

**EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EASTERN OREGON  
DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting  
November 13-15, 2015**

**Ascension School Camp and Conference Center, Cove, Oregon**

**Present:**

The Rt. Rev. Bavi "Nedi" Rivera, Bishop

**Class of 2016**

The Rev. Anna Carmichael, S/C

Randy Heise

The Rev. Kathy Macek

Beth Spell

**Class of 2017**

The Rev. Georgia Giacobbe

Kim McClain S/C

Bill Taylor

Marjorie Thelen

**Class of 2018**

The Rev. Aletha Bonebrake

Karly Nash

Julie Reynolds, S/C

**Ex-Officio**

Doug Harder, Secretary of Convention

Jerry Frazier, Treasurer

**Seat and Voice**

Lisa Boquist, Secretary to Council

Patty Olson-Lindsey, Executive Director of

Ascension School Camp and Conference

Center

**Absent**

Charlie Cagle, S/C

The Rev. Nancy McGrath Sargent Green, S/C

The Rev. Jed Holdorff, S/C

Viki Mosier

Kim Mosier, Chancellor

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*A Standing Committee Meeting at 3:00PM preceded the Diocesan Council Meeting*

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

**5:00 EVENING PRAYER**

**5:30PM DINNER AND SOCIAL TIME**

**7:30PM Work Session 1**

- **Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM and began with Songs of our Souls small group activities.

- **Agenda**

**M/S/C**      *the agenda approved as presented. (Consensus)*

- **Council Responsibilities Part 1**

- Bishop Nedi reviewed the following items as related to Diocesan Council's duties:
  - Meeting attendance & notifications
  - Roles and Responsibilities
  - The difference between Standing Committee and Diocesan Council
  - Rules of Order

- **Standing Committee Report**

- Anna Carmichael reported the following items from the Standing Committee meeting:
  - Kim McClain was elected as the new president of Standing Committee.
  - The Rev. Jed Holdorph was elected secretary of Standing Committee.
  - St. Andrew's, Burns was approved to have conversations with community partners about new ways to increase energy efficiency in their building.
  - The date of Consecration has been scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry will arrive in the diocese on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and will depart on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. The time and place of the consecration will not be announced until after the electing convention on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

- **Transition Committee**

- Kathy Macek gave an update from the Transition Committee
  - They are finalizing the Walk About plans-motels have been picked out and transportation arranged.
  - The visits will include time for prayer, Q&A with the candidates, as well as a light meal.

- **2016 Meeting Schedule Introduction**

- Options for possible 2016 meeting dates were put up on the board and council members were asked to choose which ones worked best for them. The final dates would be announced during Sunday's business meeting.

**9.00PM COMPLINE**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015**

**8.00AM BREAKFAST**

**8.45AM MORNING PRAYER IN THE ASCENSION CHAPEL**

**9.00AM WORK SESSION 2**

- **Committee Assignments**

- The following people were appointed to these committees:
  - Ascension School Advisory Board Council Member
    - Julie Reynolds
  - Finance Committee
    - Randy Heise was appointed to finance committee at Convention
  - Nominations Committee
    - Karly Nash, Chair
    - Anna Carmichael
    - Randy Heise
    - Beth Spell
    - Charlie Cagle
    - Kathy Macek
  - Resolutions Committee
    - Doug Harder-Chair
    - Anna Carmichael
    - Kim McClain
    - Ann Marie Hardin
    - Fabian Baker
    - Jim Mosier
    - Doug will speak with the General Convention Delegates about being part of this committee.
  - Bisbee Grant Committee
    - Karly Nash
    - Julie Reynolds
    - Aletha Bonebrake

- **Introduction of EDEO Finances**

- Jerry reviewed the 2016 Budget and the process of budget development.
- Fund Descriptions
  - Jerry reviewed the funds that the diocese has and the policy associated with spending any invested funds.
- St. James', Milton Freewater
  - St. James' recently sold their rectory. Any real property that a parish has is held in trust for the diocese and upon sale of that property the funds are transferred to the diocese. EDEO will invest the funds from the sale at St. James and create a fund call the Milton Freewater Trust. These funds will be subject to the investment policy of the diocese and any income from those funds will be sent to St. James' yearly, as long as the parish exists. Any restrictions placed on the funds are done so by Diocesan Council and can be amended by that body in the future.
- Paddock Fund
  - There was discussion about having the money in the Paddock reallocated to its original purpose of supporting a bishop. Jerry indicated that Finance Committee will look into the feasibility of this plan and report back to council.

- **Retired Clergy Medical Supplement Policy**

M/S/C      *to form a workgroup consisting of Kathy Macek, Jerry Frazier, Randy Heise, and Lisa Boquist as support staff, to research and put together a proposal on the future of the retired clergy and lay benefits by the May diocesan council meeting. (Karly Nash, Georgia Giacobbe)*

**11:45AM Break and Noonday Prayer**

**12:00PM Lunch**

**1:30PM Work Session 3**

- **Call to Order**

- The meeting reconvened at 1:30PM and began with Songs of our Souls small group activities.

- **Adobe Connect**

- Lisa gave a presentation on how to use Adobe Connect for online meetings.

- **2016 MDG's**

**M/S/C**      *Motion to change title of budget line to SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals) and to fund at the rate of 1% of EDEO's Net Disposable income and to encourage congregations to join in this venture. (Doug Harder, Julie Reynolds)*

- Lisa will send a poster with the new goals to each congregation. Anna Carmichael will write a letter to go along with the posters.
- The 2016 SDG will be chosen at the January meeting.

