

THE DIOCESE OF NEWARK
OUR DIOCESAN COUNCIL
Wednesday, February 9, 2011
Episcopal House, Newark
Draft Minutes of Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at St. Agnes' Church, Little Falls

Present: The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith, President; Mr. Michael Francaviglia, Secretary; Ms. Diane Sammons, Chancellor

Elected by Districts: The Rev. Barrie Bates, Mr. Thomas Bisdale, The Rev. Timothy Burger, Mr. T. Donald Cairns, The Rev. Deborah Drake, Ms. Edith Gallimore, The Rev. Thomas Mathews, Jr., The Rev. Victoria Geer (Vicki) McGrath, Ms. Barbara Piccirillo, Ms. Martha Reiner, The Rev. Laurie Wurm

Bishop's Appointments: The Rev. Michael Allen, Ms. Gail Barkley, The Rev. Ginny Dinsmore, The Rev. Joseph Harmon

Absent: Ms. Naomi Horsky, Ms. Terrie McColl, The Rev. William Thiele, The Rev. Dean Weber, The Rev. Canon Dr. Sandye Wilson

Staff: Ms. Kai Alston, The Rev. Canon Gregory Jacobs, Ms. Kitty Kaweck, Ms. Kay Lark, Ms. Nina Nicholson

ORIENTATION - ROLE OF COUNCIL & EXPECTATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Members of the Steering Committee along with Chancellor Diane Sammons and member Mr. Tom Bisdale reviewed the role of Diocesan Council, the expectations for its members and other matters. A Diocesan Council Handbook was distributed.

The areas reviewed were:

- Canonical Responsibilities
- Job Descriptions of Members
- How Council Functions
- Diocesan Council Protocols
- Financial Oversight
- Diocesan Budget Responsibilities
 - Funding:
 - ACTS/VIM (A Commitment To Serve/Venture In Mission)
 - Ward J. Herbert Fund
 - Outreach Funds – Alleluia Fund
 - Congregational Growth and Development
 - Diocesan Investment Trust (DIT)
 - Jersey City Funds
- Senior Housing Boards
- Community Development Corporations

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the amendment resolution for the Hillsdale Senior Housing Corporation by-laws.

MINUTES

Motion: It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes for the meeting of December 15, 2010. The motion was adopted.

The January meeting was canceled due to inclement weather. There were no minutes to approve.

EPISCOPAL COMMUNICATIONS

Bishop Beckwith's comments included:

- David Manting, Omega Strategy Consulting, will continue working with the Steering Committee, the bishop and the canon to assist in keeping the focus on the Mission Statement.
- The search continued for the stewardship officer who will have oversight of subgroups responsible for planned giving, major donors and stewardship.
- The Rev. Matthew Engleby will leave the Church of the Saviour, Denville for a position at a school in Honduras.
- The Rev. Scott Hoogerhyde concluded his ministry at St. Mark's, Mendham.
- Over 20 people representing 10 congregations signed up for the adult mission trip to West Virginia this July. This was in response to the presentation at convention by the Rev. Orion Davis.
- In 2012, a pilgrimage may be planned to the Holy Land. This would continue the rhythm of yearly alternating mission trips and pilgrimages.
- Diocesan staff members were participating this month in an annual mutual ministry review. There would be a MMR for the bishop later in the spring.

STEERING COMMITTEE - CONVENTION 2011 ACTIONS

A list of actions decided at the 2011 convention was distributed. The Rev. Vicki McGrath noted those of interest or responsibility for the Council, such as the revised membership terms to three year from two years; the budget resolution for the TEC 2008 pledge payment; and re-certification of anti-racism dialogues for positions of diocesan leadership.

STEERING COMMITTEE – CONVENTION 2011 FEEDBACK

Members were invited to share comments about the recent convention.

- As a guest appreciated being assigned to a table and provided documents.
- Appreciated the workshops, but advanced notice with registration would be helpful.
- Some of the meetings had pastoral opportunities. Council members should help to make contact with the speakers off-line as appropriate.
- Improve scheduling of workshops and other activities when times went over; many new people seemed to be in attendance.
- Glad to have the opportunity to thank Louie for his ministry but may have been too low-key; perhaps another way to honor Louie could be planned by Council.
- Mission minutes were well done.
- The round table discussions on Saturday were scheduled when fatigue set in and may not have been useful.
- The earlier Friday start time was welcomed.
- Highlight was Caroline Christie's election along with Gibson Oakley; proud of the diocesan election results.
- Enjoyed the Saturday Morning Prayer; Friday's service was awkward.

STEERING COMMITTEE - OUTSTANDING 2011 PLEDGES FOLLOW UP

The Rev. Vicki McGrath reported on the status of the outstanding 2011 pledges from congregations.

The following congregations had not submitted a pledge card as of February 2: All Saints', Bergenfield;

St. Paul's, Englewood; St. John the Divine, Hasbrouck Heights; St. Paul's, Jersey City; St. Gabriel's, Milton/Oak Ridge; Redeemer, Morristown; St. Andrew's, Newark; St. Barnabas', Newark; St. Paul's, North Arlington; St. Peter's Korean Church, North Bergen; Holy Communion, Paterson; Good Shepherd, Ringwood; Our Saviour, Secaucus.

STEERING COMMITTEE – HOUSING ALLOWANCE RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZED

The Rev. Vicki McGrath reported the resolution was originally scheduled to be presented at the January 12, 2011 meeting of Diocesan Council. The meeting was canceled because of inclement weather. The resolution was e-mailed on January 18, 2011. Twenty responses were received by January 20. The resolution was adopted with twenty votes favorable and none opposed; there were no abstentions.

