

Minutes
For the Regular Meeting of the Diocese of El Camino Real
Standing Committee
Thursday, February 14, 2008

Present for this meeting

Members: Joe Chouinard, Patti Barrett, Chris Creed, Linda Taylor, Mary Morrison, Jerry Witherspoon, Jeff Diehl

Guests: Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves

The meeting opened at 10:03 AM. Linda Taylor, president, presided and Joe Chouinard, secretary, kept minutes of the meeting.

Opening Prayers & Scripture

Mary Morrison opened with prayer, hymns, and scripture.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with minor corrections.

Approval of January minutes

The minutes for the regular meeting of January 10, 2008, were accepted with corrections.

Review of Action Items from Previous Meetings

Joe reviewed the action items from the January 10th meeting. The following items remain in process:

- Linda – to follow up on the status of the Instituto
- Linda – to continue to develop the Bishop's position description

Bishop's Report

Bishop Mary announced that Ed Markham was currently in surgery and asked for our prayers. The Bishop is also working on the official portrait and requested suggestions for a location. She met yesterday with Brian Nordwick and Keith Brown to begin developing job descriptions for two positions: a Family and Youth Ministries Coordinator and a Canon for Intergenerational Ministries (or some similar title). She would eventually like to find someone local, if possible, for the second position that is both bilingual and bicultural. She also sees this position working with the missions, similar to the Canon to the Ordinary in the past. She would like to see the two positions filled within a year, and we would review the effectiveness of those positions after a three year period. She envisions working closely with this person and Brian Nordwick as Canon Administrator to form the basic structure of the administrative portion of the diocese.

Bishop Mary then moved to the Visioning Days. They were successful from her point of view and she will be recommending using the lessons learned for Eastertide meditations.

Bishop Mary also brought up the need for a mutual ministry review between the Standing Committee and herself. Ideally this should be done at six months and then annually thereafter. Jeff was assigned to work with Susan Altig on developing and scheduling the Mutual Ministry

Review (we will need a full day). We will try to use Rob Voyle to facilitate if possible. She would like to discuss the issue of “bishop wellness” at the mutual ministry review. Bishop Mary stated that she is part of a collegial group with several other bishops for support, but physical distance makes getting together difficult.

Bishop Mary has also been working on the upcoming retreat and she stressed that this will be a spirituality day, not a strategic planning session. Bishop Mary would like to have such an event annually.

She next moved to the BOT position vacated by Barbara Miller. She has asked Rob Sommers from Epiphany, Marina (Monterey Deanery) to fill the spot and has sent an e-mail to all present BOT members announcing the appointment. Chris requested her consideration in seeking concurrence from the SC, in accordance with the canons, prior to making public announcement on such appointments in the future. Bishop Mary indicated that the direction to appoint came from the Chancellor and agrees that we need to work together carefully in the future to avoid inadvertent mistakes such as this. It was then *MSC to concur with the decision to appoint Rob Sommers to the vacated position on the BOT.*

The Bishop then provided a handout on common themes she heard from the visioning days (a copy of which is attached to this report). The handout contains two columns: the first is titled Mechanics, and the second is labeled Dynamics. She reviewed the items in each column, suggesting that we incorporate these into our planning and governance of the diocese. Linda thinks the items in this handout can be made a part of the Bishop’s position description she is currently crafting.

Administrator’s Report

Brian was not present and Linda reported on his behalf. All Saints’, Watsonville is considering leasing a portion of its land (long term lease) for the construction of a low income housing project. It was noted that this would be an encumbrance on the property and would eventually come to the SC for approval. With regard to deployment, Joe reported that the vestry of St. James’, Paso Robles has decided not to call either of the final two candidates for rector, but is working closely with the Bishop and Brian on developing a new list of candidates for consideration. Hopefully this new phase of the search process will be short.

Executive Session Minutes

Minutes from the executive session(s) of the last meeting were circulated and reviewed by all members. Due to their confidential nature, they are not published for the public record.

President’s Report

Linda had nothing to report.

Board of Trustees

Chris provided a written report by e-mail, a copy of which is attached. He noted that there is general agreement among members that we want to phase out the three remaining custodial accounts held for missions.

Commission on Ministry

Patti noted that COM has not met since the last SC meeting, but will be meeting next week. Jerry indicated that Michael Reed has recovered to the point where he will re-enter the GOE process.

Department of Missions

Joe stated that he was not present for the DOM meeting held last Saturday, February 9th, and has no report. Bishop Mary indicated that she has asked Jen Ezell to start working on the issue of the custodial accounts from the DOM perspective.

Finance

Jerry stated that we have no end-of-year financials yet. They will be taking it up next week at their next meeting.

Foundation

Jerry indicated that the foundation academy took place on the 1st and 2nd of February and was well received. They had 62 participants and the feed back has been positive.

Bishop's position description

Linda continues to work on the position description and a rough draft has been e-mailed to member of the SC this morning. She requested review and comments on the document.

Status of the Instituto

With regard to this item, Linda indicated that she has no additional information at this point, but will continue to try to determine if the Instituto is still functioning, is in stasis, or has been abandoned.

February Retreat

Linda reiterated that the retreat will be held on Thursday, February 28th in the Aromas environs. Directions to the location have been forwarded in e-mail format by Brian.

Consents

MSC to consent to the election of a Bishop Coadjutor for the Diocese of South Dakota.

MSC to consent to the ordination of Stephen Taylor Lane as Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Maine.

Correspondence

Regular correspondence to the Standing Committee is received, circulated for review by all members, and made a part of the permanent file with these minutes.

The Standing Committee received Letters Dimissory from the Diocese of California for the Rev. Ann Fuller Wall dated December 12, 2007.

Executive Session

The Standing Committee met in executive session from 10:34 AM to 10:49 AM.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Chouinard, Secretary