

## DIOCESAN COUNCIL MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2019

Attendance: The Rt. Rev. William Franklin, Canon Cathy Dempsey-Sims, Claudia Scheda, Wayne Blessinggame, Cheri Maytum Krull, Bonnie Morris, Jim Clements, Bruce Davidson, Reid Heffner, Sue Stanislawski and Judy Elliott, Clerk

Opening Prayer -6:05 PM by Bishop Franklin

Election of Officers for 2019: Nominated were:

- Vice President – Bruce Davidson - Motion made, seconded and carried.
- Secretary – Reid Heffner – Motion made, seconded and carried.
- Clerk – The Bishop appointed Judy Elliott as Clerk of the Diocesan Council

Upcoming meetings: Please mark your calendar

- March 21, 2019
- April 11, 2019
- May 23, 2019
- September 12, 2019
- October 17, 2019
- November 21, 2019
- December 19, 2019

Minutes approved with the following corrections: The dates for Bishop Bill's Farewell Receptions:

March 17, 2019 in Batavia

March 23, 2019 in Jamestown

April 7<sup>th</sup> in Buffalo at St. Paul's Cathedral at 3PM – reception to follow – venue to be announced soon

Bishop's Time: The Bishop highlighted the following two concerns which will be fully discussed later in this meeting:

1. Full Share Committee Report: "I think the time is up on parishes that habitually do not fulfill their obligations to the diocese. I believe we should invoke the canon we discussed at the last meeting on no participation by delinquent parishes in convention. Nor in membership on diocesan bodies. Also I am not pleased at the tone of the responses of some specific parishes to the Full Share Committee, and I do not think this lack of respect should be tolerated."

2. The follow up on grant is also important. " We are trying more and more to support parishes through grants. But Bruce Davidson, on behalf also of Wendy Palmer, and Canon Cathy will discuss the importance of parishes receiving grants adhering to the investigation of use of funds. This is imperative if the diocese is to continue to raise money for grants and award grants. We must know if funds have in fact been used for the precise program outlined in a grant proposal that has been approved by the Diocesan Council."

#### Full Share Committee Report – Canon Cathy Dempesy-Sims

Canon Cathy presented "The Full Share Committee Report to Council." There are 11 churches in question. Cathy explained, thoroughly, each parish's Full Share pledged, and % to be paid, with the Full Share Committee's recommendation (note: each Council member present received a copy). Particular attention and discussion ensued re: Advent Kenmore and St. Peter's Westfield. A motion was made by Bruce, seconded by Cheri to thank the Full Share Committee for their difficult work-carried. Members included: Dan Tibedeau, Jim Isaac, Randi Rowe, Cathy Dempesy-Sims, Maria Manocchio, Bob Matson and Karen Genco.

Follow-up letter to the Genesee Deanery: Canon Cathy and Bruce – Extensive discussion took place regarding the "Genesee Region Ministry Grant." Council members Bruce Davidson and Wendy Palmer wrote to the Rev. Colleen O'Connor to follow-up on the status of this outstanding grant, specifically asking these three questions:

1. What is the status of the project?
2. Has any or all of the funds been spent on this project? Please provide details as to how.
3. Where is the \$25,000 that was originally disbursed for this project?

Colleen O'Connor, who attended this meeting, provided some answers to these questions. Considerable time was spent on discussion, and Q&A back and forth. In summation, it was decided for Wendy and Bruce to draft another letter on behalf of the Council, asking these questions:

1. A complete accounting of the \$25K from initial; deposit to copies of all checks written. (an audit report)
2. A list of all congregations that have participated in the events already held.
3. A copy of the contract with the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center with a letter explaining why the switch from Rob Voyle to Lombard Center.
4. A list of all deanery council meetings. Holley group meeting dates and times.

A full report is to be received in time for the March 21, 2019 Diocesan Council meeting. It was also decided that we need more oversight of these grants, and their

progress . So a committee comprised of Cheri, Bonnie and Jim will work on the procedure for grant reporting to be done.

**Financial Report:** in Maria's absence, Cathy passed out the 1-Month financial report with the following explanation: "Format of report: because the 2019 budget changes are not yet finalized, the report does not compare the actual expenses to budget. Some details have to be finalized with Bishop Rowe. Council will have a finalized 2019 budget to approve at the March meeting."

**Adjournment:** Bishop Bill closed the meeting at 8:30PM with the Lord's Prayer.

**Next meeting:** March 21, 2019 at 6PM. This will be Bishop Bill's final meeting with the Diocesan Council.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Judy Elliott, Clerk ☺