



Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania  
MEETING of the STANDING COMMITTEE  
Minutes

Meeting of April 27, 2021  
Approved May 25, 2021

**Call to Order** at 5:04 p.m. by Jones.

**Clergy Present:** Hilary Greer, Jo Ann Jones, Michael Ruk, Jill LaRoche-Wikel

**Laity Present:** Ron Francis, Colin Johnstone, Pat Smith **Excused:** Eric Rabe

**Also present:** Bishop Daniel Gutierrez, Chancellor Mary Kohart

**The Agenda** was adopted unanimously.

**Opening Prayers** were offered by Rev. Jo Ann Jones.

**Minutes/Notes:** Minutes of the Mar. 23, 2020 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

**Small Churches Presentation: Diocesan Demographics Ruk and Greer** - Ruk opened the discussion by describing the responsibilities of sole priests at small/medium sized churches. They do everything since there are no other staff members. They often feel guilty and/or ashamed for this reason and are reluctant to participate in Diocesan activities and organizations.

Time and distance to travel to meetings are also a factor. LaRoche-Wikel also noted that the members of the congregation also tended to participate more in the life of the congregation. The continued use of Zoom meetings may overcome some of these difficulties.

On the point of participation in Diocesan activities, Johnstone urged those interested to make themselves known in the Diocese. Jones encouraged Greer to share the presentation with the Nominating Committee.

## **Bishop's Report :**

Wapiti was sold for \$4.1 Million. The Board of Trustees will determine into what accounts the proceeds of the sale will be deposited.

The Bishop will update Covid-19 protocols in mid-May, particularly for small/medium congregations. Maximum attendance for large congregations may increase to 75%.

**Chancellor's Report:** The Chancellor had no report.

**Communications:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

## **Diocesan Commission/Committee Reports**

- Commission on Ministry: Jones reported that The COM will meet with those seeking postulancy on September 11, September 25 and October 9.
- Property Committee: Wapiti property sold. See Bishop's comments above..
- Episcopal Elections: No elections. Molly James, Deputy Executive Officer of the General Convention emailed Jones to notify her of the election of a new bishop in the Diocese of South Carolina in May and requesting updated information for membership of the Standing Committee. Jones informed her of the departure of Michael Rau and the addition of Jill LaRoche-Wikel and provided her with Rev. La-Roche-Wikel's contact information.

**Adjournment :** The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

**Closing Prayer** offered by Smith.

The **Next Meeting** of Standing Committee will be held on **May 25, 2021 at 5:00 PM** via Zoom Conference.

Submitted, Eric Rabe, Secretary