



Diocese of California Standing Committee
1500 Taylor Street
San Francisco CA 94108
www.DioCal.org

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
OF THE DIOCESE OF CALIFORNIA
November 10th, 2022, online using ZOOM

4:11pm CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYER

Present via ZOOM : Robyn Amos, Carolyn Bolton, Todd Bryant, Gretchen Lintner, Sean McConnell, Jane Stratford, Warren Wong, Mauricio Wilson,

Opening Prayer led by Warren Wong, who reminded us to pay attention to whose voices aren't present and be mindful of voices not being heard at the table.

4:13pm STANDING COMMITTEE CHECK-IN

Each member took turns checking in using the Invitation model.

4:27pm ORIENTATION

1. Roles & Responsibilities of Standing Committee

Outlined by Warren Wong, including but not limited to:

- Becomes ecclesiastical authority of the diocese when the bishop is not present or able to function.
- Is responsible for approving issues re. encumbrances and property sales.
- Approves ordinands.
- Oversees governance.
- Consents to Episcopal elections.
- Is subject to the National Canons that set forth ecclesiastical authority + diocesan canons. Check out canons for more info.
- Provides oversight for diocesan institutions including approving board and governance.

2. Logistics

- Meetings are held in the Chapter House at Grace Cathedral; parking reimbursement is no longer available.
- Devotion & Snacks sign-up rotation – Jane will provide sign-up sheet.
- Box Access & Contents -everyone has access to Box; Warren explained the contents and function.



3. **Meeting information**

- Quorum - count is 5/8.
- There was a discussion about calling in to zoom. Members prefer meetings to be all in person or all remote rather than hybrid. Need to establish clear pattern.

Action: *Check canonical requirements w/ Christopher after state of emergency ends.*

- Meeting Packets - Secretary will produce & will request regular liaison reports a week in advance; individuals are responsible for sending them for inclusion when requested.
- File Reviews & Candidate Interviews – Standing Committee gives consent to ordinations; candidates attend Standing Committee meetings for interviews and introduction. Standing Committee works w/ Travis (vocations officer) and makes a review of file in the final stage before diaconal ordination. COM liaison will upload documents to BOX Secretary will remind members to check when file review is needed.
- Hospitality - any guests are always at top of agenda for hospitality reasons.
- Consents (Ordinations; Episcopal, etc.) – the liaison for Episcopal Elections needs to be on the email notification list. Members of SC vote individually by email according to full committee agreement.
- Time with the Bishop – SC receive monthly reports and updates from the bishop and diocesan counsel and share their thoughts and feedback.

4. **Determine Meeting dates/times for 2023** – Standing Committee will continue to meet on the 2nd Thursday of month.

5. **Officer's monthly teleconference with Bishop Marc** – Tentatively scheduled for the 4th Thursday @3 PM depending on the bishop's availability. Jane will coordinate with Matt Duke, the Bishop's executive assistant.

6. **Preview of committee liaisons work** – It is generally understood that each member of SC takes a committee. President of SC is automatically on the Grace Cathedral board of directors. Each liaison role requires different degrees of effort and time requirement. Deb White



assumed role Michael Barham's role of coordinating and re-establishing connections between SC and institutions until work is complete.

5:00pm COMMITTEE LIAISONS & ASSIGNMENTS

1. Commission on Ministry

Meets monthly; liaison doesn't attend meetings but is in contact w/ vocations officer.

Email Travis 1X month for info.

Sean was appointed as liaison

2. Executive Council

Meets monthly on 2nd Tuesday.

Carolyn Bolton will continue as liaison

3. Grace Cathedral Board of Trustees (SC President ex officio)

Warren Wong was appointed by default;

4. Committee on Governance – meet as needed.

Gretchen appointed as liaison

5. Working Group on Diocesan Institutions

Robyn will continue as liaison

6. Nominations Committee – seasonal May-July; needs reinventing.

Jane appointed as liaison

7. Episcopal Elections

Todd was appointed as liaison

8. Executive Compensation Committee

Task of establishing Bishop's compensation belongs to Executive Council who have decided to delegate it to the finance committee. They would welcome a liaison from Standing Committee. The Canons require Executive Compensation Committee to make recommendation to Executive Council and Standing Committee.

Mauricio was appointed as liaison.



5:30pm APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- *October 13th*
Motion to approve the minutes.
Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Carolyn. No discussion
Motion carried. Minutes approved with no amendments.
- *October 29th Organizational meeting*
Motion to approve the minutes.
Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Robyn. No discussion
Motion carried. Minutes approved with no amendments.

