

DIOCESAN COUNCIL REPORT FROM NOVEMBER 2017– OCTOBER 2018

November 15, 2017- Actions taken

- Approved the recommendation from the Commission on Finance to start a feasibility study for a solar farm project and hydroponic farm project at the Episcopal Conference Center and that \$50,000 be allocated from the 2017 surplus funds for this purpose.
- Approved the recommendation from the Episcopal Charities Advisory Board for 2017 grant distributions in the amount of \$348,300 from the annual fund.
- Approved the recommendation from the Episcopal Charities Advisory Board for grants totaling \$84,500 from the Susan Hudson Memorial Fund.
- Approved the election of Mr. Stephen Sloan to fill Mr. David Terry's remaining one-year term on the Commission on Finance on a monthly basis until David's return.
- Approved Consent Calendar from Executive Committee. Items included 2018 recommendations from Compensation and Benefits, housing allowance for The Rev. Mary Ann Mello, allocation of MDG money for 2017.

December 20, 2017- Actions taken

- Elected Mr. Dennis Burton to the Board of Directors of Hallworth House.
- Approved an apportionment adjustment to be recorded by year end (2017) for St. George's, Central Falls in the amount of \$13,546.
- Approved an apportionment adjustment for St. Peter and St. Andrew, Providence in the amount of \$7,674.31 for reason of inability to pay.
- Approved the designation of unpaid apportionment of Grace Church, Providence of \$39,021 as bad debt, subject to repayment.
- Authorized the replacement of a new elevator at Hallworth House.
- Approved Consent Calendar from Executive Committee. Items included MacSparran-Lee Fund allocation for 2018, Diocesan clergy housing allowance for 2018, Diocesan accounts signatory approval, Diocesan Council member job description, confirmation of one year appointments to Executive Committee, Episcopal Charities Rules of Order, Young Adult Missioner.

January 24, 2018- Actions taken

- Approved the action to move forward with eviction proceedings for the one tenant still living in property owned by St. Peter and St. Andrew, Providence.
- Approved the property insurance renewal with Church Insurance, including the acceptance of the modified Flood and Diocesan Blanket coverage (Option B). This includes a 2% premium renewal increase-unless 5 miles to coast or unfavorable loss results greater than 50%. The average increase will be 7%.
- Appointed Mr. Bob Batchelor, Ms. Kim Cabral, Mr. Henry Dziadosz and The Rev. Nathan Humphrey for a one year term to Supplementary Benefits Committee (term ends 2019.)

- Appointed The Rev. Susan Carpenter to a three year term on the Compensation and Benefits Committee (term ends 2021).
- Authorized the Executive Committee to appoint a person to the Compensation and Benefits Committee.
- Confirmed the appointment of the following members to the Program and Budget Committee for three year terms (terms end 2021): Mr. Andrew Faulkner, Mr. Steve McLoughlin, Mr. Doug Orville, The Rev. Veronica Tierney.
- Appointed the following members to the Diocesan Sponsorship and Partnership Committee for a one year term (ending in 2019): The Rev. Ed Dean, Ms. Doris De Los Santos, The Rev. Nathan Humphrey. This is a committee of Diocesan Council.

February 28, 2018- Actions taken

- Approved a loan of up to \$30,000 of monthly expenses for St. Peter and St. Andrew, Providence with the understanding that this is an interest-free loan from the Diocesan Resource Fund, with an action plan to be presented to Diocesan Council by the end of April 2018.
- Approved a change to a Convention resolution from 2010 so that Diocesan committee minutes no longer need to be posted on the Diocesan website.
- Approved the dissolution of the East Bay Deanery and reassigned the parishes in that deanery in this manner-St. John's, Barrington and St. Michael's, Bristol to the Aquidneck Deanery. St's Matthew and Mark, Barrington, Epiphany, Rumford and St. Mary's, East Providence to the Central Deanery.
- Accepted the resignation of Mr. Dennis Burton from the Board of Directors at Hallworth House.
- Approved Consent Calendar from Executive Committee. Items included resignation of The Rev. Nathan Humphrey from Supplementary Benefits Committee, appointment of The Rev. Scott Lee to the Supplementary Benefits Committee for a one year term (ending in 2019), the appointment of Mr. Doug Lawrence to the Compensation and Benefits Committee for a three year term (ending in 2021), approval of housing allowance for The Rev. Cara Rockhill.

April 4, 2018 – Actions taken

- Authorized the Executive Committee to approve the *Memorandum of Understanding* regarding the Solar Farm.
- Authorized the Executive Committee to make the decision to fund the request for a motorcycle from the Bishop of West Buganda.
- Elected The Rev. Bettine Besier as Secretary of Diocesan Council.
- Recommended to Standing Committee that the sale of property be approved to the proposed buyer. Property is located at 18 – 30 Amity St. and 76 Pemberton St., Providence, tax lots 179, 181, 182 and 183 on Plat 64.
- Approved the establishment of a temporary concrete patio on the northwest side of Hallworth House, to be used during the time the elevator is under construction.

