme of convention will be based on the Baptismal Covenant. There was discussion of a party at the conclusion of convention on Saturday.
2. Mr. Jensen asked what areas of governance Standing Committee wishes it to look at.

Standing Committee responses

1. Can the committee deal more actively with governance of the diocese?
2. The role and responsibilities of the chancellor is not clearly defined.
3. What are the roles of paid staff in governance? They should not be on committees.
4. Who should plan convention – is a separate committee more effective?
5. Does the diocese have an Executive Officer?

Standing Committee would like to invite Mr. Jensen to SC meetings on a periodic basis.

Mr. Jensen was excused from the meeting

St. Peters

Discussion continued, focusing on how the SC will move forward on this issue. All agreed that following the chancellor's suggestion of another hearing was a prudent direction to take. A formal resolution was proposed inviting them to the next meeting of the SC.

MSCU (David, Ron C.) The Standing Committee extends the grace of another meeting to St. Peter's, notwithstanding the original decision on their 2008 appeal of mission status. Representatives of St. Peter's will be invited to the September 7 meeting of the Standing Committee.

Nominating Committee

Ron C. delivered a report of the June 14 meeting of the Committee on Nominations. A link on DioBytes to DioCal has been set up regarding the nominations process. Nominees for various positions were proposed. Some have already been vetted. Deadline for names is July 23.

Standing Committee Officers – 2011

SC members indicating their willingness to be candidates for SC president were asked to declare their candidacy. The Rev. Nina Pickerrell offered to withdraw from consideration and her decision was acknowledged by the members present. Dr. Ron Johnson put his name forth and stated his reasons. Voting among members will not occur until convention. This will allow a period of deliberation by all, as well as an opportunity for others to indicate their willingness to be considered for the office.

Consents

The Standing Committee is asked to consent to the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Michael Louis Vono as Bishop of the Diocese of the Rio Grande.

MSCU (Peggy, Bob) **The Standing Committee of the Diocese of California consents to the election of the Rev. Dr. Michael Louis Vono as Bishop of the Diocese of the Rio Grande.**

Adjournment

MSCU (David/Bob)

Meeting adjourned 5:45pm.

Next meeting snacks & prayers – Ron Johnson

Respectfully submitted

Dr. Ron Johnson
Secretary