

Diocese of Milwaukee
Executive Council Minutes
November 10, 2018 10:00 a.m.
St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee

Present: The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller; Mr. Clyde Bachand, Diocesan Treasurer; the Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski; Mr. Ron Johnson; the Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee; the Rev. Joel Prather; the Rev. Elizabeth "Liz" Tester; the Rev. Debra Trakel; Mr. John Washbush; Ms. Janice Watter, Vice-President of Executive Council; Ms. Kristen Wold and the Rev. Chuck Zellermyer

Others present: Canon Peggy Bean, Canon for Congregations and Ms. Marlene Udovich, Finance Officer

Absent: Ms. Kada Bush; The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Grieser; Mr. Peter Larson; and the ex-officio members (attendance is optional): the Rev. Ian Burch, President, Commission on Ministry and Ms. Jill Heller, Executive Director, Trustees of Funds and Endowments

The Rev. Joel Prather, rector of St. Bartholomew's, Pewaukee, welcomed the Executive Council to St. Bartholomew's where all future EC meetings will be held.

At 10:10 a.m. Bishop Miller led the Executive Council in the "Litany in the Wake of a Mass Shooting," created by the co-conveners of Bishops United Against Gun Violence, of which Bishop Miller is one.

Action Items

Approval of September minutes

Bishop Miller asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the minutes of the September 22, 2018 Executive Council Meeting. Ms. Jan Watter, Vice-President of the Executive Council, noted that the two members of the Task Force on the Diocesan Organization Chart are Ms. Kada Bush and Mr. Ron. Johnson not the Rev. Liz Tester and the Rev. David Simmons.

***Hearing nothing further, the Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski moved and Mr. Ron Johnson seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2018 Executive Council Meeting as corrected. They were so approved.

Approval of Housing Resolutions

Bishop Miller gave an abbreviated explanation of the purpose of the Housing Resolutions and noted that the IRS requires them.

Housing Resolution for 2019 for
The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller during 2019, \$50,000 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee

providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2019 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Housing Resolution for 2019 for
The Rev. Jonathan Melton

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rev. Jonathan Melton during 2019, \$20,000 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of St. Francis House providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rev. Jonathan Melton for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2019 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Housing Resolution for 2019 for
The Rev. Kevin Stewart

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rev. Kevin Stewart during 2019, \$21,848.00 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rev. Kevin Stewart for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2019 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Housing Resolution for 2019 for
The Rev. Seth Raymond

RESOLVED, that of the total compensation to be paid to The Rev. Seth Raymond during 2019, \$24,000 shall be designated as housing allowance (in lieu of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee providing and maintaining a furnished residence for him), to be excludable from taxable income, within the meaning of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code, to the extent that said housing allowance is spent by The Rev. Seth Raymond for expenses of renting or providing a furnished home for himself and family, including rental or mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, furnishings, maintenance and repairs and other related expenses, up to the fair market rental value of said home, including furnishings and utilities. This housing allowance designation will apply to calendar year 2019 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

***Mr. John Washbush moved that the Housing Resolutions for The Rt. Rev. Steven Miller, the Rev. Jonathan Melton, the Rev. Kevin Stewart and the Rev. Seth Raymond be approved as presented. It was seconded by the Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski. The motion passed unanimously.

Information/Discussion Items

Diocesan Convention

Bishop Miller gave some of the results of the convention feedback sheets:

- some felt it should be shorter, less reports
- some still would like an overnight convention with time for more fellowship.

Bishop Miller also gave the diocesan staff observations regarding the convention:

- St. John's Northwestern Military Academy is a good venue for worship.
- It is not a good venue for a business meeting because of acoustics.
- The food service, for convention purposes, is not good.

The Rev. Scott Leannah said that the morning DioMil Read was really well done; Mr. Clyde Bachand concurred.

Bishop Miller said that venue, convention agenda and length of convention was up for review. He felt appointing a sub-committee to plan the shape of the convention was in order: 1day/2day; venue; voting issues.

Further discussion focused on:

- venue—need for a location that has seating for @270 and not a lot of moving from place to place
- easy set up for worship
- type of and timing of elections/voting

From the discussion two Canonical changes were suggested:

- reduce the time the nominations need to be in the office from 60 days to 30 days
- reduce the number of deputies from each parish sent to convention; a discussion worth pursuing

Bishop Miller asked the Rev. Marge Kiss, Executive Secretary and Mr. John Washbush to work on the Canonical issues.

Bishop Miller called for volunteers to serve on the Convention Planning Committee. Ms. Jan Watter, Mr. John Washbush and the Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski offered to be on the committee. The bishop and Ms. Jan Watter, the VP of Executive Council will reach out to the Madison churches for additional members.

Canon Peggy Bean reminded the council and sub-committee that the Presiding Bishop coming to Milwaukee in 2020 and his attending the convention was a separate issue and separate discussion.

Diocesan Organization Chart – Mr. John Washbush

Mr. John Washbush explained that:

- the organization chart was put into drop box that morning
- that it was a “living“ chart
- that it was often difficult to define/reflect how entities relate to each other

Bishop Miller felt it was a good start but that the challenge was the continuing relationship of certain entities to the diocese, e.g. St. Francis House and the Hospitality Center. His concern is the pattern of starting things and then giving them away so that there is no structural commitment e.g. Our Next Generation and the Gathering.

Haiti Project – Bishop Miller

Bishop Miller used the charts and the concern regarding continuing relationship of entities as a springboard to the discussion on the Haiti Project. His concerns centered on:

- clarity of its relationship to the diocese
- its lack of transparency and accountability

Discussion focused on the issues of hiring of staff, compensation, entering into contracts, fiduciary responsibility and the positive oversight of Dr. Jennifer Henery.

