

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH DAKOTA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Grace Church, Jamestown ND
November 17-18, 2017

Present: Bishop Michael Smith , Deacon Terry Overbo, Carmine Goodhouse, Julie Helgaas, The Rev. Duffy Williams, Christie Iverson, Don Henderson, Dan Rice, Kristin Koch, The Rev. Michael Paul, The Rev. Larry Thiele, Elaine McLaughlin, Robert Fox, Mike Rhinehart (Saturday), The Rev. John Floberg (Saturday), The Rev. Mark Strobel (Saturday), Canon Zanne Ness (non- voting), Canon Christian Senyoni (non-voting).

Absent: The Rev. Duane Fox, Deacon Brandon Mauai, The Rev. Mary Johnson, Leslie Ross, Rosa Wilson,

6:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Evening Prayer

Bishop Michael opened the meeting.

Roll Call, a quorum was established.

The agenda was amended to include:

Michael Paul, Julie Helgaas, Christian Senyoni

The agenda was adopted.

The Minutes were amended to read:

Project Resource: Four people have indicated interest in attending: Mark Strobel, Mitch Dorvilier, Robert Fox, and Julie Helgaas. Christie Iverson as alternate.

The amended minutes were approved.

The Rev. Mary Johnson was elected Vice-President, and Julie Helgaas as Secretary.

Robert Fox, Treasurer presented the Finance Report. The Report was approved.

The Finance Committee appointments of Robert Fox, Bart Davis, Duffy Williams, John Floberg and Andrea Stromberg were approved.

Tax/Housing Allowance designations for clergy was approved.

The Diocesan Convention Report was discussed. The Council suggested the following in response to the survey.

- Survey Monkey worked well.
- All delegates and visitors should have emails entered on forms.
- Shorten lunch time and allow more time for Regional Meetings to share congregational information and introductions.
- Solicit suggestions for social activities/time on Friday evening.
- Respondents like moving/interacting with other tables.

Closing Prayer and the meeting was recessed.

Saturday, November 18, 2017.

8:30 am Morning Prayer.

The meeting was re-convened.

St. George's, Bismarck will be the featured congregation for the 2018 Convention.

"Evangelism Matters" March 15-17, 2018 in Ohio. Suggestions for participants are: Kristin Koch, St. George's, Ericka Morlan, Gethsemane, and Nicole Derene, St. Paul's.

Workshops in Richardton were discussed and the following suggestions made:

- Discussion of language as a means to encourage participation.
- "Lay Leader" is a confusing label and participation should be issued specifically to all people to attend.
- Suggested to use spiritual, growth, spiritual vitality or "Life in Christ" in title of the workshop.
- Evangelism can also be confusing terminology.

--January 19-20-21, 2018 in Richardton. "*Mission Theology*" presented by the Bishop of Dallas, Texas.

--February 3-4, 2018 at Gethsemane. "*Pre-Lenten Retreat*" by the Director of the Episcopal House of Prayers, St. John's University, Collegeville, MN.

--February 23-24 2018 in Richardton. "*Sharing Life in Christ/Community/Evangelism*".

--April 13-14-15, 2018 in Richardton. "*Racial Reconciliation*" by Lelanda Lee.

--May 4-6, 2018 in Richardton. "*Organizing for Mission*" by Bishop Carol Gallagher

The Bishop explained the "Hispanic Mission Program".

John Floberg briefed the Council on the status of moving the funds of the Endowment to DFMS for investing. Duffy Williams, John Floberg and Robert Fox are signatories for future withdraws. The investments are to remain in the account until drawn as needed for the budget.

John Floberg reported on the Sustainability Grants and on future funding from the National Council and possible impact on North Dakota. Duffy Williams moved the Diocesan Council submit the following statement of support for the Grant, second by Michael Paul, motion approved.

"With the advice of the North Dakota Council of Indian Ministries (NDCIM) Executive Committee, the Diocesan Council of North Dakota opposes the conflation of the Indigenous "New Opps" grants with the "Sustainability" grants. Furthermore, since we experience hardship in covering the needs of our six Native congregations, we request an increase in our base budget support of \$150,000 for the triennium".

Michael Paul reported on trip to Uganda and his visit to refugee camps in Norther Uganda. The Bishop of South Sudan asked him to be an ambassador to help spread information about the Uganda Refugee Camp and its concerns.

Julie Helgaas has resigned as a Deputy to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

The Bishop reported: Oakes would like to sell their building. Standing Committee will be responsible for the process which will include an inventory of existing property and for possible use of the building by other congregations.

Christian Senyoni asked for names of people from other diocesan parishes who would be interested in establishing an Evangelism Committee. The Bishop appointed Christian Senyoni as convener and to report back to Diocesan Council.

Christie Iverson asked for Julie Helgaas to be appointed to replace Beth Lipp as overseer for the Diocesan Credit Card. The Bishop approved the request.

The next meeting of the Diocesan Council will be *March 16-17, 2018 @ Ft. Totten*.
The meeting was adjourned by Bishop Smith

Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Lunch was served

Julie Helgaas
Secretary