



MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL  
*19 September 2020*  
*Via Zoom*

Present: Barbara Martin, Nancy Moore, Holly Sargent, Nancy Mooers, Katie Clark, Lynn Rutledge, Thomas Brown, Ginny Urbanek, Peter Jenks, Tom Ward, Gail Chandler, Rita Redfield, Christine Talbott, Melissa Sparks, Suzanne Roberts, Dick Rozene, Ann McAlhany, Paul Beaudette, Terry Reimer, Lael Sorensen, John Hennessey, Mark Spahr, John Balicki, Kim Wallace, Michael Ambler

Absent: Steve Ward and Sarah D'Angio White

Following coffee and fellowship, the Bishop began the meeting at 9:15 with any agenda adjustments as necessary. Hearing no changes, the Bishop asked for a vote to adopt the agenda. Following vote, it was adopted.

The Bishop then asked Rita Redfield to lead the council in morning prayer.

Following a beautiful morning prayer by Rita, the Bishop asked about the minutes from the June meeting. Following motion to approve as posted and vote, the June 2020 council minutes were approved.

Lael then spoke on behalf of the Finance Committee.

She then called on Dick to go over the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter financials. Following his presentation, the floor was opened for questions. Hearing none, he called on Lael to talk about the proposed 2021 Budget.

There was the question about General Convention and whether it's going to happen next summer. Expect to hear no later than November 1, 2020.

Lael then asked Terri to speak on the Assessment Rate and Income Projections.

Lael then spoke briefly on Mission Priorities and SMS and called on the Bishop to speak about Bishopswood. He spoke briefly about wanting them to have their own line item in the

budget and their own voice to advocate for themselves and not relying on diocesan staff for that.

The Bishop then spoke on the Bishop and Staff line on the 2021 budget. Mark Spahr and John Hennessey and Emily Keniston. Switch from programs to staff.

Dick Rozene spoke on behalf of the Compensation Committee regarding the resolutions that will be going before Convention.

Terri also spoke on behalf of the committee. About the insurance part and the canons.

Lynn then spoke about the Lovett Fund and the guidelines and application process. The Bishop thanked everyone who worked on it and asked for discussion around it. Hearing none, vote was taken and it was approved.

Kim spoke on a couple of New Initiative Grants.

St Paul's – asking for \$8,200 for construction costs in order to make building habitable for affordable housing for family of 9.

Following discussion and motion and second, vote was taken and it passed.

St David's – \$8,144 for reimbursement for money already spent to broadcast Sunday services in a better way due to Covid-19.

Following discussion and motion, vote was taken and it was not approved.

Following the vote, Terry recommends council award \$2000 to each congregation for updating options needed for online work and bring it to the trustees to fund.

Lynn spoke on behalf of the Wolf-Loring Funds Committee.

Lynn thanked Barbara Martin for all her work with these applications.

Following discussion and vote, the recommendations were passed.

The Bishop calls for others who want to join Peter, Nancy, Barbara and Lynn , to have continued conversation towards clergy education including more information about sabbaticals.

The Bishop called on Barbara Martin to give the 2020 Diocesan Convention Preview. Barbara called on Holly Sargent to speak about the Town Halls and she gave a general overview of Convention.

Barbara then spoke about nominations and area caucuses.

John Hennessy then spoke briefly on the 9 resolutions that will be coming before convention.

The Bishop then gave his report to council.

Spoke about the future of the diocese and the fact that digital presence is here to stay.

Anything that can be done to make it easier and real is appreciated.

More to come on the online giving platform.

Couple of ideas that he wants council to think about:

He would like to gather with all clergy to talk about whatever needs to be talked about including how we as a diocese can be planning on what to do after the election in November. For everyone to be prepared with the feelings that will come after, both positive and negative.

He also wants there to be some discussion about what to do about Christmas season.

He also spoke about his visitations to churches. He and Barbara to meet and discuss what is best and how that will look. Bishop is deeply committed to supporting the congregations but also doesn't want to cause stress for any congregations.

Sts. Matthew and Barnabas have decided to close.

Newcastle has made decision to stay online – St Giles is doing in person.

Bishop wondering about there not being a rule across the board and seeing some issues and hoping for discussion about that.

Looking forward to the honoring of Christ Church, Biddeford and their transition to Seeds of Hope.

Bishop then said a few words about racial justice and that this is an ongoing topic of conversation and very important to the diocese.

Michael Ambler then spoke on some transitions in the diocese:

Rangeley – on the verge of making a call

Trinity Portland – on the verge of making a call

Grace Church Bath – seeking priest in charge

Scarborough – inviting and receiving applications

Barbara moves that the Poverty Grant Applications be sent to staff for development and move it forward and post to basecamp with December being the final date for vote.

Bishop then called on Lael for the Vote on 2021 proposed Budget. She proposed that council accept. Following vote, it was adopted.

Farewell to Kim Wallace. She has served all the terms she can at this point and we wish her well. Ginny Urbanek has given her resignation and we thank her for her service.

Bishop then called on Holly Sargent to do noonday prayers and then Ann McAlhany to call the meeting to an end at 12:10 PM.