

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 2

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

CANON 2
Committees of Convention

The Presiding Officer shall appoint the following committees, designating a member of each as the Chairman thereof:

- (a) Dispatch of Business -- 2 clergy and 2 lay members.
- ~~(b) Bishop's Address -- 2 clergy and 2 lay members.~~
- ~~(c)~~ (e-b) Unfinished Business -- 1 clergy and 2 lay members.
- ~~(d)~~ (e-c) Credentials -- 1 clergy and 2 lay members. This deals with claims of clerical and lay delegates to seats in Convention.
- ~~(e)~~ (e-d) Admission of New Parishes and Missions -- 1 clergy and 2 lay members.
- ~~(f)~~ (f-e) Constitution and Canons -- 2 clergy and 2 lay members. This Committee recommends changes or additions to the Constitution and Canons. The Committee reports on these must be submitted in writing to the clergy and clerks of the Vestries and Bishop's Committees at least ten days prior to the pre-convention ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Meetings. Any proposed changes shall be submitted to the Committee for its consideration at least sixty days before the annual meeting of Convention, except that the Presiding Officer may allow a proposed amendment to be considered if it was submitted at least 30 days prior to Convention, provided that the Committee on Constitution and Canons certifies that it has had sufficient time to review and report on the amendment, and the majority of delegates approve its consideration by the Convention.
- ~~(g)~~ (g-f) Parochial Reports -- 3 clergy and 2 lay members. This Committee shall review and analyze the Annual Reports of all Parishes and Missions and shall include in its report to the Convention appropriate interpretation thereof and comment thereon.
- ~~(h)~~ (h-g) Nominations -- the ~~Deans of the seven Deaneries~~ conveners of the Neighborhoods.
- ~~(i)~~ (i-h) Resolutions -- 2 clergy and 2 lay members. This committee shall receive resolutions intended for the Convention at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting of Convention. The Committee report on each resolution shall be submitted in writing to the clergy and clerk of the vestries and Bishop's committee, at least ten days prior to the pre-convention ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Meetings. Exception: the Presiding

Officer may allow a new resolution from the floor of the Convention upon the approval by a majority of the delegates. Courtesy resolutions are exempt from this resolution.

Explanation

The proposed amendments to Canon 2 address a handful of items in a canon that will require additional work in future years. It eliminates unnecessary gendered language, references to the deaneries, and the Committee on the Bishop's Address, which has not functioned for many years and is not judged to be necessary. It should be noted that many of the other committees have not functioned for some time, but they may be desirable.

The proposed amendment introduces greater flexibility in the deadline for the receipt of constitution and canon revisions by the Committee on Constitution and Canons, similar to the provisions that allow a resolution to be considered from the floor.

The existing text of the canon specifies that the Presiding Officer appoints the convention committee, but the Constitution reserves this power for the Convention. We do not attempt to address the conflict now, as delegating that power to the Presiding Officer makes practical sense, but note it as an item to be addressed in a future amendment.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 5.4

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 5, section 4 be amended as follows:

Section 4. The Bishop may create and appoint such other advisory officers and committees as the Bishop shall deem desirable, ~~including a chair of the Episcopal Churchwomen, and may specify the duties, functions and compositions of each. The Chair of the Episcopal Churchwomen may appoint one or more Assistants as the chair shall deem necessary, including United Thank Offering, Church Periodical Club, Emily Upfold Fund, Conferences, and Altar Guild.~~

The Bishop shall appoint a Committee on Mission Strategy and a Committee on Investment and Finance that shall be constituted and perform the functions as hereinafter specified for each:

- (a) The Committee on Mission Strategy shall consist of ~~one Cabinet Officer designated by the Bishop and~~ such number of clergy persons and lay persons; who are ~~Members of the Church~~ communicants in good standing in this Diocese, as the Bishop shall appoint, with at least one clergy person and one lay person being appointed from each ~~Deanery Neighborhood~~, except that in the event the Bishop cannot identify a qualified person willing and able to serve, the Committee shall nonetheless be empowered to perform its duties. The Bishop may appoint members of diocesan staff as ex-officio members of the Committee. Working closely with the Bishop, diocesan staff, and Executive Council, Ssuch Committee shall be an incubator and accelerator of mission that shall:
- (1) ~~Assist congregations in identifying needs and in developing goals; Develop and oversee a grant framework that both initiates themed initiatives and receives grant requests from local congregations, Neighborhoods and other ministries of the diocese;~~
 - (2) ~~Be available to consult with congregations on any matters having to do with the development and sustenance of congregational life; Make recommendations to the~~

Bishop and the Executive Council for the distribution of such grants;

- (3) Give special attention to the theology and methodology of evangelism; Intentionally target ecumenical partnerships and historically underrepresented people, neighborhoods, and regions as priorities for funding and support;
- (4) Offer workshops, training, and assistance to prepare congregations, Neighborhoods, and other ministries of the diocese to apply for and receive grants;
- (5) Collaborate and coordinate with diocesan initiatives related to evangelism, community engagement, and congregational development;
- (6) Collaborate with bodies outside the diocese, including but not limited to the Center for Congregations, to build expertise and implement best practices;
- (4-7) Review and evaluate the Church's work through congregations receiving financial aid from the Diocese effectiveness of grants and congregational financial support funded by the diocesan budget;
- (5-8) Investigate opportunities for the organization and development of new congregations;
- (6-9) Investigate and make recommendations with respect to organization, reorganization, or abandonment of congregations and cooperate with and assist any regional committee or leadership charged with the support or evaluation of congregations; with respect to clerical and lay leadership therein and with respect to financial operation and support of such aided congregations;
- (7-10) Report its activities to the Bishop and the Executive Council each year at least thirty (30) days prior to Diocesan Convention and on such other occasions as may be requested by either or as such Committee shall determine.;