April 28, 2018 – Actions taken

- Approved the request from the Program & Budget Committee that Diocesan Council form a task force to develop a strategic plan for the Diocesan Campus.
- Approved the designation of the following amount of cash compensation to be clergy housing allowance for 2018 in accordance with the IRS Code (section 107)- \$13,148 for The Rev. John Reardon.
- Approved the grants recommended by the Congregational Development Commission (CDC) for the following projects: Young Adult Missioner- \$17,000, Celtic Service with Emmanuel, Newport & St. Thomas, Greenville- \$5600, “Hope, Healing & Hallelujah!” at St. Paul’s Pawtucket- \$600, Pilgrim Program- a yearlong education program at Epiphany, Rumford- \$2500.
- Affirmed the action of the Executive Committee to use \$1893 from the Global Outreach line of the Diocesan budget for a motorcycle to be sent to the Bishop of West Buganda.

May 23, 2018 – Actions taken

- Approved the recommendation from the Compensation and Benefits Committee that our current policy guidelines be amended such that the minimum hours an employee is required to work to be considered eligible for benefits reflect The Episcopal Church Medical Trust Administrative Policy- an eligible employee works and is compensated for a minimum of 1,500 hours annually (30 hours/week average in a 50 week work year, not counting vacation time.) This brings Diocese in line with The Episcopal Church’s guidelines as published in the Church Pension Group’s Policy Manual.
- Approved the appointment of Mr. John R. Candon III to the Commission on Finance.

June 27, 2018 – Actions taken

- Approved that the proceeds for the sale of the houses owned by St. Peter and St. Andrew, Providence, be given to the church after all costs associated with the sale of the houses are deducted. This includes legal fees, realtor commissions and survey fees.
- Directed the Commission on Finance adjust the 2018 apportionment for St. Peter & St. Andrew to reflect their current income versus the income from two years ago.
- Approved the appointment of Mr. Robert Bergstrand to the Commission on Finance. He will complete the term of Mr. Sarosh Finn.
- Approved the recommendation from the Commission on Finance that up to \$25,000- funded out of a source to be agreed to between the Bishop, Treasurer and CFO- be used to reimburse expenses which are associated with the Solar Farm project and authorized by the appropriate Diocesan staff.
- Affirmed the action of the Executive Committee to use \$3500 from the Global Outreach line of the Diocesan budget to help with the restoration of a daycare center in Puerto Rico. This is a project sponsored by churches in the Narragansett Deanery.

August 8, 2018 – Actions taken

- Approved the reduction in apportionment for St. Peter and St. Andrew, Providence to \$3965 for 2018.
- Received the completed Diocesan audit for 2017.
- Authorized the Executive Committee to approve and authorize the execution of the MOU and Lease Option agreements for the participating businesses involved in the solar project at ECC. This is effective between the time of the August and September, 2018, Diocesan Council meetings and will be based on the recommendations of the Commission on Finance. Both agreements still allow the Diocese to exit the deal prior to execution of the Lease Agreement at COD.
- Approved the adjustment of the consulting agreement for Ms. Betsy Fornal such that she is compensated for the actual number of hours worked. This is retroactive to the beginning of 2018. The maximum amount of money she will be paid for 2018 is \$36,000.
- Confirmed the appointment of Mr. John R. Candon III (Jay), as the Associate Treasurer of the Diocese.
- Approved the Congregational Development Commission (CDC) grant to Trinity Church, N. Scituate for \$5,600 to create a worship service for children with special abilities.

September 26, 2018- Actions taken

- Approved the recommendation of the Compensation and Benefits Committee concerning the health insurance plans being offered for 2019 and that the financial responsibility of this be 17% to employees and 83% for employers.
- Affirmed the vote that Executive Committee made on August 24, 2018 to execute the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Agreement for the Diocesan solar project initiative as presented and to approve the Lease Option Agreement for the Gloucester (ECC) property with RER Energy.
- Authorized Mr. Dennis Burton to sign a contract with a listing agent with the purpose of renting out the Annex space.
- Authorized up to an additional \$75,000 for the solar project costs at ECC to be paid from the Diocesan balance sheet.
- Approved the election of Mr. Edward Clifton and Ms. Naomi Thompson to the Board of the Center for Reconciliation- each for a term of three years (ending in 2021).

October 24, 2018- Actions taken

- Approved the recommendation that the 2019 Diocesan budget, as presented at the October 2018 Diocesan Council meeting, be presented at the Diocesan Convention.
- Approved the recommendation from the Episcopal Charities Advisory Board for 2018 grant distributions in the amount of up to \$322,000 to be awarded in priority order based on the availability of funds.
- Approved the recommendation from the Episcopal Charities Advisory Board for grants totaling \$57,000 from earned income of the Susan Hudson Memorial Fund.

- Nominated the following persons for the Investment Fund Committee to be elected at Convention: Ms. Donna Black, The Rev. Scott Lee, Mr. David Monroe.
- Approved the payment of \$7407 from the Global Outreach line of the Diocesan budget to be sent to the Church Pension Group for the pensions for clergy in the Diocese of Cuba.
- Approved the creation of a taskforce to develop plans by the end of 2019 for Church of the Advent and Beloved with the provision that the Executive Committee will manage this taskforce.