

**Minutes of the Standing Committee  
November 7, 2023**

Present: +Audrey Scanlan, Eric Hillegas+, Bob Davis Jr., Gregory Welin+, Laura Gottfried-Letsche, Kevin Barron+, Jennifer Mattson+ Barbara Cross, David Luo, Rick Breach, Veronica Chappell+,

**Opening Devotions:**

Barb opened the meeting with a reading from Matthew 20, followed by prayer

**New Business:**

No new business

**Candidates for the Transitional Diaconate Interviews**

**1 – Kevin Lowe**

Kevin was asked to describe his perceived gifts, and how they can be used in his ministries, especially serving in a parish in transition. He was asked to describe some high and low areas as a seminarian, especially his experience in CPE. Following this, there was some time for questions and answers with the committee, after which the candidate was dismissed for committee discussion and formulation of feedback. Candidate was unanimously passed on for ordination.

**2 – Lo Selles**

Lo was asked to describe their perceived gifts, and how they can be used in their ministries. They were asked to describe some high and low areas as a seminarian, especially their experience in CPE. Following this, there was some time for questions and answers with the committee, Eric prayed over Lo, after which, the candidate was dismissed for committee discussion and formulation of feedback. Candidate was unanimously passed on for ordination.

**3 – Lisa Work**

Lisa was asked to describe her perceived gifts, and how they can be used in her ministries. She was asked to describe some high and low areas as a seminarian, especially her experience in CPE. Following this, there was some time for questions and answers with the committee, Kevin prayed over Lisa, after which, the candidate was dismissed for committee discussion and formulation of feedback. Candidate was unanimously passed on for ordination.

**Standing Time With The Bishop:**

Reunification Update – This year will focus on what this reunification would look like. It will also focus on finance, and how to structure fair share, as well as how to combine resources.

Audrey is working with Chad to develop how to work with small parishes, especially those who function as a congregation and participate in the diocese but have small numbers and no regular priest. How can the diocese as well as other better resourced parishes be part of this?

There is no current Canon to the Ordinary. Kevin is working with transitional ministries and Shaped By Faith. They are looking to find two people to function together as Canon to the Ordinary, one for the northern convocations, and one for the southern convocations, especially working in pastoral care for clergy.

Kevin's discussion of issues with transitional ministries. 10-15 congregations looking for priests to fill half time or less positions. Looking at the process and whether 18 months is really appropriate, and what the diocese can do to help the process.

Annual formal reviews of each staff person is ongoing throughout November and December. Unfortunately, the budget doesn't allow for salary raises.

**Bishop Election**

For Kristin White, after a motion and second, approval passed unanimously.

There are two open places on the Standing Committee, on clergy opening for a three year term, and one lay member for a 1 year term.

Discussion of the benefit of COM sharing access to candidate portfolios, and all agree it is helpful.

Discussion of meeting in person, especially as it pertains to interviews, or whether the Zoom format is more appropriate.

After convention, Greg was elected President. Drew Dorgan was elected to remain our representative to the reunification discernment committee.

Thanks to the COM for their flexibility in helping us streamline the interview process.