~~(8) Cooperate with and assist any regional committee or leadership charged with the support or evaluation of aided congregations.~~

(b) The Investment and Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer of the Diocese, who shall preside, at least one member of Executive Council, the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee of Executive Council and such number of canonically resident Clergy and Lay persons who are communicants in good standing of this Diocese as shall be appointed by the Bishop. All persons appointed by the Bishop to the Investment & Finance Committee shall be appointed for staggered three year terms. After the completion of two successive terms, no member of the Committee may be reappointed until at least one year has elapsed. The Bishop may appoint members of diocesan staff to serve as ex-officio members of the Committee. The Investment and Finance Committee shall:

- (1) Advise the Executive Council and Standing Committee regarding the management of the investment properties of the Diocese. This may include a recommendation that the Diocese hire an independent consultant subject to the approval of the Executive Council.
- (2) Meet with the managers of the investment properties of the Diocese at least once a year to review policies and actions.
- (3) Develop investment guidelines and gift acceptance policies for the Diocese, including concerns for social responsibility in investments, for review and action by the Executive Council, and serve as a resource to the congregations of the Diocese on investment and gift acceptance policies.
- (4) Administer the Revolving Loan and Grant Fund according to Policies and Procedures approved by the Executive Council.
- (5) Render financial advice to the Bishop, Standing Committee, Executive Council, Congregations, Diocesan Institutions, and Cooperating ~~m~~Ministries either on request or on its

own initiative, including requests by congregations to establish investment accounts in institutions other than those approved by the eCanons of the General Convention.

Explanation

Canon 5, section 4, charters several bodies, including the Committee on Mission Strategy and the Investment and Finance Committee. The existing text of the canon is also oddly specific in putting Episcopal Church Women and other bodies traditionally associated with women in the Episcopal Church under the authority of the Bishop. The Constitution and Canons committee believes this provision of the canon to be a relic of a time when bishops of the church sought to exert control over women's ministries in order to "keep them in their place." The elimination of this provision does not reflect diminished importance of these ministries. Instead it clarifies that they are independent ministries who do their work with no need for the Bishop's permission or control.

The Committee on Mission Strategy has been dormant for some time. This amendment is intended to reinvigorate the committee by streamlining its membership and clarifying its purpose as an advisory body to the Bishop and Executive Council for addressing the urgent needs of the church today.

The proposed amendments introduce term limits for members of the Investment and Finance Committee and remove a reference to the Finance Committee of Executive Council. In practice the Executive Council delegates the responsibilities that would generally be expected of a Finance Committee to the diocese's Investment & Finance Committee. This change conforms the canon to current practice. The proposed amendments also add a responsibility to develop a gift acceptance policy for the diocese.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 8.4

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 8, section 4 be amended as follows:

~~(a)——~~For any position to be filled at least two persons from the same order shall be nominated. Nominees need only meet the eligibility requirements set out in Section 1. The nominations shall be by the Committee on Nominations acting as provided in Canon 2.

~~(b)——~~At the 170th Convention at least three persons, from each order, shall be nominated. The nominee in each order who receives the greatest number of votes shall serve a term of three years. The nominee in each order who——receives the next greatest number of votes shall serve a term of two years. Those persons elected to the Standing Committee by the 169th Convention shall serve one year.

Explanation

Canon 8 relates to the composition and duties of the Standing Committee. At the 170th convention in 2007, an amendment to Canon 8 required clarification of how terms would be staggered during the first years the amendment came into effect. This deletion eliminates language that is no longer needed.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 9

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 9 be amended as follows:

CANON 9
Executive Council

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Council of the Diocese to be known as the Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council. The Diocesan Executive Council shall be composed of:

- (a) The Bishop who shall be president, the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, who shall be a vice-president, and the Suffragan Bishops, if there be any, who shall be vice presidents in order of their consecrations.
- (b) ~~Each Deanery Council shall elect~~ One lay person from each Neighborhood, who shall be a confirmed adult communicant in good standing of a Parish, ~~or Organized Mission, or Missional Community~~ in the particular ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood, and one member of the clergy, who shall be canonically resident in the particular ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood, to serve three year terms on the Executive Council. In the event that no member of the clergy in a particular Neighborhood is willing or able to stand for election to Executive Council, the Neighborhood may elect a lay person who is a confirmed adult communicant in good standing to the office, provided that no lay person so elected shall be eligible for re-election unless there still be no member of the clergy in the particular Neighborhood willing or able to stand for election to Executive Council. No person, after the completion of two successive terms, shall be eligible for election to such office until one year following the termination of a second successive term. Any vacancy may be filled ~~for the balance of the term at a regular or special meeting of the Deanery Council called for that purpose.~~ by a lay or clergy person canonically resident in the Neighborhood by the Bishop, with the concurrence of the Diocesan Executive Council, whose term will last until a candidate elected to fill the remainder of the term at the fall Neighborhood meeting is ratified at the next Diocesan Convention.

