

Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of California

Meeting Minutes

March 1st, 2011

- Present: The Rev. David Ota (President), Dr. Ron Johnson (Vice President), Dr. Bob Birss (Secretary), the Rev. Bruce Smith, Mr. Chris Butler,
- Absent: Ms. Peggy Greene, the Rev. Nina Pickerrell, the Rev. Sue Thompson
- Guests: Bishop Marc Andrus, Chancellor Christopher Hayes, the Rev. John Kirkley, Mr. Roger Kirk Setterfield

The meeting was called to order at 12:58 PM by President Ota. Dr. Johnson gathered us with a prayer from South African Book of Common Prayer.

Members participated in Personal Check-in.

The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed.

[Rev. John Kirkley & Mr. Roger Kirk Setterfield. Preschool Director, St. James, San Francisco, joined the meeting]

There was discussion of the proposed new lease for St. James Preschool. It was agreed that Standing Committee can act by our next meeting.

[Rev. Kirkley and Mr. Setterfield departed the meeting.]

Reports:

Rev. Smith reviewed the Executive Council meeting.

Mr. Butler noted that the Commission on Ministry has presented two candidates for ordination, Patricia Pearson and John Trubina. Mr. Butler moved, Rev. Smith seconded, and the Committee approved them for ordination.

Rev. Thompson reported on the Committee on Governance.

Standing Committee reviewed Rev. Pickerrell's report on the Committee on Diocesan Institutions.

Mr. Butler reported on the Scholarship committee, noting that there will not be as much money available as in the past. Mr. Butler moved, Dr. Johnson seconded, and the Standing Committee agreed to propose to add to the qualifications for participating in the debt remission program that clerics are only eligible for five granting cycles.

There were no consents to consider.

There was no Nominating Committee report.

Rev. Ota proposed that the St. Dorothy's land acquisition report be on the April Standing Committee agenda.

Rev. Smith reported on the Bishop's Compensation Committee.

[Bishop Andrus and Chancellor Hayes joined the meeting.]

We discussed St. Luke's lease. Bishop Andrus believes we should postpone St. Luke's discussion to May because he will be in Brazil at April Standing Committee meeting.

There was followup on role of Chancellor.

There was discussion of the process on the use of proceeds from the sale of parish assets; reference was made to the guideline proposed by Rev. Thompson in the February Standing Committee meeting.

Rev. Ota will contact Ms. Roulhac Austin to have joint Standing Committee/Executive Council subcommittee to work on this issue.

Bishop Andrus noted that over 60 people attended the February 28th central and eastern Contra Costa meeting area ministry meeting-this was great attendance and showed great commitment.

There was discussion of the process for moving a congregation to mission status.

Updates from the Bishop:

- Episcopal Charities has a new Interim Director, Christiana Macfarlane, for six months; she doesn't want to apply for the permanent position. The Bishop believes we should use those six months to evaluate Episcopal Charities; he wants them to be fully integrated with the diocese.
- UTO: ECW is almost gone; Diocesan Altar Guild will now sponsor UTO to get it going again; little money is being collected and there are few applications for it. The plan is to pilot it at about six congregations. There are two grant requests, one from St. Cyprian's to rebuild their kitchen, the other for a companion diocese to fund work that came out of the Haiti trip. The Bishop is asking Episcopal Charities and UTO to work together to strengthen UTO applications.
- Followup on congregational development discussion:
 - There will be a special edition of DioBytes to vestry and clergy on congregational development; it will include information on ministry developers.
- There was discussion of the process of communication on budget matters.

The Bishop said he has made the appointments the canons require him to make

[Bishop Andrus and Chancellor Hayes departed meeting.]

Close of meeting:

Rev. Smith closed the meeting with prayer.

President Ota adjourned the meeting at 5:06 PM.

Next meeting: April 5th, 2011, 1:00 PM, Grace Cathedral Chapter Room.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dr. Bob Birss', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Bob Birss

Secretary

