

Diocesan Council Meeting ~ June 12, 2013, 7:30 pm

Council met by Webex and telephone to put in place the budget process for 2014 and diocesan staffing. Nineteen members were present.

Bishop Lane called the meeting to order and offered prayer.

He then invited Doug Mayer, Chairman of the Finance Committee to present the 2014 budget process.

Doug Mayer reported that income projections are better than previously anticipated, 2/3 of Maine congregations are showing income increases. Income is up about 3%. This will allow for the calling of a fourth missionary for the staff Away Team whose portfolio will focus on formation for all ages – including youth and young adults – and who will be a liaison to a group of congregations. The budget will also be able to continue support of the programs that meet the seven criteria for mission.

Three actions were taken: Authorizing the Bishop to call the fourth Missioner; Setting an maximum Assessment rate of 16% (a reduction of at least 0.7%); Create the Phase II Mission Priority Committee of Council members to do the budget building work formerly done by the Commissions.

Council then revisited the request from the Trinity Jubilee Center that was tabled at the May meeting. It was approved to grant them \$4500.00 for the remainder of 2013. The Jubilee Center is actively addressing their funding sources in light of recent government changes that caused some of their funding to be cut and proactively broadening their base of support.

Heidi Shott reported on preparation for the Pre Convention Hearings that are being scheduled for the week of October 5-13 and reminded Council that the members elected for the class of 2015 will all need to be clergy. Each Area is represented by one lay and one clergy person and the class of 2014 is all laity.

Doug Reighley reported for the Convention Planning Committee that they are actively looking for workshops that correlate to our work of adaptive change.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Ring, Secretary to Council