- (c) Not more than seven members at large, one of whom shall be a youth representative, to be chosen annually by the Bishop for a one-year term with the concurrence of the Diocesan Executive Council. Any vacancy in this category may be filled for the unexpired balance of the term by the Bishop with the concurrence of the Diocesan Executive Council. No person shall serve more than six successive terms in such office until one year following the termination of a sixth successive term.
- (d) The Treasurer of the Diocese and the Chancellor of the Diocese, ex-officio.
- (e) ~~The Canons shall be ex-officio members with voice but without vote.~~ Bishop may appoint members of diocesan staff as ex-officio members with voice but without vote.

Section 2. The Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council shall organize and empower the clergy and laity of this diocese to act on God’s mission for The Episcopal Church in our place in time, oversee and deploy the shared financial and leadership resources of the Diocese of Indianapolis, except where such authority may otherwise be reserved to the Standing Committee, Diocesan Convention, or the congregations of the Diocese, coordinate and periodically evaluate the work and composition of the ~~Deaneries-Neighborhoods~~, shall have power to expend and allocate funds within the limits of such budget as may have been adopted by the Diocesan Convention, may initiate and establish Diocesan programs and administrative policies, and, in general, may exercise the full power and authority of the Diocese between sessions of the Diocesan Convention except in relation to amendments to the Constitution and Canons, the adoption of the budget, the admission of new parishes, or such other matters ~~as~~ may be reserved by Constitution or Canon to the Diocesan Convention, or the Bishop, or the Standing Committee, or when any such action would be inconsistent with any action or directives of the Diocesan Convention.

Section 3. The Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council shall have the power to adopt such bylaws, Rules, and Regulations as may be necessary for its own government, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Indianapolis. The Council shall hold stated meetings and shall make and preserve a full record of all its acts. Special meetings of the Council may be held upon call of the President and shall be called by the President upon the written request of any five members thereof upon five

days' written notice, which shall state the purpose of such meeting, except that during the sessions of the Convention a special meeting may be called at any time by the President and shall be called upon the written request of any five members, but such special meeting held during the Convention shall be legal only if a majority of the Council are present.

- Section 4.** The Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council ~~shall constitute a Finance Committee and~~ may constitute from time to time such ~~other~~ permanent and ad-hoc committees as they deem advisable, and may appoint persons not members of the Council to serve on such committees, or to perform such other services as may be required. No person shall serve as chair of a permanent Committee unless that person be a member of the Diocesan Executive Council. There shall be appointed to each ad-hoc committee at least one member of the Diocesan Executive Council. The chair of such ad-hoc committee need not be a member of the Diocesan Executive Council.
- Section 5.** The Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council shall submit to each Annual Diocesan Convention a report of the work done under its supervision for the preceding calendar year. The report shall also contain an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements a statement of all trust funds, of property in its possession or under its control, with the exception of the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, and a detailed statement of the salaries, if any, paid to each of its officers. This report shall be printed and sent to all the members of the Diocesan Convention not later than one week prior to the annual meeting of the Convention.
- Section 6.** The Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council may elect an Assistant Treasurer who shall perform such duties as may be requested ~~of him~~ by the Treasurer or the Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council.
- Section 7.** The Bishop and Diocesan Executive Council may from time to time appoint such administrative assistants with particular talents or for specific purposes as they may deem necessary within the limits of the Budget of the Diocesan Convention.
- ~~**Section 8.** The Bishop and Executive Council shall establish standards and procedures for annually evaluating The Bishop, administrative personnel and members of the Bishop's staff.~~
- Section 9 8.** The 170th ~~Convention shall elect to the Executive Council from the Northeast Deanery a layperson to serve two years and a member of the~~

~~clergy to serve three years, and from the Northwest Deanery a lay person to serve three years and a member of the clergy to serve two years, and from the Southeast Deanery a lay person to serve two years and a member of the clergy to serve one year, and from the Southwest Deanery a lay person to serve three years and a member of the clergy to serve two years, and from the North Central Deanery a lay person to serve two years and a member of the clergy to serve one year, and from the Mid Central Deanery a layperson to serve one year and a member of the clergy to serve three years, and from the South Central Deanery a layperson to serve three years and a member of the clergy to serve one year. Subsequent Conventions of the Diocese shall ratify the laypersons and members of the clergy elected to the Executive Council by the several Deaneries. Any member of Executive Council elected to their office by a Deanery, prior to the canonical establishment of the Neighborhoods, shall be eligible to serve out the remainder of their term as the representative from the Neighborhood in which the member is canonically resident.~~

Section 40 9. This Canon and any amendments made thereto shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Explanation

At the 2018 Diocesan Convention, the diocese encouraged the Executive Council to take on a more expansive role in missional leadership of the diocese, and committed to experiment with a new structure of regional ministry, known as the Neighborhoods, to replace the deaneries. The convention also expressed its intent to adopt the new structure canonically in 2020 if the experiment was deemed successful. These changes reflect the changes necessitated in the structure of Executive Council by the shift to the Neighborhood structure.

