

Minutes of Diocesan Council Meeting | April 27, 2022 at 6 pm via Zoom

Present: Bishop Knisely, Rev. Ed Beaudreau, Rev. Beth Sherman, Rev. Christa Moore-Levesque, Rev. Ricky Brightman, Mr. Joel Gardner, Mr. Scott Hovanec, Ms. Olive Swinski, Ms. Phyllis Spaziano, Mr. Robert Fye and Mrs. Vicki Escalera

Staff: Mr. Dennis Burton, Mr. Ed Biddle, Rev. Dr. Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew, and Mrs. Teresa Valentine

Excused: The Rev. A Marcetti; Mr. Jim Segovis

Opening Devotion – Bishop Knisely

Bishop Knisely moved that the consent Agenda be approved. One item was removed from the Consent Agenda. The items included on the consent agenda, listed below, passed unanimously.

- ◆ Approve April Agenda
- ◆ Approve March Diocesan Council minutes with additions
- ◆ Approve CDC Grant to Trinity Church, North Scituate

Appointment of Rev. Dante Tavolaro to Committee on Canons - **Motion Passed**

Appointment of Mr. Rick Burlingame to Commission on Investments – **Motion Passed**

Authorize Mr. Edward Biddle, Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholemew, Mrs. Joan DeCelles, Mrs. Vicki Escalera and Mr. Dennis Burton as authorized signers for the Diocesan, Episcopal Charities, and Edwards Homes checking accounts. **Motion Passed**

Canon's Report

Canon Dena did not have any updates and no questions were asked

CFO Report

- ◆ Mr. Biddle thanked Mr. Burton for all he has shown him. Mr. Biddle stated the apportionment and stock market growth equaled a solid revenue base which allowed us to drop church apportionment rate from 17% to 15% and support programs that grew and were funded by Episcopal Charities. However, the pledging is low, and we are faced with staffing challenges and clergy shortage. During the 2020-2022 year we gave churches grants that totaled \$825k. Currently revenue growth is trending down, expenses are trending up, and inflation is returning. Our 5-year projections indicate Diocesan budget deficits every year.
- ◆ Mr. Burton stated that the Department of Health has received funding to extend their lease with us from September 2022 through August 2023 with the exception of no residents in July or August 2022. We are in the process of selling the Advent Rectory. We are also delivering our Solar program to St. George's School for participation with the project.

- ◆ Mr. Burton stated we have a couple of favorable variances in the FY22 forecast due to a budgeted full-time employee employed on a part time basis until July and our building supervisor at Hallworth House having their compensation reimbursed by the State as part of the COVID quarantine program. While the actual YTD Net Result variance is favorable year-to-date, forecast expenses for the balance of the fiscal year will erode the current favorable variance. We are forecasting a deficit of (\$192K) this year

Action Items

Resolution was presented to change the DIT (Diocesan Investment Trust) Diocesan Resource Fund from re-invested dividends to receiving quarterly dividends to be designated as Diocesan Resource Fund Income. **Motion Passed**

CDC grant request -Holy Spirit, Charlestown and other churches in Deanery One. **Motion passed with 2 recusals**

Bishop Knisely recommended grating and Honorary doctorate from St. Dunstan's School to **Person and Title. Motion passed**

Bishop Time

Bishop Knisley asked the committee to introduce themselves to the new members.

The Council committee meeting for the Summer is scheduled for August 17th. Bishop Knisley stated there was a grant request from Uganda to assist with poverty.

We have had a number of clergy who are positive for COVID 19 since Easter.

A motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed to adjourn at 7:30 pm.