

## Diocesan Council May 2012 – Summary

Council gathered at Living Water Spiritual Center for an overnight retreat and meeting May 11 and 12.

Bishop Stephen Lane called the meeting to order with prayer on Friday evening. Council then watched Ron Heifetz's video about adaptive change and challenge and discussion followed. Bishop Lane then presented the Hadaway and Price Report that was submitted to Executive Council of the Episcopal Church. The ups and downs of the statistics prompted more conversation.

Bishop Lane closed the evening with prayer.

Saturday morning began with an invitation to share further reflections on the previous evening's material.

The minutes of the March 3, 2012 meeting stood as approved on line.

The Finance Committee Reports followed. Richard Rozene, Treasurer of the Diocese, presented the first quarter reports and noted several points for Council's attention, also noting that there were no surprises or new patterns appearing on either the credit or debit side.

Doug Mayer presented the 2013 Budget Estimate. The Parochial Reports are showing a smaller than anticipated projected income reduction. Conversations with the Trustees of Diocesan Funds are also showing a reduction in income from investments, but again a modest one.

Doug Mayer also reported that there were fewer submissions to the Grants Review Committee and, therefore, a reduction in the total dollars requested. He also made a recommendation that the Grants Review Committee become an official Committee of Council, which recommendation was moved, seconded, and approved. Nominations for the Grants Review Committee were made, the results of the election to be announced after lunch.

Council then broke into working groups on Aid to Congregations, Leadership Development, Mission Review, Donation Review, and Negotiating Change.

Following a break for lunch, Bishop Lane made his report to Council. He talked about preparations for General Convention, gave updates about congregations and clergy, the work of the Loring and Wolf Fund committees, ECW and UTO in Maine, his Mutual Study of Ministry with the Standing Committee, the future of Bangor Theological Seminary, and explorations of various ways of meeting for diocesan committees – including electronically. Bishop Lane and Canon Reimer reported on the closing of Living Water Spiritual Center in its present form and ideas that are being considered for the future of the property.

The morning working groups then reported on their insights and ideas.

Results of the election of the Grants Review Committee were announced. The three people elected are Judy Burleigh, David Wells, and Elizabeth Miller.

Following announcements, Bishop Lane adjourned the meeting with a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Ring, Secretary to Council