

Diocese of Central Pennsylvania
Council of Trustees
MINUTES
September 8, 2016

The Council of Trustees for the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania met on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at St. Paul's Church in Harrisburg.

Present for this meeting: Bishop Scanlan, Linda Hoover, Barbara Hutchinson, Marion Schwartz, Susan Claytor, Jan Gable, Robyn Szoke-Coolidge, Mary Ellen Kilp, Shirley Wagner, Lewis Russell, David Peck, Doug Smith, Arthur C. Alexander, Rebecca Myers, Howell Sasser, Bonnie Chambers, Veronica Chappell, Janis Yskamp, J. Patrick Peters, Dan Morrow, Gene Tucker

1. **Opening devotions and introductions:** Bishop Scanlan asked everyone to introduce themselves. She then introduced the Rev. Dan Morrow to the assemblage.

2. **Minutes from the June 2, 2016 meeting:** The minutes were approved as presented on a motion by Janis Yskamp, seconded by Veronica Chappell.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bonnie Chambers made the following remarks: *Future reports:* Will be produced in the future after the quarterly reports have been completed. Audit results, and results on investments are always available on the diocesan website. *Audit:* A clean audit reported was received by the Diocese. "We have come a long way from two or three years ago," she said. The Diocese currently has about \$8 million in reserves, of which \$2.5 million is reality available for use. A 4 – 5% annual draw on investments is considered prudent. In response to a question, she said that effort has been made to identify the sources of donated funds, so that, now, very few investment funds' origins are unknown. Some funds are restricted by their donors, an important point to remember. *Goals:* She said that her goal is to simplify reports and to involve the Trustees in a better way going forward.

4. **Old Business:**

a. **Episcopal Home:** The Bishop reported that a better understanding of the relationship between the Home and the Diocese is emerging. Both the Chancellors of the Home and the Diocese have been involved in this process, she added. The relationship between the two is not entirely clear, yet. Financial challenges, stemming from the amount of benevolent care (currently about \$20,000.00/month) being extended, require balancing of the amount of benevolent care being extended with the financial needs of the Home. She said that the Home is separately incorporated, but uses the Diocese's 501(c)3 tax exempt number. They should have their own tax number, she said. Questions and discussion centered on: Doing a title search of the Home's property; the limits on future growth and fundraising due to its connect to the Diocese; freedom to pursue the Home's future, if the connection to the Diocese were to be severed; a past history of three or four years' worth of requests from the Trustees to the Home's board to fix its relationship with the Diocese, the need to clarify the ministries and mission of the Home, to determine if the Home is a missional directive for the Diocese; and whether or not another entity might take over management of the Home.. The Bishop stated that the diocesan Chancellor has said that the Diocese is under no obligation, legally, to the Home. Currently, she added, the 2017 proposed budget projects a \$17,000.00 contribution to the Home, the same amount as for the 2016 budget.

b. **Camp Project Report:** (Written report) It was reported that a decision had been made to make no further use of Mt. Luther for combined youth programs, and to leave the two board positions which are allocated to the Diocese open. In addition, the Diocese will cease making an annual contribution to Mt. Luther in the amount of \$12,000.00. The Diocese can still make use of the Mt. Luther facilities for its own offerings.

The relationship with Camp Mt. Luther was formally adopted in the past (the 2010 minutes may reflect this decision). A formal decision about this matter will be made in December. The Leslie Doyle Fund continues to exist, but in name only, there are no funds in this account. The next steps are to: 1. Plan a smaller event for 2017 (in part because the Senior High youth have an Episcopal Youth Event next summer); 2. Plan for a larger event in 2018; and 3. Disseminate better information of camp programs. The camp report was accepted by the Trustees on a motion by Janis Yskamp, seconded by Rebecca Myers.

5. **New Business:**

a. **Introducing the Rev. Dan Morrow:** In his remarks, Dan said that he looked forward to meeting with the leaders of the diocese, to taking risks in mission, to put forth the idea that God is active in the world, and to dream together.

b. **Presentation of Budget:** *Convention information:* About one hundred changes to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese will be considered, changes that are aimed at bringing them into conformity with current practices. An increase in the size of the Council of Trustees is projected, including three new lay members and incorporation of the Assistant Convenors. The Stevenson School for Ministry plans a three year strategic plan, focusing on lay formation and on education of deacons and locally ordained priests. Canon Bill Graffius will retire at the end of October, and a replacement (either full-time or part-time) will be hired. *Budget:* Bonnie Chambers said that the projected budget foresees a c. \$20,000.00 deficit, which is a neutral budget. Investments in the Stevenson School are projected to increase. Fair Share receipts are less than what was projected. A 6% draw on the \$2.5 million in investments is planned. The budget requires the Trustees' approval. Convention either accepts or rejects the budget as an entity. Changes to the budget can then be made at the Trustees' December meeting. Discussion and question points included: 1. The Stevenson School is an extension of the Diocese's mission; 2. Costs for infrastructure of the Stevenson School (date entry, consultants, computer resources)...are they included? Answer: Yes, these are part of the three year strategic plan; 3. The Stevenson School's board is advisory, the Trustees act as the school's board; 4. Salaries: The need to balance transparency with confidentiality was discussed. Currently, there are discrepancies in the levels of compensation for employees who have similar rank and terms of service; 5. Is there a line item for the Education for Ministry (EFM) ministry? Answer: No, costs for this are coming from another account; and 6. Does the Music and Liturgy Committee have a budget? Answer: There are no costs being incurred now. Normally, convention costs and clergy conferences are associated with this ministry. The budget was approved by the Trustees as presented on a motion by Janis Yskamp, seconded by J. Patrick Peters.

c. **Convention Overview:** This year's convention theme is "Know Your Story. Live It Boldly". The Bishop said that the goal of the church is not to recreate the church of the 1950s, but to understand who we are, as we learn from each one in the church, relating our stories to the stories of Scripture. Small groups will be employed for this purpose at convention, she added.

d. **Council Orientation and Formation future:** The Bishop said that she envisions a bigger role for the Trustees in the future. Orientation for new members will be a part of this process. Liaison roles for Trustee members and development of the work of the Trustees is planned.

6. **Adjournment and Next Meeting reminder:** The next meeting of the Trustees will take place:
Saturday, December 3, 2016

All Saints, Selinsgrove
10:00 am. – 2:00 p.m. (lunch will be provided)
Council meeting and orientation

Future meetings will alternate between Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m. on a motion by Janis Yskamp, seconded by Howell Sasser, and was closed by Bishop Scanlan with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Gene R. Tucker
Recorder for this meeting