

THE DIOCESE OF NEWARK  
OUR DIOCESAN COUNCIL  
Wednesday, April 18, 2012  
St. David's Church, Kinnelon  
Draft Minutes of Meeting

**The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at St. Philip's Academy, Newark**

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Present: The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith, President; Mr. Michael Francaviglia, Secretary; Mr. Paul Shackford, Treasurer; Diane Sammons, Esq., Chancellor

Elected by Districts: Mr. Thomas Bisdale, Mr. Alan Bowen, The Rev. Timothy Burger, Mr. T. Donald Cairns, Ms. Edith Gallimore, The Rev. Charles Hatfield, Ms. Naomi Horsky, Ms. Lorraine Jones, The Rev. Anne Koehler, The Rev. Thomas Mathews, Jr., Ms. Barbara Piccirillo, Ms. Martha Reiner, The Rev. Jon Richardson, The Rev. William Thiele

Bishop's Appointments: The Rev. Barrie Bates, Ms. Gail Barkley, The Rev. Joseph Harmon, The Rev. Allison Moore

Absent: The Rev. Michael Allen, The Rev. Ginny Dinsmore, The Rev. Deborah Drake, The Rev. Robert Rhodes, The Rev. Dean Weber, The Rev. Canon Dr. Sandye Wilson

Staff: Ms. Kai Alston, The Rev. Greg Jacobs, Ms. Kitty Kaweck, Ms. Nina Nicholson, Ms. Sarah Rosen

The Rev. David DeSmith welcomed the members to the church and shared the history of the congregation that started to meet in the town fire hall. In those early years, many of those people were Welsh and thought that the area was similar to Wales. The church was named in honor of St. David's of Wales. The Brake the Hunger cycle tour was scheduled for Saturday, May 5. This was the fifth year of the ride – the proceeds are donated equally to the Food Bank of New Jersey and to the ERD. (Goody bags with tee shirt and water bottle were given to each member in appreciation for diocesan support.)

#### AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as prepared.

#### MINUTES

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes for the meeting of March 14, 2012. The motion was adopted.

#### EPISCOPAL COMMUNICATIONS

Bishop Beckwith's comments included:

- Welcomed Mr. Alan Bowen, new representative from District 3, and The Rev. Allison Moore, new bishop's appointment (both were attending their first meeting).
- Congratulated Naomi Horsky on the birth last week of her great-granddaughter, Hailee Joy.
- The Victoria Foundation will be a tenant at Episcopal House and renting the fifth floor. There will be renovations to the other floors in the building for the relocation of the finance department and several other staff members.
- Confirmations began this past weekend. Expressed appreciation to Kitty Kaweck, Kai Alston and Gail Barkley for their work on the events and the retreats. Thanked the Cathedral for its hospitality. There were 360 confirmands expected this year.

- The Mission Strategy Committee held its retreat this past weekend with The Rev. Thomas L. Brackett, Officer for Church Planting and Ministry Redevelopment of The Episcopal Church. The members of the finance team and the mission team met together for discussion and planning.
- On April 25 the bishop and canon will meet with leadership from ten congregations in the western section of the diocese (districts 1 & 2) on how ministry can be shared.
- The Asset Distribution policy was in need of revision. A discussion was held with representatives from the Steering Committee, the Trustees and the Council along with the bishop, canon and chancellor on the next steps for modification.
- The HR committee will make its recommendation on the implementation of the Denominational Health Plan next week and take steps to share the information with the diocese in preparation for the June 9 convention.
- Christ Hospital went into bankruptcy and the closing will be at the end of June to a New Jersey based entity.
- This Friday will be a farewell service for Dean Susan Keller at 7pm.
- The Alleluia Fund for this year has been presented to the diocese for this season. A Showcase of Diocesan Outreach to celebrate the special work of the ministries that receive support from the Episcopal Diocese of Newark through the Alleluia Fund outreach grants was held at the end of March.

