

The Episcopal Diocese of Lexington
Meeting of the Executive Council
January 26, 2008

Members present: The Rt. Rev. Stacy F. Sauls, the Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross, the Ven. Bryant Kibler, Andy Sigmon, the Rev. Chip Valentine, Stephan Locke, Susan Baird, the Rev. Elise Johnstone, The Rev. Bob Sessum, Shannon H. Wilson, The Rev. Dana Hardwick, James R. Adams, Mary T. Yeiser, Buck Hinkle, Bungee Bynum, Jane Fitzpatrick, C. C. Johnson, Ann Davis McClain, Bobbie Sieja, Carla Van Meter, Katherine Harper, Ann Miller, the Rev. John Burkhart, Dr. Marshall Chapman, Gerry Yeiser, the Rev. Dr. Joyce Beaulieu, Molly Lovelock, the Rev. Margaret Shanks. Guests from the Budget Committee: David Sevigny, Steve Gabbard.

The Bishop called the meeting to order and led us in Morning Devotions.

Approval of minutes: One amendment: Page 3, first paragraph, "debt" changed to "assessment."
Motion to approve the minutes as amended moved by Hardwick, 2nd Van Meter. Motion passed.

Special Orders.

1. Audit. No audit committee present.
2. Appeals. See appeals letters as attachments. Motion to approve these appeals, Van Meter, 2nd Harper. Motion passed.
3. Budget. The post-hearing draft budget dated 1-23-2008, was presented by the committee and is attached to these minutes. Presentation by M.T. Yeiser about working with the budget committee and the process of hearings. She commented that working with this budget committee was a very positive experience for those involved. There were approximately 110 people who attended the diocesan-wide hearings, representing at least 19 parishes, 77 people sent feedback via the survey, 44 were done on-line. Comments received listed the Domain, Youth Missioner and Communications Commission as the 3 highest priorities. S. Gabbard explained the overall process of producing the draft budget, using the latest run rates on actual expenditures for 2007, and making cuts from a deficit of \$111K to a surplus of \$10K. Each of these items is reflected in notes in the draft budget.

Two attachments from the Budget committee were discussed. In reference to the draft budget being presented, it was explained that some funding requests were received after the hearings had begun, and therefore, did not have the opportunity to be considered by the whole diocese. The budget committee did not include these late funding requests in the draft budget. They are outlined in attachment Memo "re. Post Hearing Budget." D. Sevigny outlined these requests as they appeared in the memo. The "recommendations from the 2008 budget committee" (see attachment) were presented.

J. Adams moved that the budget committee be commended for the good work they had accomplished. 2nd Hardwick. Motion passed. The budget was open for discussion on the floor as a report from a committee, needing no motion.

Valentine moved to amend the budget by the recommended COLA adjustment for the bishop's compensation package. 2nd Van Meter. The motion passed.

Kibler moved to amend the budget by adding the amount requested for Diocesan communications (memo item #2). 2nd Hardwick. Motion passed.

Kibler moved to amend the budget by adding memo item #4, payroll services fees. 2nd Wilson. Motion passed.

Kibler moved to amend the budget by adding conference fees for chancellors (memo item #5). 2nd Hardwick. Motion passed, with abstentions by Adams and Hinkle.

Ross moved to amend the budget by adding \$250 for the Youth Commission (reduction of memo item #1). 2nd Van Meter. Motion passed.

The budget with these amendments was now at approximately \$975 surplus. Motion to accept the budget as amended passed.

Other budgets were then on the floor for discussion, after it was determined that the Executive Council needed to vote on them to be sent to the Diocesan convention.

Reading Camp budget. Sessum moved to accept the budget amended to include COLA adjustments on the effective date of the hire. 2nd Johnstone. Harper noted that the budget version we had been sent did not include the tithe amount. The correct budget draft was produced that includes the tithe. Yeiser moved acceptance. 2nd Sessum. The budget passed as amended.

St. Agnes House budget. Harper moved to accept the budget, 2nd Chapman. Yeiser moved to amend the budget to reduce the accounting fee to the current amounts. 2nd Harper. Harper moved to amend the budget by adding the recommended 5.5% COLA adjustments effective March 1. 2nd Hardwick. The budget passed as amended.

Domain budget. Hardwick moved to accept of the budget. 2nd Johnstone. COLA adjustments for Domain staff will be come from the subsidy from the diocese. It was noted that the fundraising amounts in lines 100 and 110 have been raised from \$12K to \$50K. The budget passed as amended.