In addition to replacing language about Deaneries with Neighborhoods, the proposed amendments also address the problem of vacant seats on Executive Council, generally in the clergy order, which have occurred due to small numbers of clergy in some regions leading to either ineligibility to serve due to successive terms, or the unfair expectation of frequent service on Council by small numbers of clergy. The proposed amendment addresses that situation by allowing a Neighborhood to elect a layperson to fill a clergy vacancy if no clergy are willing or able to serve, thus preventing underrepresentation of any Neighborhood on Council. The proposed amendment also streamlines the process for filling a vacancy on Council by not requiring Neighborhoods to convene for a special election, but allowing for a temporary Bishop's appointment until the regularly scheduled fall Neighborhood meeting.

The proposal clarifies the terms of office of the bishop's appointments to council. The existing canon's reference to "the Canons" serving as ex officio members of Council assumes a particular kind of staff configuration. The proposed replacement wording provided flexibility for a staff that may look different in the future.

The proposal clarifies the permissibility of online meetings.

The removal of the reference to the Finance Committee reflects that fact that the Investment & Finance Committee of the diocese performs the function the Finance Committee mentioned in this canon is intended to serve.

It is the duty of the Standing Committee, which is the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese in the Bishop's absence, to evaluate the relationship between the Bishop and the diocese through a periodic mutual ministry review, documented in Bishop Jennifer's letter of agreement and accounted for in the budget. It is not appropriate for a board of directors, to which the Executive Council is similar, to evaluate the performance of staff who report to the Bishop.

The proposed amendment removes language no longer relevant, related to the staggering of Executive Council terms at this canon's inception, and replaces it with language clarifying that an Executive Council member elected from a Deanery shall be deemed to have been elected by the Neighborhood in which that member is canonically resident for the duration of the member's term.

Other items that need to be addressed, such as the matter of Executive Council's vice president(s), greater refinements to the overall purpose of Council, and the expectations of Council reporting to Diocesan Convention, are left to a future convention.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 10

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 10 be amended as follows:

CANON 10

~~Deans and Deaneries~~ Neighborhoods

Section 1. The Diocese shall be divided into ~~seven Deaneries~~ six Neighborhoods, each of which shall have a central point no more than one hour's drive from any constituent congregation, which Each shall be designated by the names, and composed of the Parishes ~~and~~, Missions, and Missional Communities as follows:

Northeast	Northwest
Trinity, Anderson	Trinity, Bloomington
Trinity, Connersville	St. John's, Crawfordsville
Grace Church, Muncie	St. Andrew's, Greencastle
St. James', New Castle	St. John's, Lafayette
St. Paul's, Richmond	St. Stephen's, Terre Haute
St. Luke's, Shelbyville	St. George's, West Terre Haute
St. Stephen's, Elwood	Good Shepherd, West Lafayette
	Canterbury, Bloomington

Southeast	Southwest
St. David's, Beanblossom	St. Luke's, Cannelton
St. John's, Bedford	St. Paul's, Evansville
St. Paul's, Columbus	St. John's, Mt. Vernon
St. Paul's, Jeffersonville	St. Stephen's, New Harmony
Trinity, Lawrenceburg	Peace Church, Rockport
Christ Church, Madison	St. James', Vincennes
St. Paul's, New Albany	St. John's, Washington

North Central

Mid Central

St. Christopher's, Carmel

St. Alban's, Indianapolis

St. Peter's, Lebanon

St. John's, Speedway

Nativity, Indianapolis

St. Matthew's, Indianapolis

St. Michael's, Noblesville

Trinity, Indianapolis

St. Paul's, Indianapolis

All Saints', Indianapolis

St. Francis in the Fields, Zionsville

Holy Family, Fishers

South Central

Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis

St. Augustine's, Danville

St. Thomas', Franklin

St. Philip's, Indianapolis

St. Timothy's, Indianapolis

St. Mary's Martinsville

St. Mark's, Plainfield

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Confluence</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peace, Rockport</u> <u>St. James, Vincennes</u> <u>St. John's, Mt. Vernon</u> <u>St. John's, Washington</u> <u>St. Luke's, Cannelton</u> <u>St. Paul's, Evansville</u> <u>St. Stephen's, New Harmony</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Crossroads</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>All Saints, Indianapolis</u> <u>Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis</u> <u>Nativity, Indianapolis</u> <u>St. Alban's, Indianapolis</u> <u>St. John's, Speedway</u> <u>St. Matthew's Indianapolis</u> <u>St. Paul's, Indianapolis</u> <u>St. Philip's, Indianapolis</u> <u>St. Timothy's, Indianapolis</u> <u>Trinity, Indianapolis</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Edge</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Grace, Muncie</u> <u>Holy Family, Fishers</u> <u>St. Christopher's, Carmel</u> <u>St. James, New Castle</u> <u>St. Luke's Shelbyville</u> <u>St. Michael's, Noblesville</u> <u>St. Paul's, Richmond</u> <u>St. Stephen's, Elwood</u> <u>Trinity, Anderson</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Riverbend</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Christ Church, Madison</u> <u>St. Paul's, Jeffersonville</u> <u>St. Paul's, New Albany</u> <u>Trinity, Lawrenceburg</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wabash</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Good Samaritan, Brownsburg</u> <u>Good Shepherd, West Lafayette</u> <u>St. Andrew's, Greencastle</u> <u>St. Augustine's, Danville</u> <u>St. Francis-in-the-Fields, Zionsville</u> <u>St. George's, West Terre Haute</u> <u>St. John's, Crawfordsville</u> <u>St. John's, Lafayette</u> <u>St. Mark's, Plainfield</u> <u>St. Peter's, Lebanon</u> <u>St. Stephen's, Terre Haute</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Waycross</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Episcopal Campus Ministry at Indiana</u> <u>University, Bloomington</u> <u>St. David's, Bean Blossom</u> <u>St. John's, Bedford</u> <u>St. Mary's, Martinsville</u> <u>St. Paul's, Columbus</u> <u>St. Thomas, Franklin</u> <u>Trinity, Bloomington</u></p>