#### STEERING COMMITTEE - CONVENTION WORSHIP OFFERING

Ms. Martha Reiner presented and moved for adoption the resolution to designate the worship offering from the June convention. The designations were the costs of the convention and outreach ministries of the host church, Christ Church, which included a food pantry, soup kitchen and clothes bank.

Resolved, That the offering from the Special Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark held on Saturday, June 9, 2012 be used to offset the minimal expenses of the Special Convention and the excess to the outreach ministries of Christ Church, East Orange, our host church.

**Motion:** The motion was seconded and adopted with one abstention.

#### STEERING COMMITTEE – OASIS GRANT AND LOUIE CREW SCHOLARSHIP

The Rev. Joseph Harmon presented for ratification the first Oasis grant and Louie Crew Scholarship. Working with the Engaging the World action team and as part of its strategic plan, the Oasis created in 2011 a grant process, the annual Louie Crew scholarship and a lecture program funded with proceeds from its investments.

The types of grants and scholarships included: congregational grants given to congregations for such purposes as starting an LGBT youth program or designing a more inclusive website; educational grants give to college chaplains to combat homophobia on campuses, to promising “at risk” LGBT students who have been abandoned or abused by their families, or to writers or journalists researching LGBT issues; and ongoing scholarly work which shares the Oasis’ mission to make the church safe for ALL people, and to challenge the church when its interest is self-preservation and not prophetic witness.

This is the first year for the distribution of a grant and the awarding of the Louie Crew Scholarship.

The recipient of a \$5,000 grant is the Montclair Protestant Foundation (Chaplaincy) that serves the spiritual needs of students, faculty and staff at Montclair State University. The award will be used to fund the chaplaincy program which includes the salary and expenses of the chaplain and program materials for education, mission and worship. This will enable the ministry to continue reaching students and enabling them to claim their own identity as beloved children of God. The program is under the direction of Chaplain Diana Wilcox, MSU Protestant Chaplain, Center for Faith and Spirituality.

The recipient of the first Louie Crew Scholarship is Darnell L. Moore, writer, activist and Christian, who will be attending the Harvard Divinity School’s Seminars on Debates on Religion and Sexuality in June.

The award will permit Mr. Moore to continue his writing over the duration of two independent writing retreats and to complete his first book, *To Be Black, Queer, and Christian: Essays on the Black Church and Sexuality*.

The Rev. Joseph Harmon moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Diocesan Council approves and ratifies the grant to the Montclair Protestant Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 and the first Louie Crew Scholarship to Mr. Darnell L. Moore in the amount of \$2,500.

**Motion:** The motion was seconded and adopted.

## FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Paul Shackford presented the finance report for year to date for the period ended March 31, 2012.

### Rental of Episcopal House:

We have completed negotiations and have signed a lease with Victoria Foundation, a not-for-profit providing grants to programs that impact the cycle of poverty in Newark. The lease has an initial term of ten years for the entire 5th floor of Episcopal House, and renovations of the space are currently underway. Additional renovations are required to other floors to provide offices for the relocated staff, and that construction will begin in May. The tenant is expected to move in at the beginning of June. We are also renting a portion of the 1st floor to the Sadie Nash Leadership Project which promotes leadership among young women; they moved in during 2011 after agreeing to a one-year lease. These agreements are important ones that will provide an ongoing stream of income to the Diocese for at least the next ten years.

There are other items of note that are included in the financial report.

### Key revenue items were ahead of budget:

- a. Pledge Revenue (line 1) for the first three months was \$19,554 ahead of budget. The 2012 monthly budget was developed based on the actual pattern of pledge receipts in 2011.
- c. Other Sources: Development Advisor (line 6) - the income to support the Advisor to the Bishop for Development equals the amount of the corresponding expense (line 13) as that expense will be paid from funds outside the Diocesan budget.
- d. Rental Income (line 10) - The budget assumes income from the current tenant for each of the first six months of 2012. Income from that tenant and a second tenant is included in the budget for the second half of the year. The amount of income budgeted will be achieved in 2012.