Motion: Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income (in computing federal income taxes) a church-designated allowance paid to him as part of his compensation to the extent used by him for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and

Whereas, the Rev. Canon Gregory Jacobs is compensated by the Episcopal Diocese of Newark exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, the Episcopal Diocese of Newark does not provide Deacon Soldwedel with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, That \$30,000 of the total compensation paid to The Rev. Erik Soldwedel for calendar year 2011 is hereby designated to be housing allowance pursuant to Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

STEERING COMMITTEE – NEW HORIZONS FOUNDATION RESOLUTION

The Rev. Vicki McGrath reported that in 1999, Diocesan Council “authorized the creation of the New Horizons fund, an endowment fund to support the training of lay and clergy leaders to be held and managed by Diocesan Council or its appointed agent; and the creation of a committee appointed by the diocesan which will be responsible for proposing the structure of the Fund for the approval of Diocesan Council and for raising its principal from congregations, foundations, individuals, and other sources.” [taken from minutes of March 1999]. The corpus of the fund on January 31, 2011 was \$2,400.00 and presently pays income to the Trustees Amalgamated Account (their unrestricted funds). The recommendation was to close the fund.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, the New Horizon Fund, created by Diocesan Council in 1999, is closed and the corpus of money now held in the New Horizons Fund is transferred from the control of Diocesan Council to the Bishop's Supplementary Funds for the purpose of supporting the training of lay and clergy leaders in the Diocese.

The motion was adopted.

EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP. BOARD ELECTION

It was moved and seconded to temporarily adjourn the meeting of Council.

The President called to order the Meeting of the Episcopal Community Development Corporation.

Motion: It was moved by the Rev. Vicki McGrath and seconded that the following nominee be elected to the Board of Trustees for the term noted. The motion was adopted.

Class of 2014 (term expires February 2014): Mr. Richard Troy Livingston.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to adjourn the Meeting of the Episcopal Community Development Corporation. The motion was adopted.

It was moved and seconded to temporarily adjourn the meeting of Council.

The President called to order the Meeting of the Hillsdale Senior Housing Corporation.

HILLSDALE SENIOR HOUSING CORPORATION

Mr. Thomas Bisdale, council member and a diocesan representative on the Hillsdale Senior Housing Board of Trustees, presented and moved the revised provision in Article VII, Section 2 (b) in the Hillsdale Senior Housing Corporation By-Laws as follows:

That ARTICLE VII, Section 2 (b) of the By-Laws of Hillsdale Senior Housing Corporation be amended as follows (new language underlined):

- (b) Representative Trustees. Nine (9) of the Trustees shall be residents of Hillsdale (designated herein as "Representative Trustees). Any resident of Hillsdale may be elected as a Representative Trustee. For the purpose of this Section, persons who are members of any Participating Organization located in Hillsdale shall be deemed residents of Hillsdale, regardless of the location of such person's personal residence. The term of each of the Representative Trustees shall be for one year. The Participating Organizations may nominate persons for the position of Representative Trustee, in writing, at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting of the members of the corporation. ... (*remainder unchanged*).

Mr. Bisdale explained that Hillsdale House had difficulty identifying a sufficient number of Hillsdale residents willing to serve to fill its full complement of nine Representative Trustees. This amendment will expand the pool of persons eligible to serve by adding people who are members of organizations located within Hillsdale but who personally reside outside of the town's borders. By limiting the expansion of eligibility to members of Hillsdale organizations, the principle of local representation by persons with ties to the community is preserved.

The motion to revise the by-laws was seconded and adopted.

Motion: It was moved and seconded to adjourn the Meeting of the Hillsdale Senior Housing Corporation. The motion was adopted.

The President reconvened the meeting of the Diocesan Council.

ACTION TEAMS MEETINGS – GOALS & EXPECTATIONS FOR 2011-2012

The Action Teams shared their goals and expectations for 2011 and 2012.

Equipping: The Rev. Vicki McGrath reported a major goal was the Vestry University scheduled for Saturday, October 15 at St. Elizabeth's, Ridgewood. The offerings will be similar to last year's conference and expanded along with leadership development, adaptive leadership, and hospitality and leadership expectations for vestry members. Other goals were understanding how the team will work with the new congregational development fund board and the training and deployment with congregational consultants. The team will coordinate the sharing of the workload for the events.

Engaging: The Rev. Joseph Harmon reported that efforts will continue on the Alleluia Fund and the Listening Campaign and will encourage congregations ministering to children. There will be meetings to clarify the roles of the Alleluia Fund development group and the Alleluia Fund grants committee. Intent was to start the process earlier. Policy issues will be addressed, such as the eligibility of applicants. The work of the Listening Campaign will continue with an open meeting to review the data scheduled for

Saturday, March 5, at St. Paul's, Paterson at 9-11:30am. The convention report for the Listening Campaign will be distributed to the council members by Laurie.

Empowering: The Rev. Ginny Dinsmore reported on the team's three goals: foster small group opportunities for the laity; foster lay leadership development; and conduct a forum on community gardens (the latter was scheduled for March 26). The team will coordinate with the Rule of Life group on a possible workshop on patterns of spiritual life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The annual Absalom Jones service was scheduled for Sunday, February 13 at 3pm in Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral.
- Happening was scheduled for this weekend at St. Luke's, Montclair. An anti-racism dialogue weekend was scheduled for youth in the diocese on February 25 and 26.
- A Companion Diocese committee meeting was scheduled for this Saturday on enhancing the diocesan relationships and will be held at Christ Church, Newton.
- Cross Roads summer programs were available and the adult retreat center was about to open.
- Grant writing workshop scheduled for next Tuesday at Care on the Corner in Hasbrouck Heights.

MEETING EVALUATION

Consensus was that the time was spent well.

COMPLINE

A service of Compline was led by the Empowering action team in the Chapel.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. for the Compline service in the chapel.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Francaviglia, Secretary