Section 2. The Parishes, ~~and~~ Missions, and Missional Communities comprising the various ~~Deaneries~~ Neighborhoods may be changed from time to time by resolution of Diocesan Convention; and any Parish, ~~or~~ Mission, or Missional Community hereafter established shall be assigned to one of the

Deaneries Neighborhoods by resolution of the Diocesan Convention at the time the same shall be admitted into union with the Convention.

Section 3. In each ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood there shall be ~~a Dean~~ two ~~conveners, one lay and one clergy,~~ who shall be canonically resident in the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood and who shall be elected by the majority vote of ~~all the clergy canonically resident within the Deanery~~ the Neighborhood Council. Such election shall be held ~~immediately prior to~~ at the regular meeting of the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council at which ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Members of the Executive Council from the particular ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood are elected. The term of office of ~~the Dean~~ each convener shall be ~~for four~~ one years.

Section 4. There shall be in each ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood a ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council composed of the Clergy in the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood, ~~a Warden from each Vestry and Bishop's Committee in the Deanery,~~ and Convention delegates, including alternate delegates, from each Parish, ~~or Mission, or~~ Missional Community.

Section 5. (a) The ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council shall meet at least ~~once~~ twice each year at the call of the ~~Dean~~ conveners, ~~and may meet twice in the year,~~ once in the spring and once in the fall. In the absence of the Neighborhood conveners, one of the Neighborhood members of Executive Council shall preside over the meeting, or in their absence, the senior clergy-in-charge canonically resident in the Neighborhood. If both offices of convener are vacant, the senior clergy-in-charge canonically resident in the Neighborhood shall call the meetings.

(b) ~~The spring meeting is to be held in April or May, at the option of the Dean, after the diocesan Executive Council distributes for review the proposed budget for the following year. At this~~ the spring meeting, the agenda shall include time for prayer and spiritual formation, updates on the ministries of the constituent congregations and opportunities for mutual ministry and support, notification of diocesan offices open for election at the upcoming Diocesan Convention, notification of deadlines for submission of nominations, resolutions, and amendments to the constitution and canons to the upcoming Diocesan Convention, reports from the Neighborhood representatives to Executive Council on the Council's activities, and any other such matters as may be of

~~interest to the Neighborhood. Deanery members of the Executive Council may present the proposed budget. Comments and questions relative to program and budget, as well as suggested changes to the budget, may be prepared by the Deanery representatives and/or the Dean and sent to the Executive Council. The election of members of the Executive Council, as provided in Canon 9 may take place at this meeting, or at the fall meeting. Other matters of interest and concern of the Deanery may also be discussed.~~

- (b) ~~c~~ The fall meeting is to be held prior to and as near as convenient to the Diocesan Convention. The agenda shall include time for prayer and spiritual formation, updates on the ministries of the constituent congregations and opportunities for mutual ministry and support, reports from the Neighborhood representatives to Executive Council on the Council's activities, election of Neighborhood members of Executive Council as provided in Canon 9, discussion of any resolutions and amendments to the constitution and canons that have been submitted for consideration at the upcoming Diocesan Convention, discussion of the proposed diocesan budget for consideration at the upcoming Diocesan Convention and any other such matters as may be of interest to the Neighborhood. Members of the Bishop's staff, the Investment and Finance Committee, or the Budget Formation Committee, shall be invited to the fall meeting to present and answer inquiries about the diocesan budget and other matters of concern to diocesan leadership. Members of the Committee on Resolutions and the Committee on Constitution and Canons shall also be invited to speak to resolutions or amendments to the constitution and canons, if any. In any year during which an election to Executive Council is to occur, written notice of the date, place, and time of the Neighborhood Council meeting shall be given to the clergy and wardens of each Parish, Mission, or Missional Community of the Neighborhood at least ten days in advance. The purpose of this meeting is to consider the program and budget of the diocese. At this meeting, the Deanery members of the Executive Council shall present the proposed budget. Other matters to come before the Diocesan Convention or of interest to the Diocese or the Deanery may also be discussed. The election of members of the Executive Council, as provided in Canon 9 shall take place at this meeting if

the election did not take place at the spring meeting.

- (e d) Special meetings of the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council may be held upon call by the Bishop or ~~the Dean~~ any one of the Neighborhood conveners upon written request signed by the members of the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council representing two Parishes, ~~or Missions, or Missional Communities~~ in such ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood.
- (d e) Any lay person elected to the Diocesan Executive Council shall during his/her term or terms be an ex-officio member of the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council if he/she be not a member of said council, and make regular reports to the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council of the Executive Council activities.

