

Episcopal Diocese of Western New York
Diocesan Council
November 8, 2007
Diocesan Offices
Minutes of Meeting

Voting members present: Bishop Garrison, Robert Arnold, Sarah Buxton-Smith, Nancy Consedine, Ann Dutton, Owen Gould, Steven Metcalfe, Gloria Payne-Carter, Margaret Rose, Dan Weir, Ellie Wraight, Roland Brown

Voting members unable to attend: Martin Gregg, Isaac Ihiasota, Michael Lonto, Colleen O'Connor, Patrick White, Jennifer Pierce

Total present: 12

The Bishop called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Opening devotions were offered by the Bishop.

The Bishop welcomed the new members that were present. Following introductions, a brief orientation of new members was presented by the Bishop.

Nominations were opened for the election of Vice-Chair of Council. Nancy Consedine was nominated and elected unanimously.

Nominations were opened for the election of Secretary of Council. Lorraine Hapeman was nominated and elected unanimously.

The consent agenda, including the minutes of the October 11, 2007 meeting and the Bishop's calendar, was presented. A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Reports from Deanery Council meetings: The Southern Erie, Central Erie, Northern Erie, Cattaraugus, Genesee, Chautauqua and Eastern Erie deaneries shared information about what happened at their recent meetings.

Convention Follow-up: It was felt that it was a good convention. Sarah Buxton-Smith suggested that we need to find a way for churches to share their stories including the challenges with each other. The Bishop asked that this be the theme for the 2008 convention. The use of the power-point was fine for most of the convention business but it was suggested that music needs to be printed.

Revitalization Plan Teams: Bob Arnold was pleased with the convention's reception of the Future's Report. The challenge of the report is now before the Diocese for implementation. The Recruitment Team, chaired by Lois Carter and Earle King, has the task to populate the other teams with people that have interest and skills for a specific team. The other members of the Recruitment Team are: Sammy Cutlip (youth rep), Harry Grace (Northern Erie), Cathy Basile

(Cattaraugus & Chautauqua), Wygenia Miles (Central Erie), Dan Fournier (Eastern Erie), Pat Upson (Southern Erie), Marty Gregg (Niagara), and Joann Vestyne (Genesee).

The Charter Management Team will oversee the program of the teams and keep the lines of communication open between teams and Diocesan Council.

The Financial Report was presented. It was noted that the fair share payments are on target. Steven Metcalfe asked the Bishop to give a written summary of the diocesan staff with their tasks.

Communication with congregations: Steven reminded Council that pledges will be coming in with letters that will need a response by Council. The Bishop asked for a small group of volunteers to work on responses as the letters come to Council. Dan Weir and Sarah Buxton-Smith volunteered.

As a way to bring the Diocese together, Owen Gould suggested that all the churches in the Diocese worship outside on the Sunday closest to anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. This could be done by bringing the people of a deanery or geographical area together. Great idea - will need organization and planning. Plan for August 24, 2008.

Dan Weir receives monthly reports from Sarah Harrington, the Youth Representative for the Niagara Deanery funded by a grant from Council. Sarah will be invited to the January 2008 Council meeting.

The December 13th meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine B. Hapeman
Secretary

(These minutes were transcribed from audio tape and notes taken by Nancy Consedine.)