

## **Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago**

### **Executive Summary of the Standing Committee (SC) Meeting of June 14, 2023**

#### **In person at St. James Commons**

Present: Miguel Briones, Daphne Cody, Toni Daniels, Jeannette DeFriest, Gerald Floyd, Wes Kimes, Bishop Paula Clark

We shared check-ins during a meal together. Then, a quorum being established, Toni called the business meeting to order at 6:28 pm. Miguel offered an opening prayer.

#### **Minutes**

Jeannette moved and Wes seconded the approval of the minutes and the executive summary of the regular monthly meeting of May 10, 2023. *Motion carried.*

#### **Bishop's Report**

First, Bishop Clark followed up on the development of the "Selling or Mortgaging Parish Property" Guide. She and Andrea Mysen have looked at the draft, and Andrea will come to a subsequent SC meeting to tell us the next steps.

Second, Bishop Clark gave an update about Trinity Church, Chicago. The bishop is working to appoint a replacement for temporary warden Robert Neal. The appointed temporary vestry at Trinity is working through Trinity's financials and is in communication with its banking institutions. Tom Camell is working on an estimate for renovating the Trinity Church building. Toni asked if accessibility is part of Tom's evaluation and recommended that the draft of the "Selling or Mortgaging Parish Property" Guide be updated to include accessibility considerations as a matter of course.

Third, Bishop Clark described the increasing number of episcopal acts over the springtime and anticipates further proliferation of them: particularly confirmations and ordinations. Bishop Wayne Hoagland, a bishop in good standing with the Presiding Bishop and the House of Bishops, is currently living in our diocese and serving in the role of Interim Rector of St. Chrysostom's, Chicago. Though Bishop Hoagland would not hold a diocesan position, Bishop Clark will from time to time invite him to assist her in sacramental acts at specific events. The SC members agreed that this makes sense at this time.

Fourth, Bishop Clark communicated that she is working on reorganizing staff roles. More to come on this process, but as an example: changing the language of some of the staff roles to church terms ("Canon for X") rather than using business terms.

Fifth, Bishop Clark raised up her recent conversation with Toni about the SC's proposal to do some public relations work to raise awareness around the diocese about the SC and, by extension, about other commissions and committees. The bishop discussed this with her staff, and, for now, the communications staff people plan to feature in newsletters the various committees and commissions group by group. In addition, the bishop would like some of us to

volunteer to come to a Zoom being planned where people could attend to learn about roles and responsibilities of elected and appointed offices in our diocesan governance. Wes asked about the status and role of the Nominating Committee, and it was noted that the Nominating Committee's mandate needs to be clarified.

### **President's Report**

Toni reported that this month she attended her first meeting as SC representative to the Trustees of the Endowment Fund for our diocese. She provided the SC with some basic figures about what the trustees will be presenting to the Budget Committee regarding money available for 2024's budget. Toni's report is in the SC Dropbox. Discussion followed among the SC members about the need for more gender and racial diversity on committees such as the Trustees of the Endowment Fund.

### **Consents on episcopal elections:**

There are no consents before us this month.

### **Budget Committee:**

Wes is serving as the SC representative on the Budget Committee. In preparation for its first meeting, Wes asked the bishop if there would be budget impacts from the staff reorganization she had discussed previously. The bishop will be in contact with the Budget Committee about that. Wes also asked if the proposed sale of property at 65 E. Huron Street would have any budget impacts for 2024. The bishop reported that the current step in that process is her close work with the leadership of St. James Cathedral to develop a plan on this matter. More to come as that develops.

### **Rules of meeting and business ("Group Norms")**

#### **(Diocese of Chicago's Constitution & Canons, Article 10, Section 3)**

As we had tabled this work for a few meetings, Wes picked back up our work from spring. To tie up, he asked us to consider what we might recommend to our successors this coming December when they come together as a new SC. Conversation followed, and Wes will compile our ideas into a final summary that we (and perhaps our successors) can use.

### **Next Meeting & Adjournment**

No regular meeting in July.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM on Zoom.

Toni adjourned our meeting at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daphne Cody, Secretary