~~**Section 6.** In each year in which the term of office of an incumbent member of Executive Council from any Deanery expires, and in any year in which such office shall have become vacant, the Dean shall call a meeting of the Deanery Council. Written notice of such meeting shall be given to the clergy and clerks of the various Vestries and Bishop's Committees in the Deanery at least ten days before the date set for such meeting. In the event the office of Dean shall be vacant the member of the Clergy in-charge of a congregation senior in canonical residence within such Deanery shall call such meeting and preside.~~

Section 7-6. Not less than five days before convening of Diocesan Convention each ~~Dean~~ the Neighborhood Conveners or other persons responsible for convening the meeting for the election of a ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood member of Executive Council shall certify to the Secretary of the Diocese any person so nominated.

Section 8-7. The Bishop, if present, may preside at all meetings of the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council. ~~If the Bishop is absent, or requests, the Dean shall preside.~~

Section 9 8. Each ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood Council may enact Bylaws governing the management of the affairs of the ~~Deanery~~ Neighborhood in conformity with the canon and subject to the approval of the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Section 10 9. ~~There shall be a Council of Deans composed of the Deans of each Deanery. The Council of Deans will meet at least quarterly each year at the call of the Bishop. The Bishop may from time to time call a Council of Neighborhood Conveners, composed of the conveners of each~~

neighborhood, for their advice and counsel.

Section 10. Anywhere within the Canons of the Diocese of Indianapolis the word “Deanery” appears, it shall be understood to mean “Neighborhood.” Anywhere within the Canons of the Diocese of Indianapolis the word “Dean” appears, it shall be understood to mean “Neighborhood Convener.” except in instances where “Dean” refers to the Dean and Rector of Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis.

Section 11. These This Canon, and any amendments thereto, shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Explanation

At the 2018 Diocesan Convention, the diocese committed to experiment with a new structure of regional ministry, known as the Neighborhoods, to replace the deaneries, and expressed its intent to adopt the new structure canonically in 2020 if the experiment was deemed successful. These changes reflect the changes necessitated in the structure of Executive Council by the shift to the Neighborhood structure.

In addition to replacing language about Deaneries with Neighborhoods, the proposed amendments codify the shared leadership of the Neighborhoods between lay and clergy leaders. They also clarify that the purposes of the Neighborhood meetings are not just for governance, but also for prayer, spiritual formation, and exploring opportunities for regional ministry.

Finally, the proposed amendment acknowledges that the words “Dean” and “Deanery” are scattered throughout diocesan canons, and it will take some time to make the needed amendments, so it clarifies how those words should be interpreted when they appear.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 19.2

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 19, section 2 of the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis be amended as follows:

Each Parish and Mission shall prepare and forward to the Diocesan Office, not later than ~~February~~ March first of each year, the annual Report, commonly known as the Parochial Report, required under the provisions of the General Church Canons. Filing the parochial report using the website administered by the General Convention Office of The Episcopal Church satisfies this obligation.

Explanation

This amendment extends the filing deadline for parochial reports to a date that is more realistic for preparation and vestry/bishop's committee approval. It further clarifies that a congregation need take no further action to provide the report to the bishop's office if they have filed the report online.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 20.16

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 20, section 16 be amended as follows:

Section 16. The Bishop may approve the ~~initiation~~ organization of ~~small, sustainable groups~~ communities of faith for which, due to reasons of scale or nature of mission, the governance structures of parishes or missions delineated elsewhere in the canons of the diocese are burdensome or impractical. ~~to carry out Ministries of Strategic Scale.~~ Such a community shall be referred to as a "missional community," called MOSS MINISTRIES, whose characteristics shall be:

- (1) It shall serve a population otherwise underserved by the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis or denominations with which The Episcopal Church is in full communion. It is desirable that a missional community affiliate with an existing congregation or an ecumenical partner, with the terms of such affiliation to be negotiated according to the needs and goals of the missional community and its partner(s). ~~area with little current prospect of membership or financial resources sufficient to the owning of a building, or the calling of a resident priest.~~
- (2) It shall ~~have a commitment~~ commit to form a primarily lay-led ~~Ministry (with ordained support and sacramental oversight)~~ organized around discipleship, worship, nurture fellowship, and service, and care for one another. The exact form and content of the missional community Ministry is determined by ~~the participants and the areas'~~ its particular needs and goals. The Bishop may appoint a priest or deacon to support the missional community for the purposes of teaching, pastoral care, and sacramental oversight.
- (3) The application shall be signed by all the adults who desire to identify themselves with the proposed missional community and shall be in the following form, with such adaptations as may be necessary to clarify the purpose of the missional community:

"We, the undersigned, residents of _____, Diocese of Indianapolis, being desirous of serving as beacons of Jesus Christ in

our community under the auspices of The Episcopal Church, do hereby request that we may be canonically organized as a missional community of the Diocese under the name of _____.
We hereby declare ourselves, individually and collectively, ready to do what in us lies to establish and sustain the community and to promote its influence in our neighborhood. We promise conformity to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Church, to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention and of the Diocese of Indianapolis, and to the rules and regulations of the Convention of the Diocese. Furthermore, we pledge ourselves to pay such sums as may be assessed upon us by the Convention of the Diocese."

