

**SE Deanery Convocation  
Juneau Alaska  
04/03/08 to 04/05/08**

04/03/08- Minutes not taken by the Secretary.

**04/04/08- Second business day**

0935- The meeting was called to order by Dean Davis. He opened with a summary of events since last year's convention. He reported that not much has transpired, encouraged communications and presented the following information:

No change in agenda (copies of the agenda were not provided to the delegates).

Appointed Carole Knuth as secretary for this meeting, filling the position vacated by Scott Donaldson.

Appointed Mim McConnell & Pat Spartz to chair nominations committee for the following seats:

1. Nominee for the SE clergy seat on the Standing Committee (election to take place at the January 2009 Diocesan Convention).
2. Society of Saint Simeon and Saint Anna
3. Lay nominee for the SE Lay seat on the Standing Committee- Barbara Learmont nominated. (Election to take place at the January 2009 Diocesan Convention)
4. New treasurer- Jane Bolima to fill in

Treasurers report distributed (unable to attach as an electronic copy not provided).

Noted that no resolutions or bylaws needed changing.

Offered a hearty thank you to Bishop Kimsey for his participation.

Distributed the financial report.

Distributed minutes from last year's Deanery Convention which was held in Wrangell.

M- Mim McConnell S- Mtr. Dawn Allen- Herron to accept minutes.  
Accepted unanimously.

The following reports were given & discussed:

**Standing Committee Report** (given by Barbara Learmonth & Mtr. Dawn A-H):

Mtr. Dawn is new president following Fr. David Elsensohn's resignation.

She expressed appreciation to Fr. Dave for his service on the committee.

She reported that this is a transition time for the church. The Canons describe the Committee's role in the absence of a Bishop, the group has grown and learned thru the year and they are functioning to fill that role.

They are developing a policy manual for new members.

At their last meeting, they passed a policy change toward volunteers who come into the diocese to work on facilities to ensure their safety and to protect the diocese. They need to provide own liability insurance and have safe church practice training.

Discussion was held on this policy change. It was clarified that this policy does not affect those who use the facilities of the church. Ginny Doctor reminded all that a volunteer application is available at the diocesan web site.

Mtr. Doctor expressed concern with communications between the Committee & congregations.

She reminded Deanery members that any property changes need to go before the property committee.

Several Deanery members expressed frustration with their interactions with the committee.

Mtr. Dawn reported that the Right Reverend Bishop Mark Campaign continues to make progress and information was distributed. Discussion was held on wording of some of the campaign titles and the history of how the titles were decided upon.

**Search Committee Report** (given by member Mtr. Hunter Silides):

They gathered in June at Camp Challenge. The Diocese had surveyed the wishes of the congregations, compiled these and made a profile. She reported that the general consensus is for there to be a magnetic relationship between God and the new Bishop, visit congregations more often and for the Bishop to be able to travel more often.

The nominations are open for the new Bishop from 3/1/08 to 4/30/08.

## **Parish Reports:**

St. Michaels and All Angels- presented by Mtr. Jan Hotze. She reported on Lent & Easter- they used a game from Bishop Mark. Shrove Tues. was held at night. On Christmas they used an 1850's carpenter's book of church plans to dream about their own building (they have land but no building yet).

St. Philip's- presented by Mtr. Paula Sampson.

Faith into Tomorrow

Reported on upcoming camp

Fr. Ian reported on a new book (*Diversified*) which he authored a chapter.

1140- lunch

1340 reconvened for the third business meeting

Mildred Boesser gave an update & reminders about the Millennium Development Goals.

1. Eight goals that were adapted by all nations in the UN which are hoped to be achieved by 2015.
2. The Episcopal church adopted these goals on their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
3. Progress reports are given to members in the national newsletter.
4. She reported on progress of the Goals.

Discussion and reflection given on goals and progress.

Every member of the Deanery and guests were introduced.

## **Budget Report:**

Copy of budget not available during initial discussion.

A motion was made by Fr. Ian to form a committee to address the will of the Deanery on budget items, sort out the budget & funds & report back to this group the next day.

Seconded by Mtr. Dawn.

Approved

Discussion on how assessments are made for each congregation and what is to be done with the money that is in the account now. Why assess more when present funds not being used?

Budget data was accessed from disc & distribute to meeting members later in the day.

