

**Diocese of Milwaukee**  
**Executive Council Minutes**  
**May 2, 2023 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM**

**Roll Call was taken.**

**Present:** Bishop Jeffrey Lee; Ms. Janice Pauc, Vice-President of the Executive Council; the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, President of the Standing Committee; the Rev. Scott Leannah, Canon to the Ordinary; Mr. Mike Weber, Diocesan Treasurer; Ms. Barbara Eckland; the Rev. Don Fleischman; the Rev. Nancy Hodge; Dr. John Johnson; the Rev. Esther Kramer; the Rev. Pippa Lindwright, President of Commission on Ministry; Ms. Judith Miller; the Rev. Joel Prather; Mr. Ethan Tarvin and the Rev. Debra Trakel

**Others present:** Ms. Caroline Senn, Chief Financial Officer and Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq., Chancellor

**Absent:** Mr. Roger Mukasa and the Ven. Charles Zellermayer, Executive Director of Trustees of Funds & Endowments

**Guest:** The Rev. Ian Burch, Rector, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Milwaukee

At 6:33 p.m. Bishop Lee called the meeting to order and led the EC in prayer -- Thanksgiving for our National life

**March 7, 2023 EC Minutes**

Bishop Lee asked if there were any additions, deletions or changes to the Executive Council minutes of the March 7, 2023 EC meeting. Hearing nothing, he called for a vote to approve the minutes as presented. The minutes were so approved.

**St. Mark's Building Program**

Bishop Lee called on the Rev. Ian Burch, Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church for his report.

The Rev. Ian Burch:

--gave the history and current status of St. Mark's -- continuing membership growth along with frustrating maintenance issues

--presented the plan and completed steps to build a new guild hall -- designated property sold and building demolition scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>

--submitted a request for funding assistance

There were no questions.

Bishop Lee called on Ms. Caroline Senn for the "nuts and bolts" of the funding request. Ms. Caroline Senn:

--focused on page 10 of the Power Point -- the areas of assistance

1. A one-time grant towards the building of \$150,000
2. Up to \$80,000 in a 25% matching grant for donations over the \$1M capital campaign target

3. Up to \$800,000 loan for up to 6 yrs at 3% interest to cover timing of funds and developing operational budget stability (2023 - 2028)
- noted that, after reviewing the documentation submitted by and meeting with the treasurer of St. Mark's, she was comfortable with the areas of assistance
- reiterated that important steps had been taken by St. Mark's – land sold, demolition scheduled and a successful capital campaign in process
- Questions and concerns were expressed:
- Does a precedent exist?
- Two successful financial support situations were noted: St. Mary's Dousman and St. Dunstan's, Madison
- What will be the response to other requests?
- There is a rigorous discernment process for financial assistance.
- Could the loan, stated in #3 of the Power Point, be at 1% interest vs. 3% interest?
- Ms. Senn sees 3% as a litmus test for financial health.
- Bishop Jeff noted that specifics can be adjusted at any time, i.e. sent back to the Finance Committee for review and renegotiation.
- What funds will be used for the financial assistance?
- Ms. Senn noted that, in general, it would be the Tenoh 1 fund.
- \*\*\*The Rev. Pippa Lindwright moved that the areas of assistance as presented on page 10 of the Power Point (see below) be accepted and supported by the Executive Council.
- A one-time grant towards the building of \$150,000
- Up to \$80,000 in a 25% matching grant for donations over the \$1M capital campaign target
- Up to \$800,000 loan for up to 6 yrs at 3% interest to cover timing of funds and developing operational budget stability (2023 - 2028)
- The Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.
- NOTE: Executive Council members who are also members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church abstained from voting.

### **Financials**

Bishop Lee called on Ms. Caroline Senn for her report.

Ms. Caroline Senn:

- walked, in detail, through the Balance Sheet Comparison as of April 30, 2023
- stated that she had commentaries on the right side of the January – April 2023 P&L
- suggested that any questions/concerns regarding the financials be e-mailed to her

### **Canon for Ministry**

Bishop Lee called on the Rev. Scott Leannah for his report.

