

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF TRUSTREES
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KANSAS, INC.**

November 17, 2022

The Council of Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, Inc., met in-person during a Council of Trustees retreat on November 17, 2022, at Upton Hall in Topeka, Kansas.

Cathleen Chittenden Bascom, Bishop and Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

Members of the Council of Trustees present:

- Bishop Cathleen Chittenden Bascom
- The Very Rev. Casey Rohleder, President
- The Rev. Doreen Rice, Clerk
- Deacon Jim Cummins
- The Rev. Greg Doll
- Dr. Elizabeth Fitz Gibbon
- The Rev. Helen Hoch
- Dr. David Littrell
- The Rev. Marc McDonald
- Mr. Mike Morrow
- The Rev. Andrew O'Connor
- Mr. Ron Olson
- Ms. Teresa Ryther
- Mr. John Smittle

Members of the Council of Trustees absent:

- Ms. Diana Waddell-Gilbert

Also present as advisor to the Council of Trustees:

- Mr. Frank Taylor, Chancellor

Also present:

- The Rev. Jenn Allen, Diocesan Missioner
- Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller
- Ms. Michael Funston, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
- The Rev. Canon Patrick Funston, Canon to the Ordinary
- The Rev. Karen Schlabach, Youth, Campus and Digital Missioner
- Mr. Chad Senuta, Director of Young Adult and Communications Ministries
- The Rev. Canon Lisa Senuta, Canon for Spiritual Life and Clergy Care

Bishop Bascom presented the October 22, 2022, meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mthr. Rice, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Bishop Bascom called for the election of officers for the Council of Trustees to serve until the 164th Diocesan Convention. Officers were elected/appointed as follows:

- President: Mthr. Rohleder nominated Dr. Elizabeth Fitz Gibbon and Mthr. Doreen Rice. They both accepted their nominations and provided a one-page biographical sketch. An electronic ballot was conducted, and Dr. Elizabeth Fitz Gibbon was elected.
- Clerk:
 - Mthr. Rohleder expressed that she feels it is important for a staff person to be the primary note taker at COT meetings because it requires such concentration.
 - Bishop Bascom explained that the staff person then would send the meeting notes to the Clerk for final editing of the minutes.
 - Mthr. Rohleder nominated Mthr. Helen Hoch as clerk of the Council of Trustees. There were no other nominations and Bishop Bascom ruled that Mthr. Helen Hoch was elected by acclamation.
- Assistant Clerk: Mthr. Rohleder nominated Ms. Teresa Ryther as assistant clerk. There were no other nominations and Bishop Bascom ruled that Ms. Teresa Ryther was elected by acclamation.
- Assistant Treasurer: Bishop Bascom appointed Mr. Jay Currie as Assistant Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Jay Currie, Comptroller, presented the full financial statement, which uses the accrual basis as required by national canons.

Deacon Cummins asked for clarification about "accrual accounting." Mr. Currie provided an explanation.

In addition to the Income Statement, Mr. Currie presented the Budgeted Financial Statement, Investment Statement, Audit Report and a report on Endowment Funds. Mr. Currie anticipates that at the conclusion of the year the report will show funds as being a bit over budget, although not by much.

Deacon Cummins asked that the names for accounts be clarified to better distinguish between Bethany Place and Bethany House and Garden.

Bishop Bascom reminded that the finance committee meets monthly, and members include Mr. Brian Geary, Canon Funston, Deacon Cummins, Mthr. Rice, Mr. Curry, Mr. Gary Charter, Mthr. Laurie Lewis, Ftr. Rex Matney and Bishop Bascom.

Mr. Currie reviewed the list of funds and custodial funds that the diocese maintains.

- Custodial funds
- Temporarily restricted funds which can be spent for a specific purpose
- Permanently restricted funds

Standing Committee Business

Canon Funston presented a request for consent to an episcopal election:

- Ftr. O'Connor moved that the Council of Trustees, acting as the Standing Committee of the Diocese, consent to the election of the Rev. Pastor Elias Garcia Cárdenas as the Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Colombia. It was seconded and carried unanimously.

Canon Funston presented a request for approval for ordination:

- Mr. Morrow moved that the Council of Trustees, acting as the Standing Committee of the Diocese, approve Deacon Daryl Stanford of Grace Church, Ottawa, for ordination to the priesthood. It was seconded and carried unanimously.

Bishop Bascom presented the sabbatical proposal for the Rev. Karen Schlabach, Youth, Campus and Digital Missioner for the Diocese of Kansas. Per the policy adopted by the Council of Trustees in November 2020 on "Sabbaticals for clergy and salaried lay employees" the Council must approve the sabbatical proposal. After discussion, Ftr. O'Connor moved that the Council of Trustees approve the sabbatical proposal as provided by Rev. Schlabach. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Transitions Ministry Report

Bishop Bascom gave a little more information for the report submitted by Mrs. Debbie Kremers, Missioner for Transitions for the diocese.

- St. David's, Topeka, is very close to calling their new rector.
- St. Paul's, Kansas City, is interviewing for a multi-cultural, bilingual priest and have two candidates from Columbia.
- There are a couple of minsters working through the Abundant Life tool to see how parishes within a minster can call a priest to serve the parishes within the minster.

- St. Paul's, Leavenworth, is submitting their parish profile for the Office of Transition Ministry. Dr. Fitz Gibbon said that the parish meetings and listening sessions have been going well and there has been good attendance from the parish.
- There have been a few clergy who have updated their Letters of Agreement.
- Ftr. McDonald asked about St. Matthew's, Newton. Bishop Bascom said that they are still working their process and are happy with having a longer interim period.

Other reports included in the packet:

- Bishop's Reports (2)
- Transitions Ministry Report
- Report from the Director of Young Adult and Communication Ministries
- Diocesan Missioner Report

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

The Rev. Helen Hoch
Clerk