

Diocesan Council Report to Deanery January 29, 2017

December 2016 Council Meeting

Neither Dave Fredrickson nor myself were able to attend the December meeting.

These highlights were lifted from the minutes.

Audit Committee Report.

It was voted to accept the 2015 audit of the 2015 financial statements.

Bishop's Time

Bp. Gates just returned from a retreat at the BCH Camp with the Province I bishops. Christian formation, anti-racism/cultural competency, public school advocacy issues around "All Our Children," diaconal formation and creation care were the focus of the retreat.

Win Treese and Nancy Gossling were voted by electronic email to be the chairs of the Phase IV Mission Strategy Implementation and Organizing Team.

The Rev. Katherine Black and the Dean of the Cathedral the Very Rev. Jep Streit are both retiring in the coming months.

Lund Matt reported that the annual fund is on track to meet its goals, with 2 weeks left in the year.

Mission Hub Report

South Shore Mission Hub

The South Shore Mission Hub was given three goals to meet with an additional three months to meet them before the committee felt comfortable to approve its budget.

Overall Mission Hub Budget

Jin Min proposed that the budgets for all seven mission hubs be cut by 25% through 2020. Every hub, thus far, has been underspending so this plan seems feasible. There is a gap between what was awarded the hubs and what money was actually available. A three-tiered system was proposed to address this.

Mission Hub Director

It was voted to increase her position from ½ time to ¾ time.

Mission Strategy Update

The Phase IV Team is in conversation with consultant Kristin Hendler, to continue her work with them. Bp. Gates has asked that the task force looking at the closing and merging of parishes resume their work.

Evaluation Process

The subcommittee is coming up with evaluation tools for evaluating budgets, particularly of Strategic Ministries and staff program areas (staff time in relation to program, not performance). Its goal is to have evaluations done by April, 2108.

Treasurer's Report

There has been a discussion about making a percentage reduction in the assessments. Lisa Garcia has asked the Council to start thinking about this because preparation for the 2018 budget begins in the spring.

Budget Committee Membership

People have been identified for three for the four open positions. The Committee has discussed possibly expanding the committee because of the scope of the work. A chairperson has also been identified.

Use of Proceeds

It was voted to take \$50,000 for use for expenses related to Mission Strategy come out of the Fund for Congregation Vitality rather than from the sale of the former rectory located in Wayland.

Executive Committee Membership

Currently there are 4 remaining members of the Executive Committee eligible for election. A Nominating Committee was formed to bring recommendation to the January retreat for a vote.

January 2017 Retreat BCH Camp and Conference Center

This year's retreat was a departure from previous years in that only one piece of business was conducted – that being the election of members to the Executive Committee.

Lynn Smith led us in an exercise to become more familiar with the duties and responsibilities of Council members with the aim of bringing new Council members up to speed. She presented us with a Council Members' Manual and copies of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

The rest of the retreat was devoted to Visions - Basic Anti-Racism Training towards cultural competence led by Bill Kondrath and Dr. Lisa Fortuna.