

**Diocese of Milwaukee
Executive Council Meeting
January 26, 2013 10:00 a.m.
St. Dunstan's, Madison**

Present: The Rt. Rev'd Steven A. Miller; The Rev'd Andrew "Drew" Bunting; The Rev'd Steve Capitelli; The Rev'd Dr. Paula Harris; The Rev'd Dr. Miranda Hassett; Mr. Patrick Johnson; The Rev'd Gary Lambert, Diocesan Executive Secretary; Ms. Taryn Lantz; Mr. Steve Martinie, Diocesan Treasurer; Mr. Rob Mortensen; Mr. Gust Olson; Mr. Henry Peters; Ms. Giannina "Nina" Radcliffe; and The Rev'd Joan Smoke

Others present: Ms. Peggy Bean, Bishop's Assistant for Congregation Development; The Rev'd Carla McCook, Bishop's Assistant for Christian Formation; and The Rev'd David Pfaff, Canon to the Ordinary

Absent: Ms. Diane Blank, Bishop's Assistant for Finance; The Very Rev'd Kevin Carroll, President, Standing Committee and The Rev'd Scott Seefeldt, President, Commission on Ministry

Guest: The Rev'd Gary Manning

- **Call to Order/Opening Prayer – Bishop Miller**

Bishop Miller called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and opened with prayer. The Behavior Norms for Executive Council Meetings were reviewed.

- **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**

There were no additional agenda items:

- **Approval of the Minutes from the December 6, 2012 Executive Council Meeting**

Bishop Miller asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the minutes of the December 6, 2012 Executive Council meeting. It was noted that the spelling of The Rev'd Steve Capitelli's last name was incorrect on page one. Also, the first discussion below: **Clarification RE: Unpaid Assessment Balance for Zion, Oconomowoc** serves to clarify the intent of the Council regarding the assessment issue, and the motion made at the December meeting is withdrawn and restated in these minutes. With these corrections, the minutes of the December 6, 2012, Executive Council minutes were approved as corrected.

- **Discussion/Action Items**

Clarification RE: Unpaid Assessment Balance for Zion, Oconomowoc

The Rev'd David Pfaff noted that at the previous Executive Council meeting the decision regarding Zion, Oconomowoc's unpaid assessment was inconclusive and not clearly defined. A further discussion ensued revisiting the options (write off; forgive; count as aid; solve without penalty) and their pros and cons (Does it start a pattern? Is it consistent with Canons?)

The initial motion made by The Rev'd Steve Capitelli was withdrawn and, after a discussion to clarify the intent of the Executive Council regarding the request made by Zion, Oconomowoc, it was replaced with the following revised motion:

The Rev'd Paula Harris moved and it was seconded that, the Executive Council, being aware of the unique historical situation at Zion, Oconomowoc and of the efforts made by the parish to this point, extend assistance to them in an intentional manner by way of striking their debt off the diocesan books, on a one time basis, and that Mission and Development will engage them as if they were an aided parish. Approval of the new motion was unanimous.

Appointment of The Rev'd Gary Manning – Bishop Miller

Bishop Miller stated that, as Chair of the Executive Council, he has the authority to appoint persons to fill any vacancy that occurs. He therefore asked for a motion to approve the appointment of The Rev'd Gary Manning to complete the term of office vacated by The Rev'd Deborah Woolsey which expires in October, 2013. Mr. Steve Martinie so moved with a second from Ms. Nina Radcliffe. The motion carried unanimously.

DeKoven Loan Application – Bishop Miller and Mr. Steve Martinie

Bishop Miller noted that at the previous Executive Council meeting this matter was referred to the Finance Committee for review and approval. He then turned the meeting over to Mr. Steve Martinie, Diocesan Treasurer.

Mr. Steve Martinie walked through the January 25, 2012 Memorandum delineating:

- Finance Committee issues
- Current Diocesan Loan Policy
- Loan Application Data
- Additional questions.

Several members of the Executive Council asked questions for clarification (purpose of renovation especially the redesign of the bar area).

The Bishop then noted that, since this motion to approve the loan as stipulated, a loan of \$75,000.00 for three years, came from a committee, it did not need a second.

He asked if there was a motion to amend.

Hearing nothing, he asked if there was any further discussion.

Hearing nothing, he called for a vote.

The motion to approve the loan as requested, a loan of \$75,000.00 for three years, carried unanimously.

• Information Items

St. Francis House, Madison Update – Bishop Miller

Bishop Miller reported on the current status of St. Francis House, Madison.

- It is on track to open August, 2013.
- The members of LZ Venture are “good people” to have as partners.
- The historical building will not be residential.

St. Edmund's, Elm Grove Update – Bishop Miller

Bishop Miller reported on the current status of St. Edmund's, Elm Grove.

He noted that there are a lot of decisions to be made regarding this property; and that, regardless of what decisions are made, there will be repercussions.

He noted the following concerns:

- There is a major discrepancy in the various appraisals.
Is it a rezoning issue? Is the current economy the issue?
- The rectory cannot be sold. (A contingency exists—if the property is sold, the rectory reverts to the previous owner)
Is it possible to use the rectory for interim priests?
- If the property is sold, the cremated remains on the outside need to be moved.
Were plots “sold?” Are there contracts?
- The cost to re-establish the church could be \$1.3 million.
Is it the best location?