Committee members are- Fr. Dave (chair), Mary Alice, Mike Reed & Alan Rockwood.

Motion made by Fr. Ian & seconded by Mtr. Dawn that the budget base plan be based on previous reported (2006) membership numbers.

Approved

Discussion- Suzanne Krull reported that '07 report due 5/1- 3 congregations have submitted already.

### **Presentation from Diocesan office:**

Rev. Canon Ginny Doctor reported that at the last convention she promised that the office would not be stagnate in the absence of a Bishop. They have accomplished the following:

1. Increased communications within and outside the office.  
They have had resignations within the office but figured out how to communicate thru Good News.  
Epiphany came out at year's end  
Have a goal to improve communications even more.
2. Updating the mailing list
3. Planning for initiative for women leaders.  
Have a grant for training.  
Looking for help from each Deanery
4. Reminded us that training money is available- just ask, spread the word to our congregations.

She reported on her new duties in a Bishop's absence.

What recognizes that has fallen thru the cracks is licensing of new lay ministers- being addressed.

She reported on the Advent Appeal- the goal is \$100,000, have received ~\$60,000. After the goal is reached, they will be able to write a plan for the Abundance Clergy Pension plan.

She reported exciting news- will be hiring a new part-time secretary located in Fairbanks & a part-time Diocesan youth coordinator located to be

determined. They are taking applications thru May.

Reported that a high school camp will be held in San Antonio this summer & each diocese has \$2,000 to send youth. The registration fee is \$480.

Anyone have youth interested in your congregation?

She is the liaison for the Commission on Ministries. They are struggling in drafting a Canon as to what basic competencies and proficiencies in the SE Deanery should be. The Commission is asking help with this and requesting that a SE Deanery committee be formed (no discussion was held & a committee was not formed).

Reported on anti-racism team -- looking for new members/trainers and antiracism Sunday is the first Sunday in September.

Reported on Dancing With the Spirit program (see article in Epiphany). This is a gospel/blue grass music camp. It brings communities together. She believes it to be successful. The long range plan is to offer it everywhere in Diocese. The benefits are thought to be great. Grant funds are being applied for to help with its goals.

Opened the floor to discussion:

Fr. Ian wondered about how Fr. Dave's standing committee seat is to be filled? Mtr. Dawn responded that the standing committee appoints someone.

Glenda wanted to know about committee for commission on ministry & volunteered to be on it.

Motion made by Fr. Dave to form a committee of 3 people to help clarify what competency & proficiency means for ministry in SE Deanery.

Seconded by Mtr. Dawn.

Discussion held on examples.

Alternative motion made by Mike McDonough to form a committee to assist the Commission on Ministry to define terms of the National Canons with respect to qualifications for ordained ministry in SE Alaska.

Discussion held to clarify that intent of the motion- what competencies are needed for ministry in SE Alaska?

New motion accepted & passed unanimously.

The new committee was formed with the following appointed as members: Allen Rockwood, Glenda Rice & Fr. Wilson Valentine (chair). Their task will be to work with the SE Deanery members of the COMM in supporting the committee's work.

Suzanne Krull- diocesan administrator

Distributed approved minutes of 2007 Convention, each congregation's pledges & 2006 pledge analysis, pledge giving as a % of income (a gentle reminder as to what is recommended- 25% of operating income) and noted that no parish has reached that goal and a report on congregational support of diocesan operating budget (all attached).

Reminded us that the next convention is 1/09 which is an unusual time so plan travel funds accordingly.

Parish report from St. John's presented by Lana Palmer.

Meeting adjourned at 1737.

Saturday April 5, 2008- called to order @ 0925

The Nomination & Election Committee announced that Fr. Bob was elected as the Southeast Deanery nominee for the clergy position and that Barbara Learmonth for the lay seats on the Standing Committee. These names will be forwarded to the Convention for consideration.

Motion made by Fr. Dave & seconded by Fr. Ian. All approved.

**Budget Committee Report** (presented by Fr. Dave-chair):

Discussion began with focus of the Deanery and suggestions that more content be incorporated instead of all business. Also that Deanery function be less mysterious to members and congregations. An appeal was made to take action this year so that congregations can see activity.