- **St. Paul's, Nyssa Fund**

- St. Paul's Nyssa would like to give the money from the sale of their rectory to Ascension School. Because the funds are from the sale of real property they are now under the discretion of the diocese and therefore the diocese must make the decision on how to use the funds.
- Several options on how to use the building were discussed including
  - Boys and Girls Club
  - Friends Outside (prison ministry)

**M/S/C**      *The Nyssa trust funds shall be used for any ongoing premises expenses or approved programs. (Jerry Frazier, Beth Spell)*

- **Nominate Co-Chair and Vice-Chair**

**M/S/C**      *Kathy Macek elected as Co-Chair of Diocesan Council (Doug Harder, Kim McClain)*

**M/S/C**      *Beth Spell elected as Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council (Jerry Frazier, Kathy Macek)*

- **2016 Bisbee Grant**

- Karly Nash presented the Bisbee Grant Committee Report to Council. The recommend the following:
  - To fully fund at \$2000 the Ascension School's grant for their new Wallowa Adventure back packing camp.
  - To deny funding to St. Mark's for their l emergency voucher program as it is an existing program and does not meet the guidelines of the grant policy.
  - To carryover the remaining grant funds into the next year.

**M/S/C**      *to accept the recommendations from Bisbee Grant Committee (Beth Spell, Bill Taylor)*

- **2015 Convention Review**

- The council recommended moving this discussion to the March meeting.

- **Resolution to Refer Archive Grant to EOEF**

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- Anna Carmichael recused herself during this portion of the meeting.

**M/S/C**      *to recommend the Archive Grant to the Eastern Oregon Episcopal Foundation with a 3% raise in stipend from the previous grant to \$1287.50 for a total stipend amount of \$30,900 over two years, for a total grant amount of \$34,900. (Bill Taylor, Doug Harder)*

- Julie Reynolds, Georgia Giacobbe, and Aletha Bonebrake were appointed as the archive oversight committee and will check in with Matt throughout the year on his progress.

- **General Convention Resolutions**

- Doug Harder presented a list of resolutions certified by General Convention to recommend to the diocese. Doug suggested that the resolutions be organized by items that can be handled by the existing diocesan commissions:
  - Commission on Celebrating Diversity
  - Environmental Justice Commission
  - Prison Ministry Commission
- Georgia Giacobbe volunteered to work on those resolutions that have to do with the 5 Marks of Mission.

**5.00          Evening Prayer**

**5.30          Social Time & Dinner**

**7.00          Conversation & Play Time with Youth**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

**8.00          Breakfast**

**8.45          Work Session 4:**

- **Call to Order**

- The meeting reconvened at 8:45AM and began with Songs of our Souls small group activities.

- **Ascension School Report**

- Patty Olson-Lindsey gave a report on the status of the new building project at Ascension School, including a tour of the site location.
- The Ascension School budget was present to council.
- Patty also reviewed other projects that she has been working on including work around Planned Giving, leadership development, and the new back packing camp.

- **August Meeting minutes and 2015 Convention Proceedings**

**M/S/C** *the minutes approved as presented. (Randy Heise, Kathy Macek )*

**M/S/C** *the 2015 Convention proceedings approved as presented.* (Doug Harder, Beth Spell)

- **2016 Meeting Schedule**

**M/S/C**      *the 2016 schedule dates as follows with tentative locations:*

- *January 30* *Online*
- *March 4-5* *Bend*
- *April 16* *Consecration*
- *May 6-7* *Hood River*
- *August 19-20* *Ontario*
- *Convention October 7-9* *La Grande*
- *November 18-20* *Cove*

(Bill Taylor, Doug Harder)

- **Account Signer Resolution**

**M/S/C**      ***Resolved*** that the authorized signers on the Diocesan US Bank checking account be: Jerry Frazier, Diocesan Treasurer; Arnold Coe, Finance Committee Member; Patricia Olson Lindsey, Ascension School Executive Director; Kathryn Macek, Diocesan Council Member, and Bavi Edna Rivera, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon

**Resolved** that the authorized signers on the Diocesan CB Financial checking account be: Jerry Frazier, Diocesan Treasurer; Kathryn Macek, Diocesan Council Member; Patricia Olson Lindsey, Ascension School Executive Director; and Bavi Edna Rivera, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon

- **Approve Bishop Housing Resolution**

**M/S/C      *Reaffirm Resolution on Housing Allowance as passed Nov. 12, 2011:***

*WHEREAS, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to him or her as part of his or her compensation for services as a minister, to the extent used by him/her for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and*

*WHEREAS the Rt. Rev. Bavi Rivera is employed as a minister of the Gospel by the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon which does not provide a residence for her, Diocesan Council resolves that of the total compensation received during 2012, \$3000 per month shall be designated a parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986.*

*The Diocesan Council also resolves that the amount designated as housing allowance shall apply to 2012 calendar year and all future years unless amended by the Diocesan Council.*

- Anna requested that should the IRS changed the current clergy housing allowance laws that the diocese provide training to parishes on the new laws. Bishop Nedi suggested that in that event CPG would come out and give a training.

- **Clergy Salaries**

**M/S/C** to recommend *the 2015 ELCA Clergy Salary Recommendations to EDEO and it's parishes. (Doug Harder, Beth Spell)*

- Lisa will send these recommendations to all parishes.

- **Bishop's Report**

- Bishop Nedi reported that Lisa will be taking a 6 week sabbatical around the month of February-the exact dates have not been set yet.
- Patty took a 6 week sabbatical this year.
- Both are eligible for 6 more weeks but will wait until after the new bishop is elected to determine the appropriate time.
- Georgia requested that a discussion about sabbaticals for deacons be scheduled for some time in the future.
- Lisa will send the current sabbatical policy out with the completed minutes.

- **Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM

12.00PM **Holy Eucharist**

12:45PM **Lunch**