- (4) It shall notify any parishes or missions within 25 Miles of its request for approval; such entities may offer comment to the Bishop for 90 days following notification. Upon receipt of an application for the organization of a new missional community, or an application from an existing mission to reorganize as a missional community, the Bishop shall notify the Committee on Mission Strategy, Executive Council, the Standing Committee, and the conveners of the neighborhood the missional community would serve, in order to receive their advice and counsel.
- (5) The missional community shall adopt such bylaws as are appropriate to its governance, subject to the approval of the Committee on Mission Strategy.
- (6) It shall be responsive to the consultative and monitoring involvement of a lay or clergy ~~Convener~~ liaison appointed by the ~~Diocese~~ Bishop or the Bishop's designee.
- (7) The business practices of the missional community shall conform to the Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs and canon 13. Over the long term, the Ministry must be self-supporting, though it is encouraged to participate in training, networking, congregational development grants and other aspects of diocesan community life. Start-up fFunding from the ~~diocese~~ diocesan budget or other outside sources may be offered under clearly defined terms, documented in writing and reported annually to the ~~Diocesan Convention~~ Executive Council and the Committee on Mission Strategy. An annual audit must be filed with the Mission Strategy

Commission confirming that all legal and fiduciary responsibilities consistent with Diocesan standards are adequately being met. It shall have financial reporting that documents a worship, service, evangelism, education, and fellowship orientation (using funds to support various religious purposes rather than to acquire property).
‡ The missional community shall make a financial contribution annually toward the diocesan operating fund, with the amount to be determined according to canon 7, section 4, unless otherwise agreed to with Executive Council and approved by Diocesan Convention.

(8) A MOSS Ministry missional community shall keep the records required in be subject to all requirements of Canon 19.

~~(7) It shall be linked to a Parish or Mission or clergy that provides a "connection" with Diocesan life and structure. Exact terms of the agreement will be negotiable, and should be directed to meet a relational rather than functional aims. In no case shall such a relationship involve ongoing financial assistance.~~

(9) Each MOSS Ministry missional community shall be subject to annual review by the Committee on Mission Strategy. The failure of the people of a missional community to perform their agreement as stated in the application for organization may warrant the Bishop, by and with the consent of the Standing Committee, dissolving the organization, in which case, as well as in case of the temporary abandonment of services, all the property of the missional community shall be placed in the custody of the Bishop and shall become the property of the Diocesan Corporation, and, upon positive recommendation, the Bishop shall annually (at the time of Diocesan Convention) decide upon the renewal of permission for that ministry to continue as described herein.

(10) If a MOSS Ministry missional community should subsequently decide to seek Mission status that process will follow the steps indicated in Canon 20 above. Previous existence as a missional community Ministry will have no bearing on the qualifications therein described.

(11) Provided a parish or mission is not delinquent under Canon 21, a parish or mission may ~~apply to~~ petition the Bishop to ~~change to~~

~~adopt missional community a MOSS canonical status if it becomes clear that it has little near term prospect of membership or financial resources consistent with owning a building or calling a resident clergy.~~ The congregation shall work with the Committee on Mission Strategy and the Bishop to resolve any property interests and/or relationships with resident clergy.

- (12) Two representatives of each ~~MOSS Ministry~~ missional community may attend Diocesan Convention, with voice and vote. ~~MOSS Missional community~~ Mmembers shall have full rights to participate in all volunteer activities and leadership positions of the Diocese, provided they meet all other requirements for service.

Explanation

Canon 20, section 16, also known as the “MOSS Canon,” is intended to provide for a flexible governance structure for Episcopal communities of faith for which the traditional apparatus of vestry or bishop’s committee is burdensome or impractical. No communities organized under this canon have existed in the diocese for some time. In 2014, the canon was amended to allow existing congregations to reorganize under this canon, with the expectation that smaller congregations would find a more flexible structure attractive. However, none have applied for this status.

Congregations that might benefit from adopting this canonical status have offered several reasons for not doing so:

- They would be subject to scrutiny of the Diocesan Convention to which other congregations are not subject.
- They felt they would be under annual threat of dissolution under the sole authority of the Bishop.
- The overall sense of the canon as currently written is of managed decline, rather than possibilities for growth.

The proposed amendments to Canon 20 address each of these concerns:

- Missional communities would be subject to the oversight of the Committee on Mission Strategy, Executive Council, and Standing Committee on terms similar to other congregations, except that their bylaws would be subject to the approval of the Committee on Mission Strategy.
- Dissolution of a missional community would be under identical terms to other missions, requiring action by both the Bishop and the Standing Committee.

- The proposed amendments make the canon more neutral about the circumstances that may cause a congregation to seek this status. The terminology “Ministry of Strategic Scale” is eliminated because “strategic scale” is a euphemism for smallness, and it is hoped that communities adopting this status can grow.