Small church ministry consortium budget. Hardwick moved acceptance of the budget. 2nd Johnstone. Yeiser moved to amend the budget to bring the salary, pension, and SECA to the diocesan clergy minimum package, effective September 1 hire date. 2nd Sessum. Motion passed with Wilson abstaining. Harper moved to use new grants being received by the Ronridge Foundation for up to \$900 for continuing education, which is in keeping with the grant's purpose. 2nd Yeiser. Motion passed. The budget passed as amended, with Wilson abstaining.

Reports.

Chancellor. Lease of St. Martha's. Discussion was held about the lease agreement between St. Martha's and Mission Lexington (a consortium of churches including Good Shepherd, Maxwell Street Presbyterian, Calvary Baptist, Faith Lutheran and Central Baptist, for a free clinic. There was discussion about the amount of the lease for each five-year period, and its inclusion of pro rata fees for extraordinary expenses on the property. Several suggestions were entertained that would tie the lease amount to actual expenses as they change annually. Sessum proposed that the lease amount to be paid by Mission Lexington be amended to keep the first five years at \$875/mo per year, and for the second

five years at actual expenses adjusted annually. Harper moved. 2nd Hardwick. Motion passed, with Sessum abstaining.

Chancellor. Committee on Canons. This committee is being formed for the purpose of revising canons as needed and reporting to the convention. Harper suggested that one canon change would be, in keeping with national canons, to have a quorum of the Executive Council stated as 9 “elected” members.

Treasurer. Report attached. The updated list of assessments paid by parishes in 2007 was handed out for feedback and editing. The acting Deputy for Finance stated that she is getting financial reports ready, but that there were many changes and edits from the move of accounting functions back to the Diocese. There would in all likelihood be no accurate financial reports for the next Executive Council meeting.

Canon to the Ordinary. Report attached.

Archdeacon. Kibler recommended a change in how background checks are now conducted, due to the expense and amount of time incurred. This item was referred to the Committee on Diocesan Mission.

Finance Committee. The sale of St. David’s is pending in the finance committee. The St. James loan is being discussed by the committee.

Break for lunch.

Meeting reconvened by Bishop Sauls.

Domain Task Force. Kibler addressed group as representative of the Domain Task Force. See attached report addressing needed fundraising for Domain operations and other recommendations. After discussion, the bishop referred the recommended changes of the canons for Camps and Conference Board relating to appointing members and their responsibilities to the Committee on Canons. The Camps and Conference board members will be chosen by vote of convention this year, but this method may be changed next year. The Domain Task Force Report will be made to convention.

Small Church Ministry Consortium. The Archdeacon brought a proposal for bringing in funds for the use of the small church ministry consortium. The proposal for a raffle and the use of the St. Stephen’s fund for the benefit of the SCMC were moved by Fitzpatrick. 2nd Johnson. Motion passed. Given that several fundraising events may be going on simultaneously for various missions in the diocese, it was recommended that a composite fundraising calendar be prepared.

Domain. The use of the Domain property for mineral extraction and logging were discussed. The mineral rights owned by the Diocese on this property should be researched before pursuing any extraction. Ross and Shanks also recommended that the environmental impact be considered. There will be an environmental camp to run concurrently with Boys Camp II this summer.

St. George’s Day this year will include training opportunities for vestry members and Eucharistic ministers of parishes, and a presentation on family systems. The Executive Council will also have its retreat.

ECW. Two UTO grants from the diocese have been forwarded to New York. February 1 is the deadline for Bishop Hosea fund applications.

Old Business.

Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee presented a slate of nominations for consideration for positions being voted on at diocesan convention. Chapman moved acceptance of the slate. 2nd Wilson. Those running for office abstained.

Ascension, Frankfort. A letter from Ascension detailing a two-year payment of the amount of their 2007 assessment that remains in arrears was accepted in a motion by Van Meter. 2nd Adams. Lovelock noted that this goes on the books for 2007 as accounts payable.

New Business.

Standing Committee on Canons. The bishop noted that 2 priests, and 2 lay persons who are lawyers are to be members of this committee. He nominated Jim Adams, Guy Graves (Good Shepherd) as lay persons, and Marvin Suit (St. Francis, Flemingsburg) and Rob Slocum (Trinity, Danville) as priest members. Johnstone moved acceptance of the slate. 2nd Yeiser. Motion passed.

Property. A letter from Our Saviour, Madison County was presented asking for the sale of property to the Cabinet for Transportation, Department of Highways for improvement along a highway easement. This was referred to the Finance committee and an appraisal of the property recommended.

Bishop's year-end report. To be submitted with the minutes.

Action List (to be provided by Jim Adams)

Meeting adjourned with a benediction by Bishop Sauls.