



Diocese of Missouri
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Making Disciples
Building Congregations
For the Life of the World*

DIOCESAN COUNCIL
Meeting as
THE TRUSTEES OF THE CORPORATION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSOURI

Minutes of the Meeting
February 15, 2020
Christ Church Cathedral, St. Louis, Missouri

Members Present and Absent:

Chair: The Rt. Rev. George Wayne Smith

Elected by Convention: Mrs. Lynette Ballard, Mr. George Hartsfield, Ms. Sondra Kekec,
Ms. Janet Thompson, Mrs. Elizabeth Yount, (*Absent: Mr. Thomas Allen*)

Appointed by the Bishop: Mr. Scott Ferguson, The Rev. Jennifer Hulen
(*Absent: The Rev. Marvin Foltz*)

Kemper: Ms. Holly Maffitt (*Absent: The Rev. Pat Glenn*)

Metro II: (no representatives reported)

Metro III: Mrs. Angela Breeher, The Rev. Emily Hillquist Davis

Metro IV: (*Absent: Mr. Chris Sturgeon*)

West: (no representatives reported)

South: (no representatives reported)

Ex-officio: Mr. Thomas Hedrick, Treasurer; Mr. Al Ludwig, Vice Chancellor

Staff: Mrs. Desiree Brattin, Executive Director of Finance and Administration

With a quorum present, Bishop Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the December 7, 2019 meeting was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

New member: The Bishop announced his appointment of The Rev. Jennifer Hulen to Diocesan Council, and this appointment was ratified by Council members.

Council Orientation: Mr. Al Ludwig

Mr. Ludwig explained the role of Diocesan Council and their responsibilities for the Diocesan budget and programs. (See attachment A-B)

Council Orientation – Financial: Mr. Tom Hedrick and Mrs. Desiree Brattin

Mr. Hedrick and Mrs. Brattin reviewed the budget process and sources of diocesan funding, including several of the larger trust funds. They also explained the role of the Endowment Committee and the investment policy of that Committee. (See attachments A-B and C)

Financial Report: Mr. Hedrick and Mrs. Brattin discussed year end 2019 financial report and reasons for the first deficit in several years. They provided copy of the 2020 Parish and Mission Assessment Report and 2020 Year to Date Financial Report. They also noted the letter from Emmanuel Church, Webster Groves, explaining the reasons for their inability to commit to their full assessment for 2020.

Bishop's Report:

Bishop Smith nominated Mrs. Holly Maffitt to be Vice Chair of Council. Approval of her nomination was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

He is downsizing his library and he invited all Council members to stop on the 3rd floor and peruse the "Bishop's Book Fair" after the meeting.

He reported on the ordination of the Bishop of Michigan which he had attended the weekend before, and commented on the creative way they had used theatre space for the ordination.

The Bishop reported that the Presiding Bishop has announced that the Bishop-Elect Deon Johnson has received the required majority of consents in the canonical consent process.

House of Bishop meets in Texas next month. Because the necessary consents have been received, the Bishop-Elect will also attend. Clergy Conference will be held March 17-19th, and lead by both Bishop Smith and Bishop-elect Deon. Theme will be what it means to have been/what it means to be a bishop.

His retirement event, A Celebration Eucharist, will be held at the Cathedral on March 28th. The service will be followed by a luncheon reception.

He will be retired on April 27th. April 26th will be his final appearance at the Cathedral. He talked about his plans for retirement.

Housing Resolution:

The following resolution was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

RESOLVED, that of the total annual compensation to be paid to the Rev. Deon Johnson in 2020 by the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, \$55,000 be designated a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS CODE of 1986; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the designation of \$55,000 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2020 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Aged and Infirm Clergy Fund Resolution:

The following resolution was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri does hereby confirm and approve the following corporate action of COEDMO: that a grant in the amount of \$951.80 be awarded from the Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund to assist a clergyperson with out of pocket medical and dental expenses.

(It was noted that the balance in the Aged and Infirm Clergy Fund is \$1,857,000 as of 12-31-2019. This Fund was established in 1870 with offerings and gifts. It is to be used for the relief of Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese who are disabled by age, disease, or otherwise, and of the surviving spouse and children of Clergy. Per Diocesan Canon, the Trustees of COEDMO shall receive, consider and grant or deny applications for relief.)

New Ventures in Community: Mrs. Elizabeth Yount

The New Ventures in Community Ministry Committee this year will be Mrs. Elizabeth Yount, Chair, Mr. Scott Ferguson and Ms. Janet Thompson

Mrs. Yount reported that she had received a request from Christ Church, Cape Girardeau for permission to repurpose funds from the grant they received in 2019. Fewer gunlocks were needed in 2019 for the Lock-It-for-Love program and gunlocks purchased in 2018 with donations had provided enough for 2019.

They have asked if the monies could be used for a collaborative work in another area of gun violence prevention in Cape Girardeau. A local, grassroots neighborhood violence prevent organization (SNAP, Stop Needless Acts of violence, Please) is working with local children and youth in the neighborhood most affected by gun violence.

Following discussion, Council felt that repurposing these funds would not set a good precedent, but would encourage Christ Church to reapply for funds for the new projects.

Convocation Reports:

Kemper – no report

II – no report

III – meeting on February 29th

IV – no report

West – no report

South – meeting today (February 15th)

Convocation representation and structure:

Ms. Kekec asked about the number of Convention-elected representatives serving on Council, and why there seem to be seven at-large members elected by Convention instead of six. Mrs. Brattin will look into this issue.

Council discussed the convocation structure and would like to make it better. It may help to encourage vestries to work more closely with their Convention delegates.

Following prayer by Bishop Smith, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Rehkopf
Acting Clerk

Attachments:

A-B - Orientation, Diocesan Council 2020

C - Funds of the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

D – Emmanuel Church, Webster Groves – Assessment Letter to Council