



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL
Saturday, 16 November 2013
Diocesan Cathedral

Attendance (arranged by Deanery)

Brandywine: Rev Carolyn Huff, Patrick Connelly, Matt Ryan

Bucks: Rev Ernest Curtin, Michael Kelly

Delaware: Janet Ross

Merion: Rev Ryan Whitley, Richard Bauer

Montgomery: Elise Bowers, Joseph Madison

Pennypack: Rev Jonathan Clodfelter, Peter Datos

Schuylkill: Richard Dill, William Berry

Southwark: Rev D. Joy Segal, David Hammond, Peggy Hatch

Valley Forge: Beverly Loftus

Wissahickon: Victoria Sicks, Rose Muriel Rains

Chancellor – Mary Kohart; Treasurer – Norman McClave; Standing Committee – Rev Lucy Amerman;
Secretary – Jerome Buescher

Guests: Rev Judith Sullivan, Rob Rogers

1. Call to order

Rev D Joy Segal

The meeting was called to order at 09:04 AM

2. Scripture Reflection (*5 minutes*) The Very Rev. Judith Sullivan

Welcome to the Cathedral, this first week after convention. There's much happening here -- 1 year from now, we'll be in a new place but still under construction.

Dave Hammond read Sunday's Gospel, Luke.

Judy – ironic passage for beginning of building project. End of church year, end of cycle, end of Luke. Jesus to Jerusalem, crucifixion. Luke's original audience – gospel is reality, temple destroyed, stones everywhere. Today, little asked of us as Christians. But we live among some rubble – World Trade Center, e.g., and personal rubble. Gospel says we will have right words, way to come through darkness and difficulty. Herod's cathedral vs Coventry cathedral – bombed but vow to rebuild. Connected old ruin to new cathedral, international center for reconciliation. Dean says we have to walk from Good Friday to Easter. Walk requires endurance, faith – can't do it alone but can do as community. Open our hearts to promise of God.

Prayer.

3. Opening of the meeting (*10 minutes*)

The Rev. D. Joy Segal

a. Prayer – Judith Sullivan

b. Welcome and Introductions

Please sign in, give us e-mail address.

Ask – if anyone knows names on, names off, let us know.

Joy as interim vice-chair running meeting in absence of Bishop Daniel.

All present introduced themselves.

Joy reminded everyone of – basic respect for each other. Please raise hand to be recognized. No side conversations. Listen first.

c. Adoption of the agenda

Rev Joy Segal – Addition, Item 8a, emergency loan request from St. Jude & the Nativity; today – will address the poverty topic at the end of the meeting.

A motion to adopt the agenda as amended was proposed by Janet Ross, seconded, and accepted.

d. Recognition of visitors – Rev. Judith Sullivan, Rob Rogers.

4. Diocesan Council “101” (1 hour)

a. What is the Diocesan Council, anyway? Canonical roles and responsibilities, relationships to other leadership bodies, leadership structure of the Diocesan Council. (Mary Kohart, Esq., Chancellor of the Diocese)

Council role changed vis-a-vis canon changes, talk of making diocesan council the convention-between-conventions. Important – council members sit on various committees, report back to council. Field work, keeps things connected. Also – determines when parish becomes mission – criteria used.

Centralized oversight of diocesan activities – reports back so diocese is in the know.

Participation in budget process – where money is allocated speaks to where mission gets done.

b. Responsibilities and Expectations of Diocesan Council members (The Rev. joy Segal)

See booklet. Responsibilities outlined in booklet. Bishop has called for re-examination of diocesan canons, stay tuned.

Committee list – Wapiti items will be removed, name correction: Transition “team,” not transition “committee.”

Booklet – committees. Diocesan council members expected to attend meetings of various committees and commissions. Be sure to bring back info to share & disseminate. Written report is most efficient, need 10 days in advance of Diocesan Council meeting date. Can send back corrections as well, not waste time at meeting. Reports on committee/commission activity expected 2-3 times per year.

Note dates, places of meetings. Agenda items – 10 days ahead to secretary.

Sign in sheet circulated, e-mails requested for future contact & info.

c. Diocesan Council Committee participation and responsibilities (Ms. Victoria Sicks)

Talked about committees. Circulating spread sheet of member information – note if you’re staying, changing, leaving council, etc.

Middle East Study group – meets quarterly, active & vibrant. Wed eve, needs participation.

Youth ministry, Kellner – needs representation.

Cathedral chapter – not a Council responsibility, bishop appoints.

Transition team – at implementation point. Question – can transition team make presentation to council – question will be addressed, council notified.

d. Diocesan Financial Statements and Reports (Mr. Norman McClave III, Treasurer)

Part 1 – once over lightly on finances. \$10M – big business. About \$70M in assets. Enough money to do what we need to do.

Reporting – real audit each year. Clean audit report. Covers diocese & certain affiliates – health/welfare trust, church fund. [Question: will audit report be posted? Answer – yes.]

Monthly – 15 pages, reporting vs budget. [Quest about \$94M vs \$70M; larger number is all funds, not just diocesan funds].

e. Communications (Jerome Buescher, Secretary of Diocesan Council)

5. Minutes of the September 14, 2013 meeting of Diocesan Council (*5 minutes*) Jerome Buescher, Secretary

Corrections: page 2, bishop’s report – cathedral project continues – \$1.6M investment-in-the-project; Treasurer’s report– “clear report” should read “clean report.”

