

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH DAKOTA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
BISMARCK, ND
AUGUST 28, 2015

Present: Bishop Michael Smith, the Rev. Duane Fox, Deacon Barbara Olson, Charlotte Peterson, Treasurer, Deacon Terry Overbo, Carmine Goodhouse, Mary Ann Henry, the Rev. Bart Davis, Robert Fox, the Rev. Zanne Ness, Julie Helgaas, Pat Fearing, Sec., Canon John Floberg (non-voting)

Absent: The Rev. Jim Shannon, Don Henderson, Sandi Myers, Linda Hokana, Marilys Carter, the Rev. Erin Richards, Deacon Brandon Mauai, Carol DeWall, the Rev. Christian Senyoni, the Rev. Michael Paul, Leisha Woltjer (non-voting)

A tasty barbeque meal was prepared by Canon John Floberg, who indicated that any free will offering from the meal would go to campus ministry. Bishop Michael opened the meeting by reading about a martyr in New Guinea, who started a mission there in 1891 and became their first bishop in 1898. Discussion was held on this, the Psalm, and the Gospel reading.

The Bishop took roll and a quorum was established. The agenda was amended with the addition of the subjects of Acolyte Training, Human Trafficking, and the United Thank Offering.

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted by motion of Barbara Olson, Zanne Ness seconding.

Charlotte Peterson gave the treasurer's report. There were some questions on royalty income, which Charlotte and Bart Davis answered. Charlotte reported that expenses were on target. It was also reported that the Trust and Endowment Fund's five committee members will meet on September 21.

Discussion was held on Our Fair Share Guidelines, specifically Section B-3e. The council voted this down.

Charlotte reported that the vehicle policy is in its trial period and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Barbara Olson moved for acceptance of the treasurer's report. Bart Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Charlotte Peterson presented the 2016 budget which will be presented at convention in October. Discussion was held on several items. Bart Davis moved to change Line Item 93-Travel for Canon Missioner East from \$2,860 to \$2,800. Robert Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried. It was noted that Father Christian Senyoni will be in that position until June of 2016.

Julie Helgaas moved for acceptance of the budget. There was a second. Motion carried.

Pre-convention meetings to present the budget will be held in Grand Forks (Charlotte Peterson), Jamestown (Dr. John Baird), and Bismarck (Deacon Beth Lipp).

The meeting was adjourned until Saturday morning.

Saturday, August 27, 2015

Bishop Michael opened Saturday's meeting by reading about Prudence Campell who lived in the 1800's. She started a girl's school and then opened a school for black girls. Morning Prayer followed, with discussion on the readings.

A presentation was given by Zach Peterson, Senior Account Specialist, and Jeff Hamilton, Associate Account Specialist, who are both with the Church Pension Fund. Pension plans and health insurance plans were explained and discussed.

John Floberg and Terry Overbo spoke for the Youth Committee. They said that teens will not be invited to take part in the convention. They said that a good plan to involve youth needs to be devised. There will not be child care at convention.

There will be an Acolyte Festival on November 20-22. There will also be training available for lectors, Eucharistic ministers, vergers, altar guilds, and for artist and sewing guild. Those attending from over 80 miles will be provided assistance. Registration forms were handed out to take to respective churches.

John Floberg announced that the United Thank Offering had provided a grant of \$50,000 to provide for printing of age-appropriate educational brochures on human trafficking which will be given out at convention to every church to be taken back to their respective communities for distribution. Patrick Atkinson, founder of God's Child Project will present three seminars on Human Trafficking--two during convention and one at St. George's on Thursday before convention which will be more in depth.

A second United Thank Offering Grant has been awarded to the Diocese of North Dakota to build tiny houses for "Terry's Boys", young men on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation who have nowhere else to live. They will be able to occupy the houses for up to five years, must have their GED or working on it, and be employed or going to Sitting Bull College.

Pat Fearing announced that the Rev. Heather Melton who is UTO coordinator at the Episcopal Church Center in New York will attend our convention and speak to us.

The bishop announced the following openings which will be filled during convention including:

Secretary of Convention

Treasurer—Charlotte Peterson who is eligible for another term

Standing Committee-3 year term, Carmine Goodhouse coming off, eligible for another term

1 year term, to fill vacancy resulting from Sandi Myers' resignation

East Region: 3 year term-Julie Helgaas coming off, eligible for another term

3 year term-Pat Fearing coming off, not eligible for another term

West Region: 3 year term-Zanne Ness coming off, eligible for another term

3 year term-Mary Ann Henry coming off, not eligible for another term

2 year term-Erin Richards resigned, elect a replacement

The meeting adjourned to the church for Holy Eucharist. Lunch followed

Submitted by Pat Fearing, Secretary