

# **Executive Council Meeting**

September 19, 2020

Zoom call

*These are the official minutes, approved at the October 24, 2020 meeting.*

**Members Present:** Dr. Mary Ellen Brown, Ms. Lara Dreyer, Mr. Dick Frey, Ms. Rose Anne Grasty, the Rev. Frank Impicicche, Mr. Isaiah Kuch, Mr. Michael McGraw, the Rev. Rebecca Nickel, the Rev. Jan Oller, the Rev. C. Davies Reed, Ms. Mariann Scott, Ms. Susan Steigerwald, Mr. Sean Sullivan, the Rev. Holly Zaher, Canon Brendan O’Sullivan-Hale, Canon Kristin White, Dr. Laurel Cornell, the Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Ms. Janet Brinkworth.

**Members Absent:** the Rev. Christopher Beasley, Mr. Jeff Brinkmann, Mr. John Steele.

The meeting began at 10:04am with Morning Prayer led by Bishop Jennifer.

Janet Brinkworth confirmed those present by a roll call.

## **Organizing for Business**

Canon Kristin reviewed the mission and Executive Council norms. She also reminded us of tools to use during a zoom call including staying on mute unless speaking and using the “raise hand” option when you have a question.

## **2021 Budget**

Bishop Jennifer indicated that there is a lot of work in this budget and thanked the Rev. C. Davies Reed, Dr. Laurel Cornell, and Canon Brendan O’Sullivan-Hale for their work. C. Davies began the discussion reminding the Council that the draft budget was sent in advance. He indicated that the draft sent to Council was approximately \$75,000 out of balance and asked Canon Brendan to describe the proposal to balance it. Canon Brendan noted that the original 2020 budget included the realization of \$75,000 of the appreciation from the investment of the Pathways funds. When the stock market crashed early in the pandemic, that appreciation disappeared, so the line was zeroed out. With the recovery of the stock market, the appreciation is available again, so he recommends Council add that line back to the 2021 budget. The document was presented for official approval of a budget for 2021, with the change recommended. The Bishop then invited conversation. A discussion followed with multiple questions including questions of clarification, some specific budget lines were mentioned and received further clarification. There was additional conversation of how some of the calculations were made as they relate to future planning. A vote was taken to accept the newest draft of the budget for 2021. The vote PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

*Took a quick break.*

## **Diocesan Convention Update**

Ms. Susan Steigerwald, as co-chair of the planning committee, advised the Council of the most recent update of details. She indicated that there is a need for nominations for offices, also not all parishes have sent in their delegate’s names. She mentioned the online workshops which will begin October 7. There was some discussion and questions about other convention details.

## **Leadership Updates**

**Bishop Jennifer:** The Bishop indicated that she has been very involved lately in the broader church due to committees she works on, as well as with a recent House of Bishops (HOB) meeting. She spoke of some changes occurring due to the pandemic and spoke of the work of the HOB Theology committee (she is a

member). She commented on fall events and those changes, that some churches are now meeting in person. She is also looking at a revision/update to the policies for regathering for worship inside church buildings. There are two outdoor confirmation services coming in October, one in Carmel on October 10 and one in New Albany on October 17. There is also some work being done to encourage voter engagement and participation including helping people get to polling places – and providing spaces for prayer.

**Canon Kristin:** She has been working to launch a newly developed Racial Healing & Reconciliation team. Bishop Jennifer has appointed nine people to serve on this team. Bishop Jennifer has charged the group with developing a training program for diocesan leaders and those in the ordination process, to be a hub for diocese- and church-wide initiatives for racial healing and reconciliation, and to adapt or adopt A Covenant to Root out Racism written by Bishop Deon Johnson of Missouri in our diocesan plans. Regarding transitions, Trinity Bloomington's new rector begins October 1. The Cathedral search for a new dean has moved forward. St Andrew's parish profile is now live. We are seeking an interim chaplain at IU Canterbury. Also, Kristin will serve as facilitator for a virtual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) retreat next weekend with participants from across the country.

**Canon Brendan:** He announced that he has now met with 28 congregations over the past six weeks regarding financial matters. Brendan reports that they are less anxious than he anticipated, and there are many who have healthy finances. He thinks that people understand the current situation well which helps. He has also spent a good deal of time on the 2021 budget.

The Bishop agreed that people seem to be adapting to the current need for doing things virtually and staying safe. She also mentioned that things continue to move forward in the midst of the pandemic and one hopeful sign was the need to add a second confirmation service.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Two errors were mentioned in the Minutes of the August 18, 2020 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes with the errors corrected was made by Mary Ellen Brown. With a second by Dick Frey. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY with corrections.

### **Financial**

The July and August budget updates were sent in advance to the Council by Canon Brendan. Income and expenses have both generally trended better than expected. He reminded the Council that the Standing Committee is in conversation with Trinity, Anderson. He has answered some questions from churches needing help with the new way to do business, or in looking toward the future.

Laurel Cornell sent her Treasurer's Report in advance. She mentioned a recent meeting of the Investment & Finance committee. A motion was made to receive the Treasurer's Report by C. Davies Reed, with a second by Frank Impiciche. Some questions and a discussion followed. The motion PASSED for Audit.

### **Old Business**

Canon Brendan mentioned Project Home Indy. This agency serves young unwed mothers by helping with delivery and life skills. They are interested in affiliating with us as a cooperating ministry to access quality health insurance.

### **New Business**

Canon Brendan addressed a question on Canon revisions for upcoming convention. He indicated this is mostly a "clean-up" of language and new circumstances (i.e. "deanery to neighborhood"). Lara Dreyer requested that campus ministry be included as a future agenda item in order to understand this ministry more clearly.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned with a prayer at 12:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Janet Brinkworth