The Rev. Debra Trakel reminded all that a similar discussion and set of concerns were expressed regarding the Gathering, and that “if a ministry is of the spirit, it will continue, just in a different way.”

Finance Report – Ms. Marlene Udovich, Finance Officer

Ms. Marlene Udovich reported that:

- the 3rd quarter was a good quarter
- unpaid assessments are “way down”
- bills are being paid on time

She reminded the council members that on the profit/loss sheets, sections are hi-lighted that have significant changes; for example: though Camp Webb is under budget, monies will be carried-over to cover the reservation fees for Lutherdale, current camping site. The Rev. Elizabeth “Liz” Tester stated that a future discussion regarding the camping experience is necessary.

As announced last month, Ms. Marlene Udovich, current finance officer, is retiring next year. Bishop Miller noted that the finance committee, under the direction of Mr. Bob Love, are in the process of advertising and taking applications for the position.

Ms. Marlene Udovich said that though there are a number of individuals preparing to serve as Financial Reviewer for the new audit process, more people are needed.

St. Martin’s, Brown Deer – Bishop Miller

Bishop Miller told the EC that St. Martin’s Church had a stain-glass window put over a regular glass window dedicated to the Rev. McGowan, first rector of St. Martin’s Church. With the closing of St. Martin’s, he is asking to have the window returned to the McGowan family.

Bishop Miller told the council that he is amenable to returning the window; he felt a vote of affirmation of his recommendation from the EC was advisable. The Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski moved and the Rev. Scott Leannah seconded Bishop Miller's recommendation to return the stained-glass window to the Mr. McGowan's.

Canon's Report – Canon Peggy Bean

Canon Peggy Bean called attention to the ministry grants and reemphasized the changing direction of the Commission on Mission and Development (COMD) to focusing on grants that support mission in a local community.

Canon Peggy Bean also reflected on the request for a loan that came before the EC in September and the situation that occurred. The COMD is suggesting a review of the current loan policy, perhaps adding that the "Executive Council should have all the recommendations/rationale from the committees and that discussions with the committee leaders should take place prior to the interview with the congregation."

Mr. Clyde Bachand, the diocesan treasurer, felt that a review and reevaluation of the policy was due and said that the finance committee would take on that project and re-submit the revised policy for the EC's approval.

Bishop Miller also felt that an Emergency Loan Policy would be helpful, perhaps, simply including the bishop, the Vice-President of the EC, the treasurer and the president of the Standing Committee.

Bishop Miller's Report

St. Andrew's, Kenosha – Its final closing date is November 30th, the feast of St. Andrew. Most of the members of St. Andrew have joined St. Matthew's, Kenosha.

St. Luke's Hospital, Racine – Bishop Miller has met with the trustee of the successor board of St. Luke's hospital. Ascension Aurora has not responded. The relationship with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is tenuous.

St. Martin's, Brown Deer – Bishop Miller submitted the property assessment to the superintendent of the Brown Deer School district. He noted that, though other churches have expressed interest in purchasing the property, his preference is to have a "clean" sale to the Brown Deer School District.

St. Luke's, Whitewater -- The former owners of the St. Luke's, Whitewater property are still rejecting the return of the property to them. The deed of the property specifies that if "services cease in the church, the property returns to the heirs and assigns." Some of the heirs want it, some do not.

The Rev. Scott Leannah wondered if it could serve as student housing for Whitewater

Ms. Kristen Wold felt that the environment would not be amenable to college student; the Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski said that significant repairs were needed; Bishop Miller also noted that it was on the Register of Historic Places, which added further issues to keeping the property.

Bishop Miller, in the event that the December meeting would be cancelled, thanked the Rev.

Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Tester and the Rev. Chuck Zellermyer for their service to the diocese.

He wished all a Blessed Thanksgiving.

Mr. Ron Johnson moved and the Rev. Joel Prather seconded the adjournment of the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting is December 1, 2018 at St. Bartholomew’s, Pewaukee. The meeting is tentative, dependent on whether there is enough business for a meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Margaret (Marge) M. Kiss
Executive Secretary & Recorder of the Minutes

Current EC Task Forces and Members

EC Constitution and Canons

Mr. John Washbush
The Rev. Elisabeth “Liz” Tester
The Rev. Scott Leannah, President of the Standing Committee

Diocesan Organization Chart(s)

Mr. John Washbush
Ms. Kada Bush
Mr. Ron Johnson

Shape of Convention in General

Ms. Jan Watter, Vice-President of the Executive Council
The Very Rev. Andrew Hanyzewski
Mr. John Washbush

WI FI

User ST. BART’S - guest

Password guest connect

Appendix I

**ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT ST.
BARTHOLOMEW'S, PEWAUKEE**

Future Meeting Dates for 2019 Executive Council

January 5, 2019	10 AM
March 2, 2019	10 AM
April 6, 2019	10 AM
May 4, 2019	10 AM
June 1, 2019	10 AM
September 7, 2019	10 AM
October 5, 2019	10 AM
November 2, 2019	10 AM

Appendix II

2018 Norms for Executive Council Meetings

Begin with prayer

Start and end on time

Receive and Review material one week ahead of time of meeting

Respectful communication

 Assume good/best intentions

 Seek to model reconciliation

 Look for the best in others

 Give the best we have

 Gentleness first

Recuse oneself or abstain from matters in which one has a conflict of interest

Respect the “confidential nature” of the discussion (Identify if confidential)

All responsible for the process at the table; Pay attention/Be actively engaged

All members of Executive Council are authorized to raise their hand, to call for a pause in the process, and to ask for a moment of prayer from the Bishop

We are always The Church