The committee made the following suggestions:

1. Continue to build community & strengthen the churches faith through our annual convocation.
2. Continue to support and foster the care of clergy through clergy retreats.
3. Establish a youth and camping program through rental of a facility run by another organization- someone is needed to organize this- no volunteers.
4. Foster new local ministries thru grants
5. Establish a travel fund so that representatives from each parish can meet with the upcoming Bishop candidates.

A discussion was held on the budget items, funds available, restrictive funds and proposed 2008 budget (see attached).

Motion made by Mtr. Dawn to accept the budget as presented by the budget committee. Seconded by Mim. Approved.

Marge Byrd advocated for a Native Convocation in Wrangell or Ketchikan but that more money would be needed to hold it. Fr. Ron offered to help. Motion made by Fr. Dave, seconded by Mtr. Dawn to move \$1000 from the restricted youth fund to the Native Convocation fund. Approved.

Motion made by Fr. Dave, seconded by Mtr. Dawn to establish a committee to work on the Native Convocation. Passed. Committee consists of Fr. Ron, Marge, Chris, Fr. Ian, Mtr. Paula, Jen H., Mtr. Dawn, Betty and Pat Spartz.

Further budget discussion- Fr. Bob advocated to continue clergy retreats. Mtr. Paula advocated for the budget committee to continue meeting thru out the year.

**Other business:**

Motion made by Fr. Dave, seconded by Mtr. Dawn that this body direct the executive committee to meet every 2 months either face to face or via teleconference. Passed. Discussion as to what constitutes a quorum & how can so many people (1 clergy & 1 lay person from each parish) meet so often.

Next Deanery will be in Sitka beginning 4/23/09. St. Peter's congregation will provide hospitality, food & housing. Committee will plan program. Dean will plan agenda & business. Clergy retreat committee to plan clergy retreat prior to business meeting.

Fr. Dave reported that the next clergy retreat will be 09/18-09/20/09 in Sitka.

Other committees formed:

2009 Deanery in Sitka- Mim, Glenda & Carole

Camp & Family ministries- Dan Hall & Fr. George Silides

Clergy retreat- Fr. Dave E. & Fr. Bob S.

Travel fund- Mtr. Dawn & Mary Alice

Matching funds grants- Mike R. & Alan R.

**Parish Report:**

Holy Trinity by Mary Alice- fire follow up & other activities

The 4<sup>th</sup> business session ended at 1200.

The 5<sup>th</sup> business session commenced at 1340.

**Parish reports:**

St Andrews

St Peters

St Philips

St. Brendens

**Business:**

Motion was made to continue with SE Seafarer and pay for server.

Moved- Mtr. Paula

Seconded- Mtr. Dawn

Passed

Mtr. Dawn reported that Deanery members donated to the Rt. Rev. Mark McDonald fund.

Mim asked congregations if they had enough deanery brochures for the summer. She also asked if information needs to be updated, send this to her along with a photo.

Moved by Mike McDonough to offer a hearty thanks to everyone @ St. Brendens for their hospitality and that the secretary send a formal thank you.

Seconded by Fr. Wilson

Passed

The following St Simeon and St. Anna nominations were nominated.

St John- Delores Churchill

St Peters- Delores Ingwerson

St Philllips- Bonnie Demerjian

Carol Ross

Marleen Clarke

Chuck Petticrew

Jean Petticrew

St Michaels- Deatrea Marceil

It was moved that these names be accepted, forwarded to the Diocesan

office, the Dean to sign, and they to be inducted at the 2009 Convention.

Seconded by Dcn. Julie

Passed

Dean Hunter reminded that each application requires a \$25 fee.

**Final business presented by Dean Hunter:**

1. A treasurer was not appointed
2. Carole Knuth was appointed as secretary
3. Sitka will be the next Deanery site 4/23-4/26/09
4. Reviewed the members of the Executive Committee  
Holy Trinity- Mike M. & Fr. Wilson V.  
St John- Fr. Ron K. & Lana P.  
St Peters- Fr. David E. & Mim M.  
St Phillips- Mtr. Paula S. & Marge B.  
St. Brendans- Fr. Bob S. & Gene S.  
St Michaels- Mtr. Jan H. & Deatra M.

**Other:**

Fr. Dave encouraged Dean Hunter & Vice-dean Fr. Gordon to work together for transitioning Fr. Gordon into the new Dean position.

Motion by Dcn. Julie to adjourn @ 1540.

Seconded by Mim

Passed

Submitted by Carole Knuth