The Rev. Scott Leannah noted that his report was in drop box; however, he had further updates:

- Trinity, Janesville and St. Paul's, Beloit are entering into collaborative arrangement and are calling a full-time rector
- clergy vacancies are being addressed: the Rev. Matthew Buterbaugh will now serve at St. Boniface, Mequon and a priest is being considered for St. Luke's, Racine/Hospitality Center

--an updated Deacon Manual is ready for review  
Bishop Lee noted that the Diocese is well-served by Father Scott Leannah.

### **Triologue Update**

Bishop Lee called on the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller for her report.

The Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller stated that:

--a final report from the Triologue Steering Committee will be presented to the EC in June; the same will occur in the other two dioceses  
--the proposal along with the finance model, structure of diocese model, suggested staff and state regions and networks and mission work will be submitted to the EC

Concerns were noted:

1. It appeared to some members that the initial proposal/vote has switched from Is it viable? to It is a done deal.
2. Due to the gravity of the subject – reunification consideration, it was recommended that:
  - if a business meeting was needed, it be separate from the Triologue meeting
  - the material for the meeting be submitted in a timely manner – two weeks ahead of time was suggested
  - the meeting be in-person for a better flow of discussion
3. The need to give complete and effective information to the diocese and especially to the delegates to the Convention was strongly expressed. A concern was raised that there was not enough time for this to happen effectively because we were moving into summer in Wisconsin.
4. Is October too quick a deadline for a final vote?

Question regarding who submits the resolution was noted.

Bishop Lee said that all recommendations will be considered and any adjustments to meeting date and time and place will be sent to the EC members.

### **Nicholson House Update**

Bishop Lee called on Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq. for his report.

Mr. Mark Ehrmann, Esq. briefly stated that he has paper work clearly defining that:

--the All Saints Cathedral organization owns Nicholson House  
--per the Articles of Incorporation, the All Saints organization can rent Nicholson House to the Episcopal Diocese

### **Haiti Partnership Update**

Bishop Lee called on Ms. Caroline Senn for her report on the Haiti Partnership.

Ms. Caroline Senn explained that:

--Per EC agreement, the school was kept open for a year at @\$138,000.00 funding, with continuing evaluation in process.  
--In order to keep the school open for two more years and support the shift in paradigm, “Here is your budget; you are to make it work.” an 80% cut in funding would occur to @\$86,000.00.

--to assist with the funding and encourage Haitian engagement, there is a proposal for a Cassava Production and Processing Facility; newsletters will be sent out to encourage contributions to the project.

### **Standing Committee Update**

Bishop Lee called on the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller for her report.

The Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller noted that with Bishop Lee leaving:

--a chair for the EC meetings needs to be clearly defined

--the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, President of the Standing Committee; the Rev. Scott Leannah, Canon to the Ordinary; the Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter, Bishop of the Fond du Lac Diocese and Provisional Bishop of the Eau Claire Diocese and the Rev. Todd Ousley, Bishop for the Office of Pastoral Development will meet to complete the agreement for Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter to serve as Assistant Bishop to the Milwaukee Diocese

### **Other Business**

Ms. Janice Pauc noted that there was a June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, but that no meeting was scheduled for July. The first Tuesday in July is a holiday and on the second Tuesday the Standing Committee meets, but July could/should be considered if necessary.

Mother Pippa Lindwright gave the closing prayer.

Deacon Marge said the dismissal.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Margaret (Marge) M. Kiss

Executive Secretary & Recorder of the Minutes

## Appendix I

2023 Executive Council Meeting Dates -- First Tuesday at  
6:30p.m. via ZOOM

June 6

(July 4 – No Meeting – Holiday)

August 1

September 5

(October 3 – No Meeting – Convention, Oct. 21)

November 7

(December 5 traditionally no meeting)

## Appendix II

### 2021 Norms for Executive Council Meetings

Begin with prayer

Start and end on time

Receive and Review material one week ahead of time of meeting

Respectful communication

- Assume good/best intentions

- Seek to model reconciliation

- Look for the best in others

- Give the best we have

- Gentleness first

Recuse oneself, leave the room and abstain from matters in which one has a conflict of interest

Respect the “confidential nature” of the discussion (Identify if confidential)

All responsible for the process at the table; Pay attention/Be actively engaged

All members of Executive Council are authorized to raise their hand, to call for a pause in the process, and to ask for a moment of prayer from the Bishop

We are always The Church.