

MINUTES OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL/ FOUNDATION BOARD JOINT MEETING

JUNE 1-2, 2007, ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CASPER, WY.

Meeting was called to order at 12:50 PM by Chancellor, Wallace Johnson. Those in attendance included: for the Council: Bruce Caldwell, Cliff Moore, Bob Spencer, Renee Joy, Nancy Moon, Phil Washburn, Joan Dunrud, Tracy Swanson, Rick Veit, Patricia Coleman, Dorothy Taylor, Sally Megeath and Steve Aaron; for the Foundation: Bruce Caldwell, Phil Washburn, Nina Walker, Meg Nickles, Tracy Swanson, and Mary Caucutt. Others in attendance were: John Masters, Jessica Moffit, Jackie Hotle and Linda Hernandez.

The Rev. Megan Nickles, serving as Chaplain, led us in an opening exercise.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed. Motion to approve, Tracy Swanson, 2nd, Nancy Moon, Carried.

STATE OF THE DIOCESE—Bishop Bruce Caldwell

The Diocese is doing well. Our budget is divided about equally between money spent on Operations and money spent on Mission. Bishop is working toward increasing the Mission of the Diocese. His vision is for the Diocese to be moving toward the Congregations instead of Congregations moving toward the Diocese. There's a need to improve communications. We need to move more toward Regional workshops. Diocese is maintaining well and poised for more mission in the future.

The Bishop also reported that he will be attending an Anglican Conference in New Orleans in September. All Bishops in the US are attempting to raise \$10,000 from their respective Dioceses to take to New Orleans—goal being to raise \$1,000,000 for a relief fund for the hurricane area.

A SENSE OF VISION EXERCISE—Mary Caucutt conducted an interactive exercise on discerning “where we should head” and learning to make time for what is “important, but not urgent”.

OFFICE RELOCATION—John Masters

Progress is being made. Interim offices have been established at St. Stephens, Casper. A new secretary and a new accountant have been hired. Erica Anderson will continue until the end of June. Gail Faulkner has already left the office.

A suitable building for an office has been located. An independent appraisal is being done. If this building cannot be purchased, then one will be leased or rented. Goal is to be in a new location by September 1

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY GROUP—John Masters

Communications Advisory Group is an ad hoc group that has been helping John Masters with a project to ultimately improve internet communications within the Diocese. Goal is to be able to have more teleconference type meetings, to have a larger and better Web Site. The hope is to be able to cut down on the number of face-to-face meetings and conduct more business by computer and phone. John has received a proposal from the website design group called 612 Interactive owned by Patrick Kuntz (Patrick is the Bishop's son-in-law. Let the Minutes show that the Bishop recused himself from this discussion)

Attached to File Copy of these minutes is detailed proposal for Web Site Development and E-Mail Newsletter Development presented by 612 Interactive.

A Resolution was put forth by Wally Johnson to direct John Masters to work with 612 to make their proposal clearer, with firm costs and a contract. John is also to work with the Finance Committee to get future budget consideration. Resolution seconded by Cliff Moore. Carried. The Bishop abstained.

A motion was made by Tracy Swanson to make the current Communications Advisory Group into a Communications Committee. Rick Veit, 2nd. Carried.

INVESTMENT REVIEW—John Masters went over the Foundation Investments with the Council/Foundation Members present. Detailed report attached to File Copy of these minutes.

GRANTING PROCESS—John Masters. The granting process for Wind and Wings money seems to be quite complicated. John was asked by Council to review and simplify process. Question was, “Should Wind and Wings Grant process be funneled thru the Foundation? Several of the Council Members are also on the Foundation Committee. Suggestion was to make sure that there is at least one dual member on the Foundation Grants Committee. Wind and Wings grants need to be processed as presented instead of once a year. Keep Wind and Wings and Sargent Foundation grants from going to the same entity. Foundation Grants Committee needs a screening process.

After much discussion, and Motion was made that the Council approve guide lines as presented with suggested modifications, that being, the Grants committee would review and then process grants thru to Council. The Council suggests that the Grants Committee consider authorizing an appropriate staff member who will be working with the Congregations to develop Youth initiatives to act on behalf of the Council with grants under \$5,000. Grants over \$5,000 can be approved by the Committee on behalf of the Council and thereafter be submitted to Council for final ratification. Motion Carried.

H. R CAMP FOUNDATION—John Masters.

There are 11 Members on the HR Camp Board. Pat Walsh reported to John that at least 135 kids are signed up for camp as of 5/30/07.

Mess Hall needs to be replaced. Shower House has been repaired and refurbished inside. Other improvements have also been made including work on utilities and new well. John asked question. "Should the titles to the HR Camp vehicles be transferred to the HR CAMP Foundation? And also other equipment? Cliff Moore Moved that the vehicles and equipment be transferred to the Camp Foundation, but that the land remain with the Diocesan Council. Motion 2nd . Carried.

As Part 2 of the above Motion, Tracy Swanson moved that the Council should draw up a lease with HR Camp for use of the land. 2nd Mary Caucutt. Carried. The above moves will help with liability.

John Master also stated that communications with congregations across the Diocese concerning HR Camp activities, etc. need to be improved. He would like for each congregation to provide a contact person to receive HR materials and communications.