### Expense items were mostly at or below budget:

- a. Staff expense - The budget for 2012 includes an increase in salaries as well as the implementation of unemployment insurance coverage for diocesan employees who work at Episcopal House. These were implemented in March and were retroactive to the beginning of the year. The actual costs are in line with the budget.
- b. Development Advisor (line 13) - reflects the consulting costs for this advisor. This expense is offset by income in line 6.
- c. Christian Formation (line 20) reflects a favorable variance versus the amount budgeted for the first quarter. Funds are collected from event attendees prior to the events themselves, and are available to pay the expenses associated with the events when they occur. It is expected that the favorable variance will be reduced as the expenses are incurred in April and thereafter, which will offset the income received in the earlier months of the year.
- d. TEC 2008 Pledge Arrears (line 31) - the annual payment of \$10,000 will be paid on a quarterly basis during 2012.
- e. Communications/Voice (line 36) reflects a positive variance versus budget; this is a timing difference which is expected to be offset in future months.
- f. Bishop's Expenses (line 51) are under budget, reflecting the timing of payment of expenses.
- g. Building & Grounds expenses (line 52) are under budget, reflecting the timing of payment of

expenses.

Bottom line:

It is too early in the year to conclude there are any significant concerns about achieving the budget that was adopted by Convention in January. At this point the favorable and unfavorable variances are generally considered to be timing differences. Based on the higher than budgeted pledge receipts and lower than expected expenses, the bottom line reflects a favorable variance of \$39,818 as compared with budget.

Other:

The final amount of pledge income in 2011 included an accrual of \$170,000, which represented the estimated amount of pledges for 2011 that are expected to be collected in 2012. Of that accrued amount, we have collected \$150,000 through the end of March.

**Motion:** It was moved, seconded and adopted to accept the Treasurer's report.

### ACTION TEAMS MEETINGS

The Action Teams met separately and afterwards reported on their discussions.

Equipping: The Rev. Barrie Bates reported the JCAM funds disbursement process was discussed. The church website project was being supported by the team. The Ward J. Herbert Fund recommendations were reviewed for final ratification at the June meeting. A vestry university committee was being formed by Kitty Kawecki. Had conversation about the asset distribution policy and specifically a district 10 proposal.

Engaging: The Rev. Joseph Harmon reported the team continued discussions on how children can be made a priority in the team's work and efforts to assist the congregations. Had identified the attempt to engage the Newark ACT interns who work with YCS. Discussing ways in identifying congregations already doing ministry with children – will review applications from ACTS/VIM, Alleluia and the Page 5 of the parochial report – and to share those experiences and stories. May reach out to DYFS about gaps in engaging children in our communities. Will contact Trinity Wall Street for information on their work with congregations that help children. Expressed thanks to Nina and Sarah for their work on the Alleluia Fund brochure.

Empowering: Ms. Martha Reiner reported the team worked on the summer program scheduled for July 18 that will feature presenters on the study of the Bible at different levels of participation and concentration.

### MEETING EVALUATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The action team time continued to be helpful.

### DISTRICTS

District 1: The Rev. Tom Mathews reported on a recent district clergy meeting and there were concern and confusion about the June convention.

District 7: Ms. Martha Reiner reported that Grace Church, Nutley will hold the annual motorcycle blessing on April 29.

District 8: The Rev. Allison Moore reported four congregations participated in an Easter week service together.

District 9: Mr. Tom Bisdale reported the district heard a presentation on the Brake the Hunger cycle tour.

District 10: Mr. Don Cairns reported the district was working on the joint ministry proposal for a district program for funding.

Union of Black Episcopalians – Ms. Lorraine Jones announced the local Newark chapter was hosting this year's regional conference on April 28 and 29.

COMPLINE

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. into Intercessions from the Welsh Book of Prayer led by the Equipping team.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Michael Francaviglia, Secretary*