Bishop Miller said that the property committee will be meeting in February to further discuss these and possible other concerns.

Update on the Episcopal Service Corps Initiative – The Rev’d David Pfaff

The Rev’d David Pfaff reported on the current status of ESC.

- On December 22nd, the National Board of Episcopal Service Corps approved our application.
- The interns will range in age from 22-30 living a simple, intentional, community life.
- The rectory at St. Luke’s Bay View will be used to house the interns.
- There will be a Welcome of the interns about Labor Day.
- The interns will be focusing on preparing creative marketing for non-profit organizations.
 - Their “contract” is for 10 months, 4 days a week with a 5th day for community and spiritual development.
- It is to be a self-sustaining endeavor.

- **Committee Reports**

Christian Formation – The Rev’d Carla McCook

The Rev’d Carla McCook presented some of her key concerns (minimal registrations and no shows for activities) and ideas (new format for deacon formation program and possible last year of camp) to the Executive Council.

A lengthy discussion ensued re: leadership (who and how), communication (is the message getting out and are we using the best methods) and commitment (is there a regional commitment phobia).

The Rev’d Carla McCook noted that the Executive Council is going to be called on to make some major decisions in the future especially regarding youth outdoor ministry.

Finance Committee/Treasurer – Mr. Steve Martinie

Mr. Steve Martinie made a brief presentation summarizing the financial papers previously sent to the Executive Council pointing out those areas that were less than budgeted:

- Office of the Bishop
- Congregational Development
- Deployment
- Communications
- Personnel
- Nicholson House expenses

He also noted those areas that were over budget:

--Consultants (Strategic Planning)

--Legal

He further stated that the number of parishes with unpaid assessments continues to be a concern.

Mission and Development – Mr. Henry Peters and Ms. Peggy Bean

Mr. Henry Peters and Ms. Peggy Bean, along with several of the other committee members, reported on the current activities of the committee.

--Upcoming Events:

Vestry Leadership Day: February 23rd and March 16th

FIT (Financial Information Team) will also present on those dates.

--Aided parishes along with their liaison and current status were noted.

--Congregations in Transition and their current status were noted.

They indicated what they felt were two significant changes:

--More collaborative conversations are occurring within the diocese not only with aided parishes.

--The Mission and Development committee is shifting from the philosophy of being a “life-support” to being “mission driven.”

Commission on Ministry – By Title

The Commission next meets on February 21st, 2013. All liaisons will report to the group the progress or status of their assigned Aspirants/Postulants/Candidates and inform the group as to who needs to be scheduled for interviews in April and May. The dates of those interviews will also be set at our February meeting. Representing the only change to our list of people-in-process since my last report, we will also meet with Ken Castello, who has been invited back into the ordination process after thoughtful consideration by both the Commission and the Bishop and in response to Ken’s years of faithful service and continuing ministry to those in nursing homes and assisted living. Finally, we anticipate an update and discussion with the Rev. Carla McCook regarding the Deacon School and our ongoing work of diaconal discernment. Important 2013 COM dates have been set including:

Sept 5 - 7-9 pm in both Middleton and Wauwatosa: Info Day for those inquiring about ministry discernment

Oct 3, 7-9 in Middleton and Wauwatosa: Parish Ministry Discernment Committee (PMDC) Training

Nov 8-9, Holy Wisdom Monastery in Madison: Ministry Discernment Weekend (MDW)

Submitted respectfully on behalf of the Commission on Ministry,
The Rev. Scott Allen Seefeldt, President

Lunch Break –12:03

Meeting Reconvened – 12:27

Bishop Miller thanked The Rev’d Miranda Hassett for her hospitality and asked for volunteers to help with the dishes.

Standing Committee – By Title

The Standing Committee met on Wednesday, January 9, 2003, at Nicholson House. Bishop Miller was invited to attend. The Bishop and the Standing Committee discussed the canonical role of the Standing Committee per the national and diocesan canons. No official public works were undertaken. The group adjourned to dinner.

Respectfully submitted,
The Very Rev. Kevin Carroll
President

Bishop's Report – Bishop Miller

Bishop Miller sadly announced the retirement of Ms. Diane Blank after 20 years of service. He noted that a search for her replacement was in progress and he hoped to have it completed and a new person in place by March.

Bishop Miller gave his tentative calendar:

- He will be at St. Luke's, Racine for Lent.
- He, along with the Presiding Bishop, will be at Christ Church, Whitefish Bay and St. Paul's, Milwaukee for the Interfaith Conference on Environment Sustainability and Conservation.
- In late June, the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music (to which he is appointed) will be held in Milwaukee.
- He will be at Province V and House of Bishop meetings along with other work outside the diocese.

Bishop Miller spoke to the Executive Council regarding his concerns and his goals for the upcoming year which led into a group discussion:

- Use of the Meachem Grant monies (rethinking/redefining its purpose)
- Accountability (defining viability)
- Community/Communication (defining mission; addressing changing attitudes)

Final Items:

The Rev'd Andrew "Drew" Bunting noted that he had had the opportunity to read in the Constitution and Canons about the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Council. He wondered if it might be a good idea to devote some time at the next meeting to review these items together.

Bishop Miller wondered about spending an entire day in this endeavor and will consider possible dates.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

The next meeting is set for April 25th, location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev'd Margaret M. Kiss
Deacon
Recorder of the Minutes