

Executive Council Minutes
Thursday, February 23, 2023
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
via ZOOM

Attendance: Present Absent

Officers:

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus Bishop and President P

Sherry Lund Chair, Class of 2023 (Convention) P

The Rev. Kirsten Spalding, Vice Chair, Class of 2025 (Convention) P

Peter Fairfield, Secretary, Class of 2024 (Convention) P

<i>Class of 2023</i>	<i>Class of 2024</i>
The Rev. Krista Fregoso (Contra Costa) A	Bruce Morrow (Alameda) P
Steven Depont-Kalani (San Francisco) P	Melisa Buie (Peninsula) A
Aidan Jobe Sea (Peninsula) P	The Rev. David Erickson (Convention) A
Elaine-Vallecillo Miller (Southern Alameda) P	Bill Burrell (Marin) P
Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore (Convention) P	Southern Alameda Rep (Vacant)
<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Bishop's Appointees</i>
Vance Frost (Marin) P	Leigh Flesher (2025) A
Carolyn George (Convention) P	Bruno Peguese (2024) P
The Rev. John Kirkley (San Francisco) P	Edgar Woo (2024) A
The Rev. Will Scott (Alameda) A	
Jim Wiant (Contra Costa) P	

Ex-officio members:

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

Lane Ringlee Treasurer of the Diocese P

Diocesan Staff:

The Rev. Canon Debbie Low-Skinner Canon to the Ordinary P

The Rev. Michele Racusin CFO P

Canon Davey Gerhard Canon for Stewardship and Development P

The Rev. Gary England Vice Chancellor A

Amy Cook Canon for Faith Formation P

Stephanie Martin Taylor Working Head Group for Communications A

Canon James Forsythe P

Other attendees:

Canon Christopher Hayes, Esq. Chancellor of the Diocese P

The Ven. Carolyn Bolton Standing Committee P

Draft minutes

4:31 PM Chair Sherry Lund called the meeting to order. Dwelling in the Word was offered by Rev. Canon Amy Cook who bid the meeting contemplate Luke 10: 1-12. The group split up into smaller groups to discuss this passage.

4:43 Chair Lund removed the minutes of the January meeting from the consent agenda to amend them to include updated information on who was present and correct her title. The amended minutes and the remainder of the consent agenda was approved unanimously through a motion made by Stevan Depont-Kalani and seconded by Elaine-Vallecillo Miller.

4:46 Rev. Michelle Racusin opened discussion on the audited financial statements for the diocese for the year ended December 31, 2021. In response to a question about who pays interest on loans using the diocesan line of credit, she explained that while the borrowing congregation pays the interest, the diocese guarantees it. Lane Ringlee explained in response to another question that “unqualified” in an audit report was a positive description.

4:58 Canon Jim Forsyth began a discussion of the request by St. Dorothy’s Rest for a line of credit. Chancellor Canon Christopher Hayes requested that such a discussion should be held in Executive Session.

5:08 A motion to go into Executive Session was made by Bruce Morrow and seconded by Aidan Jobe Sea and was passed unanimously.

5:12 A motion to come out of Executive session was made by Aidan Jobe Sea and was passed unanimously. This was followed by a motion by Jim Forsyth to approve the loan to St. Dorothy’s Rest which was passed unanimously.

5:15 Rev. Mauricio Wilson and Warren Wong spoke in favor of the creation of a position of Canon for Racial, Social and Environmental Justice and that this position should be filled as quickly as possible. Discussion as to whether this position should be voted on by the convention came to the conclusion that this was unneeded as the bishop has the right to hire staff as necessary. The bishop expressed his opinion that this position was necessary, but should not be endowed at present. Any decision as to the endowment of such a post should be left to his successor. A question as to the use of discretionary funds led to an explanation by the chancellor as to the difference between discretionary and almoner funds.

5:49 Chair Lund called for a short break.

6:00 Chancellor Canon Christopher Hayes requested that the meeting go into Executive Session and that Ms. Kathleen Piraino and Ms. Christina Alvarez be permitted to attend. A motion to accede to his request was made by the Rev. John Kirkley and seconded by Mr. Bill Burrell and was passed unanimously.

6:19 A motion to leave Executive Session, made by the Rev. John Kirkley and seconded by the Rev. Krista Spalding, was passed unanimously.

Draft minutes

6:20 Br. Richard Helmer made the following motion which was passed unanimously. "Executive Council approves and authorizes the expenditure of \$50,000 from diocesan funds to complete termination of the agreement with Eden Housing and move forward with Christian Church Housing on the Blue Bird Village project, and directs the Finance Committee to determine the appropriate funding source for this expense."

6:22 A motion to return to Executive Session was made by Bishop Marc Andrus and was passed unanimously.

6:27 A motion to leave Executive Session was made by Brother Richard Helmer and seconded by Steven Depont-Kalani and was passed unanimously.

6:37 A motion to return to Executive Session was made by Brother Richard Helmer and seconded by Steven Depont-Kalani and was passed unanimously.

6:47 A motion to leave Executive Session was made by Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore and seconded by Steven Depont-Kalani and was passed unanimously.

6:50 Bishop Marc Andrus discussed his reasons for closing the parish of Holy Innocents, Corte Madera. The fact that no parochial report had been received since 2017 was a sign of the lack of financial viability of the parish. Every effort had been made to accommodate the remaining members, including delaying the final closure until after a funeral service.

7:25 Chair Sherry Lund closed the meeting and final prayers were offered by the Rev. John Kirkley.