Other proposed changes include:

- Addition of specific wording for an application to the Bishop to adopt the status.
- Condensing of the language regarding business processes in subsection (7), the specificity of which relates to unorthodox business practices by a MOSS ministry that has been defunct for some time. The updated language requires adherence to the business practices to which Episcopal congregations are generally subject.
- Responsibility for notifying diocesan bodies of the desire to apply for canonical status shifts from the community making the application to the Bishop. The bodies to be notified change from all congregations within a 25-mile radius, which implicitly assumes that Episcopal churches are competing for market share of people who are already Episcopalian, to those bodies responsible for the health of the diocese as a whole, as well as the conveners of the neighborhood in which the proposed community would be located.
- The current canon is adamant that no MOSS ministry will own property. That will probably generally be the case, but need not inherently be so.
- Greater flexibility in how financial support might be provided, and how a missional community might partner with another congregation or ecumenical body.
- Editorial changes for clarity and brevity.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 27

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 27

CANON 27

Questions of Procedure

Section 1: Meetings of the Diocesan Convention, Standing Committee, Executive Council and all other bodies established in these canons may be held in person, via conference call, videoconference, or any other similar widely available technology that enables remote meetings.

Section 2: Electronic voting is permissible at both in-person and remote meetings. Wherever “ballot” appears in the canons of the Diocese of Indianapolis, the term shall be understood to refer to a paper or electronic ballot. Electronic voting shall be conducted as closely as is practical to the procedures specified in Canon 4 and anywhere else voting procedures are specified in the canons.

Section 3: Roberts' Rules of Order shall determine questions of procedure not specifically or by implication provided for in these Canons.

Section 4: This canon and amendments thereto become effective immediately upon adoption.

Explanation

The proposed amendments to Canon 27 make remote meetings and electronic voting explicitly permissible for all diocesan governance bodies.

Subject: Proposed amendment of Canon 30

Proposed by: Committee on Constitution & Canons

Resolved, that Canon 30 be amended as follows:

CANON 30

Nominations

Section 1. If and to the extent he or she is eligible to serve under the other provisions of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, any person may be nominated for any position elected by the Diocesan Convention by timely and complete submitting submission of a nomination form in the format provided by the Secretary of Diocesan Convention or the Secretary's designee. ~~to be signed by two or more adult communicants in good standing in the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and the Rector or Priest in charge of their Parish, Mission or MOSS ministry.~~

Section 2. Any person who accepts a nomination from the floor of Diocesan Convention shall promptly furnish the information requested on the nomination form to the Secretary of Diocesan Convention or the Secretary's designee in order to be eligible to appear on the ballot. Such information may be provided to the Secretary in advance.

Explanation

The proposed amendment to section 1 conforms this canon to the current practice of nominations in the diocese. It is notable that the canon as currently written makes members of congregations without clergy technically ineligible for any position elected by diocesan convention. This amendment corrects that inadvertent injustice.

The proposed addition of section 2 requires anyone who intends to be nominated from the floor to be prepared to provide any information that may be required on the standard nomination form, such as a biography or photograph, so that Diocesan Convention delegates can make an informed decision as they vote.

Note: A proposed constitutional change needs to be presented and approved at two diocesan conventions before it is adopted. The first reading of this proposed change took place at the 182nd Annual Convention in 2019. Article XII of the Constitution outlines this process:

Amendments

This Constitution may be altered or amended in the following manner: Any proposal to alter or amend, which shall have been introduced in writing, duly considered and approved by a majority vote at an annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention, shall be referred to the next annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention for final consideration and action and, if approved and adopted at such next annual meeting by two-thirds of each Order, voting separately, and concurred in by the Bishop, such amendment shall become effective at the time designated in the resolution of adoption.

Proposed change to Constitution Article IV, Lay Delegates

Submitted by: Youth Steering Committee

Contact: Victoria Hoppes, victoria@waycrossccc.org

Additions are underlined.

Lay Delegates

(b) Each Parish and Organized Mission shall be entitled to representation by lay delegates at any such Convention, the number to be based on communicant strength as defined in the current parochial report in accordance with the following table:

Any number not to exceed 150	2 delegates
151-300	3 delegates
301-450	4 delegates
451-600	5 delegates
Over 600	6 delegates

Plus one delegate for each 200 communicants in excess of 600.

Such delegates should be elected by several Parishes and Organized Missions of the Diocese in accordance with such method of selection as the by-laws or custom of such Parishes and Organized Missions shall provide.

(c) A Youth Delegation will be present on the floor of Diocesan Convention. This delegation shall be selected as follows:

One youth delegate and one alternate shall be elected by each of the organized areas of the Diocese at its first meeting following the preceding Diocesan Convention. These areas shall have the authority to fill any vacancies that occur in these positions.

Two at-large youth delegates and two at-large alternates shall be appointed by the Bishop with advice from relevant Diocesan committees. The Bishop shall have the authority to fill any vacancies that may occur in these positions.

A person qualifies as a “youth delegate” if, in addition to being a member of a Parish or Organized Mission of the Diocese, that person is attending high school, or its equivalent.

EXPLANATION: Currently, two youth from the Diocese are informally selected (in most cases, through the Youth Steering Committee) to have seat and voice on the floor of Diocesan Convention. As we continue to make Convention a place where all members of the Diocese can engage in the life and work of this Diocese, we seek to formally welcome a delegation of young people to the floor of our legislative sessions with seat, voice, and vote. Creating this delegation will help our young people further grow as current and future leaders of the Church.