



Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania
MEETING of the STANDING COMMITTEE
Minutes

Meeting of March 23, 2021
Approved April 27, 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, Eric Rabe, Pat Smith

Also present: Bishop Daniel Gutierrez, Chancellor Mary Kohart

The Agenda was adopted unanimously.

Opening Prayers were offered by Rev. Michael Ruk.

Introductions: The Rev. Jill LaRoche-Wikel joins Standing Committee at this meeting to fill an unexpired term. She and each member of the Committee gave brief remarks of introduction and welcome.

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

Bishop's Report :

- The Diocese first Annual Report has been distributed
- More than 60 parishes have applied for technology grants.
- The first of the planned Diocese listening sessions was held last week. Focus was on the Diocese and sacred gifts. Three more sessions are planned.
- Church of the Crucifixion will reopen in June. This is the third parish to be reopened in recent years in the Diocese.
- The Diocese is developing a guide for reopening for churches as we move through the pandemic.
- New protocols are being developed as government COVID-19 guidelines change.

- Worship services led by the Bishop will be broadcast on CBS Philadelphia over the Easter season.
- A clergy vaccine clinic was held at St. Luke's Germantown and at least one or two more clinics are expected
- A Diocese Summer youth program is being prepare by Canon Ivey.
- Three confirmation services are planned for this Spring.
- The ordination of Jeremiah Mustered will be held on March.27, 2021.
- The staff of the Diocese is focusing on mental health issues in parishes.
- The next Clergy Conference is postponed until the fall because of the pandemic.

Chancellor's Report: The Chancellor had no report.

Communications: None

Old Business:

- At the last meeting, Greer requested that the Committee agenda include a discussion of the balance of membership of Standing Committee and other governance committees in regards to parish size and demographic issues.
- This will be an agenda item for the April meeting.

New Business:

- No new business

Diocesan Commission/Committee Reports

- Commission on Ministry: Jones reported that currently some 12-18 people are in the process of seeking postulancy. The COM will meet with those seeking postulancy in the early to mid fall and expects that Standing Committee might interview them in the late fall/early winter.
- Property Committee: Work to complete the sale of the Wapiti property continues with closing expected in April 2021.
- Episcopal Elections: No elections.

Adjournment : The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Closing Prayer offered by Johnstone.

The **Next Meeting** of Standing Committee will be held on **April 27, 2021 at 5:00 PM** via Zoom Conference.

Submitted, Eric Rabe, Secretary