5:40pm GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Search and Transition Committee Charge

Todd and Sean were charged with drafting an example based on examples provided by our search Consultant, which included in the meeting packet and was presented by Todd and accepted as amended.

Motion to approve the Search and Transition Committee charge as amended.

Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Jane.

Motion carried. Charge approved with amendments.

2. Search and Transition update

Brenda Paulin and Paul Fromberg joined meeting at 5:53 PM

- SC reviewed charge w/ Paul & Brenda. Made amendments to the decision making process and the date of presentation of candidates to diocese.

Motion to amend the Search and Transition Committee charge

Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Robyn.

Motion carried. Charge approved with amendments:

- Co-chairs of Search & Transition Committee will report to Standing Committee monthly. Anything actionable will be written otherwise a verbal report is acceptable.
- Search & Transition Committee had great onboarding retreat at which the committee divided into working groups. The profile working group is already hard at work.
- Spanish translation on website is up and being perfected. A Spanish language listening session will be held on December 12, 2022, in the Tucson common room at CDSP.



- Interpreters are available for listing sessions on zoom, and for deaf and hard of hearing.
- The Committee is enthusiastic and excited despite significant workload.
- Question - Do chairs verify anti-racism training? Referred to Amy Cook for clarification

Paul Fromberg & Brenda Paulin left meeting at 6:15 PM

3. **Upcoming Retreat/In-person Fellowship –**

- There will be a joint Executive Council/Standing Committee meeting/social on December 8th
- Standing Committee will gather for a social lunch on December 3rd and will invite Deb White and Noreen Huey to thank them for all the hard work.

6:20 pm. BISHOP'S TIME

Bishop Marc was away at COP 27. Cn. Debbie Low Skinner and Cn. Christopher Hayes joined the meeting.

1. **Canon to the Ordinary Report**

- 3 people being presented for diaconal ordination.
- Updated Standing Committee re. assessment relief.
- Special finance committee meeting following convention to discuss reactions to assessment formula. Hasn't been changed since 2011.
- Updated Standing Committee re. sale of St. Cuthbert's, Oakland.
- Matt Duke is the new Executive Assistant for Bishop Marc.

2. **Question from Standing Committee** re. Executive Compensation Committee. Is it a joint committee of Executive Council and Standing Committee? The Chancellor confirmed it is strictly a committee of Executive Council with representation from Standing Committee. It is subject to the Nonprofit Integrity Act. Canon 8.02C12 which specifies there must be at least one member of Standing Committee but can have more at Standing Committee discretion. Nobody who owes their livelihood directly to bishop can serve on this committee.



3.

4. **Chancellor's Report**

- Updated Standing Committee re. voting procedure for in-person Convention and Bishop Election to ensure vote counting is fair and accurate. Changes to the rules of order can only be made at a regular convention. This means delegates will only be able to vote in person.
- State Law requires that people are able to hear each other in real time.
- Canon change means vestries (and by default, bishop's committees) can meet by video whenever they want.

6:20 pm LIAISON REPORTS

1. **Commission on Ministry –**

Mauricio reminded Standing Committee to reviews the files for two candidates.

- Laura Natta – documentation is in order, no red flags. Commission on Ministry recommends her and is satisfied she fulfills requirements of Canon 3.8

Motion to approve Laura Natta for ordination to the transitional diaconate

Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Jane.

Motion carried.

- Mees Tielens – documentation is in order, no red flags. Commission on Ministry recommends her and is satisfied he fulfills requirements of Canon 3.8

Motion to approve Mees Tielens for ordination to the transitional diaconate

Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Jane.

Motion carried.

2. **Diocesan Institutions**

Robyn reported that the written report is going well and they should have a game plan by December. Episcopal Community Services have request to meet w/ Standing Committee in December. St. Dorothy's Rest's has new Executive Director.



3.

3. **Committee on Governance**

No report

4. **Nominating Committee**

Warren reported that they complied with what they needed to, but the committee has vacancies and Warren remarked that it needs attention from the deaneries. Warren thanked Hannah Cornthwaite for her hard work as chair this year.

5. **Episcopal Elections**

Sean reported that Florida will be holding an election at some point. New York's election is scheduled for December 3, 2022. The slate for Central Florida has been announced. No consents at this point.

6. **Executive Council**

Carolyn reported they discussed assessments, otherwise there is nothing new.

7. **Grace Cathedral Board of Trustees**

Warren has been notified about meeting on November 22, 2022 and brought up to speed.

8. **Executive Compensation**

See earlier discussion.

7:13pm

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Closing Prayer offered by Carolyn

Moved by Mauricio, seconded by Gretchen. Meeting adjourned.