Motion to accept, Victoria Sicks; Janet Ross, seconded; minutes accepted.

6. Executive Committee Report (*20 minutes*)

The Rev. D. Joy Segal

a. Elections to Executive Committee (elect 4)

Involves attendance at 6 extra meetings.

Rev. Joy Segal, Victoria Sicks, Patrick Connelly; Beverly Loftus nominated, willing to serve.

Elected by acclamation.

b. Elections to Clergy Compensation and Employee Benefits

Elect one lay – Richard Bauer, by acclamation.

c. Appointment to Finance Committee (1 Lay, 1 Clergy)

Ullman, lay – by acclamation.

Fackler, clergy – doctoral student at UP, canonically resident;

Metzger, clergy – retired clergy, nominated by Joseph Madison; problem – hasn’t been contacted regarding willingness to serve

Motion to close nominations by E Curtin, seconded by V Sicks, appointment of Fackler accepted by acclamation

Appointment to Finance committee

Lay – Elise Bowers, George Vosburgh

Elise Bowers elected by ballot (Joy will notify George Vosburgh)

Clergy – Carolyn Huff, (nominated by J Clodfelter, seconded by E. Bowers). Motion to close nominations by J Clodfelter, seconded by E. Bowers, accepted. C Huff elected by acclamation.

Appointment to Finance Assistance Committee, Council representatives

David Hammond, Rev John Clodfelter, Joseph Madison

d. Schedule of 2013-2014 Council meetings

25 Jan 14, 15 Mar 14, 03 May 14, 06 Sep 14, 15 Nov 14

7. Bishop’s Report (*15 minutes*)

The Rt. Rev. Clifton Daniel, 3rd
(Rev Lucy Amerman, in Bishop’s absence)

Bishop is looking at diocesan staff and structure. Working on mission & ministry. Will be posting in Jan – a Canon to the ordinary for congregational development – stewardship, finances, growth. Looking for feedback from Council.

8. Church-house, diocesan offices – moving to Lutheran Seminary, for at least a year.

Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania
Brossman Center 3rd Floor
7301 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia PA 19119

Cost is about ½ current monthly expense. Move will take place between Christmas and New Years. Diocesan office will close a week in advance for preparation work. Operations may be slow early in January (re-establishing telephone, internet services).

Open enrollment for benefits online – going OK.

9. Treasurer’s Report (15 minutes)

Mr. Norman McClave III, Treasurer

Treasurer’s report – please read, not discussed here.

Summary: From year ending 2012 – good health, investments up, medical expenses stable, pledging problematic. See convention report. Surplus – \$600K (in contrast to 2011, \$1.1M deficit).

Pledging – see report. Pledging up but irrelevant because of downward trend – lost 60% of total over last 10 yrs. 25% churches do not pledge. Financial stress, yes; but not “no pledge.” Needs to be addressed – by council. Further – 2/3 of churches that pledged have not paid. AFFECTS MISSION AND MINISTRY. J Segal: bishop is talking about using DCT to address. J. Sullivan: Deans lack canonical clout. E. Bowers: suggests contact between Council & vestries. Delaware deanery: no dean, no contact. Remark: “old stuff,” needs to be overcome. J. Segal: clear line, actually have volunteers to help with this, to tell the bishop we’re willing. N. McClave: goal is 100% participation in 2014. Important: need coordination so we don’t step on each other. J. Clodfelter: numbers make people glaze over, need more understandable listing. J. Segal: Council needs to make sure stewardship & spiritual growth committees meet & do their work. Much ongoing work.

8A. Rob Rogers regarding St Jude & the Nativity – bridge loan to wait for money from endowment. Requested – 50K, 6 mo, 4% interest. Anticipate 90-day turn around on endowment. \$5K grant for immediate needs, already paid. Motion – J. Madison frames motion to waive interest if principal repaid within 6 months, E. Curtin seconded. Discussion: N. McClave – waiving interest bad practice, interest goes back to fund. J. Madison rewords motion, mentioning 4% interest, N. McClave seconded, action accepted.

8B. Need to appoint people to handle such applications in future (to avoid unclear policy, duplication of effort. D. Hammond, J. Clodfelter volunteered to work on such a policy.

10. Standing Committee Report (15 minutes)

Not attending, no report.

11. Old business

None

12. Schedule of next meeting

Jerome Buescher, Secretary

25 January 2014 – St John’s Concord
576 Concord Rd
Glen Mills PA 19342
610-459-2994

13. Reflections (5 minutes)

On poverty resolution – Helpful to have discussion at end, E. Curtin, because we had diocesan topics to relate to the resolution. J. Madison – a reminder to make our deeds match our words (put our money where our mouth is).

Peaceful and cooperative convention. – R. Dill.
E. Bowers – thanks for nomination and election.
Joy – look at list, volunteer for committees

14. Closing Prayer

15. Adjournment
11:40 AM

The Rev. D. Joy Segal

Executive Council – determination of Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council
Rev. J. Segal, by acclamation.

Submitted by Jerome G. Buescher, Secretary