BUDGET REVIEW. Tracy Swanson , John Masters and Dick Waggener

First Draft of the 2008 Budget was presented and discussed. Budget is currently a deficit budget. Committee is working toward a balanced budget.

John Masters that the Auditors have made some suggestions to make our bookkeeping clearer and cleaner.

1. Need to have a written agreement between the Diocese and St. Stephens Church as to who will be responsible for what during the time the Interim Office is housed at St. Stephens. Wally Johnson said he will draw up such an agreement.
2. Auditors also want a formal note with Wright Church for the money loaned them by the Diocese for their new church. Jon Masters asks for 20 year loan with interest at 6% and a 5 year balloon. Will need Wright to sign the note.

Treasurer Dick Waggener made a motion that the firm of Lovelett, Skogen and Assocs. Be accepted as our official auditors. Motion 2nd. Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS—John Masters has found that the Diocesan Office Handbook for Employees is out of date and needs to be redone.. John Masters and Wally Johnson will take on the task of updating said book.

MEETING CONTINUED JUNE 2 Chaplain Meg Nickles led group in an opening worship.

Mary Caucutt reported that the Foundation Board had met briefly last evening and appointed Phil Washburn, Mary Caucutt, Nina Walker, Linda Anderson, and Dan Land to the Grants Committee. Mary intends inviting Dan and Linda on behalf of the Foundation Bd; she also noted that Linda and Phil are also members of the Council "formally" insuring that the two organizations stay in close touch.

RETIRED CLERGY COMMITTEE—Bob Spencer, Chaplain to Retired Clergy.

There are 30+ retired clergy/spouses in Wyoming at the present time. Bob's Committee concentrates on being a contact for the retired clergy to keep them up to date on happenings in the Diocese. To help them prepare for retirement. To notify others in a time of crisis. To keep the Bishop up to date on retired clergy, including who among them would be willing and able to do supply work. He would also like to do a Retired Clergy Convention once every 5 years or so. He also asked that his Committee have a line in the '08 budget in the amount of \$1850 for committee expenses.

Mary Caucutt asked that Bob's committee also help retired clergy understand the direction the Diocese is talking at this time—namely Shared Ministry.

John Masters introduced the new accountant, Linda Hernandez.

Dorothy Taylor made an observation that it will be very important for the Diocese to make sure that ALL the people know about the office move to Casper. John Masters stated that information will be sent to all Parish Office in the next 6 weeks with new address and phone#'s.

Dorothy felt a letter should go out to everyone on the Spirit of Wyoming mailing address with a resume and pictures of the new secretary and new accountant. She was disappointed that the "Spirit" had not been sent lately. John explained that during the move time, the office is too busy and understaffed to take on the extra work of putting out the "Spirit" at this time. He promised Dorothy that people would be duly notified of the move. This move was part of the Strategic Plan accepted by Convention last fall.

Rick Veit asked the Bishop if there would be a way to revamp the Regional Confirmations so that people would not have to travel more than 1 hour from their home church to attend a Confirmation Service. Bishop said that he would consider his proposal.

Church at Encampment has asked Diocese for \$500 to help pay their building insurance. After discussion, Rick Veit moved that we pay the \$500 this year, but that an insurance review also be done on all small churches. 2nd Steve Aaron. Carried.

SHARED MINISTRY WORKSHOP CONTINUED Concentrating on the areas of Learning-Discerning – Healing. Purpose of this weekend's workshop is to help the Leaders of this Diocese better understand how to help Parishes develop a culture of Baptismal Theology. Workshop led by Mary Caucutt

ST. MATTHEWS DELEGATION

Robert Waggener presented St. Matthew's proposal for Hunter Hall to the Council

(Details of Proposal are attached to File Copy) Delegation from St. Matthews were Robert Waggener, Marilyn Pedrick, Mary Naumann, Leslie Waggener. They presented an outline of progress made and a plan for the future of Hunter Hall.

They invited the Diocese of be partners in 'discernment' and development for use of Hunter Hall . Their proposal covered the following 1) Diocese have up to 3 members on a joint Task Force. 2) Diocese fund ½ of Hunter Hall, as in the immediate past, up to \$18K in the '08 budget 3) Funds available in a Hunter Hall Special Account equal to \$23K 4) Pray about the question, “What does God have in mind for Hunter Hall?”

Historically, the Diocese and St. Matthews have each put in \$18,000 per year for the upkeep of HH.

Bishop Bruce stated that we need to do this project together and asked that we support the St. Matthews proposal. Mary Caucutt asked if the \$18,000 would be forever or would it eventually end?

After much discussion, Bishop Bruce stated that what was really needed is “space for discernment process to work” If a shared ministry is found for HH then the Diocese could share in its upkeep. In the meantime, providing the \$18,000 would provide the “space” needed at this time to get a Task Force in place and investigate possibilities.

Wally Johnson recommended that the St. Matthews proposal be accepted and that we get on with the business of the task force. Bob Spencer so moved and Rick Veit 2nd. Carried. Bishop Bruce will make Diocesan appointments to the Task Force.

Meeting Adjourned.

Chaplain Meg Nickles led a Eucharist service to close.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dunrud, Secretary