

Minutes of the Executive Council  
Episcopal Diocese of Lexington  
June 27, 2009

The Executive Council of the Diocese of Lexington met on Saturday, June 27, 2009, at Mission House. Members present were the Rt. Rev. Stacy Sauls, Jane Fitzpatrick, the Rev. Mark Furlow, Mary Jane Younce, Barbara Crain, Maggie Miles, Carla VanMeter, the Rev. Melanie Mudge, the Rev. Bob Sessum, Katherine Harper, Shannon Wilson, David Davidson, the Rev. Audrey Miskelley, the Rev. Jan Dunnavant and the Rev. Michael Henderson. Elected members absent were Pam Knight, Virginia Robbins-Bugg, Steve Gabbard and C. C. Johnson.

Members present by virtue of their office were Buck Hinkle, Chancellor; Ann Davis McClain, Treasurer; the Venerable Bryant Kibler, Archdeacon and Bishop's Deputy for Administration; Sam McDonald, Canon to the Ordinary; and Cindy McKee, Secretary. Guests present were Dr. Austin Tuning and Karen Workman, seminarian at Sewanee.

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Sauls who led the Council in morning devotions.

**Approval of Agenda**

Bishop Sauls requested the addition of Disposition of All Saints' Assets under New Business, then called for approval of the agenda. Jane Fitzpatrick moved, Carla VanMeter seconded that the agenda be approved. Passed.

**Approval of Minutes**

Bishop Sauls called for approval of the April 25, 2009 minutes. The Rev. Bob Sessum moved, Barbara Crain seconded that the minutes be approved. The minutes were amended as follows:

Page 1, paragraph 2: Remove Kay Collier McLaughlin's name and title from the first and second lines.

Page 1, paragraph 2: Remove Holli Powell's name and title from the fourth line.

Page 1, paragraph 2: Add the following sentence at the end—Mission House staff persons present at Bishop Sauls' invitation were Kay Collier McLaughlin, Bishop's Deputy for Communications and Leadership Development, and Holli Powell, Bishop's Deputy for Finance.

The minutes were approved as amended.

**Comments from the Chair**

1. The current visitation schedule will be completed on June 28 with a new one beginning in August. Bishop Sauls has baptized 6 and confirmed/received 52 since the meeting in April in addition to many other meetings.
2. Time of transition in the diocese. Ron Summers has announced his retirement effective November 1. At this time four of the largest churches in the diocese are currently seeking rectors or with retirements announced—Ascension, Frankfort; St. Michael's, Lexington; Trinity, Covington; and St. Andrew's, Fort Thomas.

3. Update given on the accident at Cathedral Domain during Senior Conference. Rappelling has been temporarily suspended while the situation is evaluated. Someone from EKU is reviewing the program, but we exceed all standards used. When a written report is received, action will be taken on the recommendations. Staff, volunteers and campers did an outstanding job getting needed medical attention for the injured and caring for the remaining campers.
4. The new policy developed for Commission on Ministry and the discernment process will be released in its final form very soon.
5. The diaconate program has been revived in the diocese. There is some confusion about what deacons cannot do liturgically and copies of a recent pastoral letter were distributed. Deacon's masses/distributions are not permitted. Deacons are not allowed to officiate at weddings and only very rarely officiate at funerals.
6. Network for Leadership and Development has largely come to fruition. Between now and September 1, five new clergy will be starting in five congregations. Work is underway with a sixth congregation. The network has been well received. Christ Church Cathedral has become a part of the network, hiring a graduate of GTS to serve as Curate for college ministry at UK and Transylvania.
7. The Small Church Ministry Consortium (SCMC) and the first four congregations are due to be reviewed in September. Although a good idea, this was not as well thought out as the Network. There have been more bumps and adjustments along the way. This is the only option for these very small churches that have had to concentrate on their survival. Three newly ordained deacons this fall will be assigned to SCMC along with Paul Kibirech Korir, a priest from Kenya. Twenty-two congregations are Network and SCMC size.
8. Bishop Sauls will be making a visit to Kenya November 30—December 2 at the invitation of the Bishop of Kenya, preaching at the synod's opening Eucharist.
9. General Convention begins July 8 in Anaheim, California. There will be twice daily updates on [www.diolex.org](http://www.diolex.org). The draft budget presented by the Executive Council to Convention seems to be very heavily weighted on administrative expenses and is viewed by some to be a sign of a dying institution. There will likely be controversial resolutions discussed and acted upon.

### **Chancellor's Report**

1. St. Paul's: Jim Adams reports that we are in the same place as 60-90 days ago with purchase of their parking lot. The county is committed to building the new courthouse.
2. St. Michael's line of credit: The deal has not yet closed. All the paperwork is in order. They have reaffirmed their declaration of trust in favor of the diocese.
3. St. Martha's sale: An entity is still interested in acquiring the St. Martha's property for use in developing low-income housing. The interested buyer has to submit an application for tax credits to Kentucky Housing Authority by September 1. Tax credits are awarded in January at which time they would close on the property. An agreement has to be reached with the buyer by August so they can proceed with the tax credits.

Mary Jane Younce moved, David Davidson seconded that St. Martha's be required to obtain a property appraisal to ascertain the actual value of the Trent Blvd. real estate. Discussion. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report**—no report.

**Canon to the Ordinary**

Sam McDonald submitted a written report, which is attached. He added that the Network continues to take much of his time. He is forming a committee to formulate a policy on fundraising.

**Archdeacon**

Bryant Kibler submitted a written report, which is attached. An update was given about the churches that have worked at St. Timothy's so far this summer. He added that Holli Powell's maternity leave continues and the transition is going well. He will meet with the Board of Adjustment in July regarding the Mission House parking lot.

**Executive Council Reports**

A. Finance Committee

The written report is attached. Committee member Bob Sessum went over the following resolutions:

Donated Legal Services – Finance Committee Resolution A

Be it resolved that the value of donated legal services be recognized on the financial statements of the Diocese of Lexington, and be it further resolved that other donated services not be recognized on the financial statements of the Diocese of Lexington.

Discussion. Passed.

Capital Asset Purchases and Leases – Finance Committee Resolution B

Be it resolved that capital asset acquisitions and personal property leases be approved as part of the normal budget process described in the Resolution on Executive Council Committees as it may be amended from time to time, and be it further resolved that real estate leases be approved by separate action of the Executive Council.

Discussion. Passed.

Mission & Ministry Fund Budget Amendment for the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention—  
Finance Committee Resolution C

Be it resolved that the General Convention line item in the Mission and Ministry Fund budget (line 263) be increased from \$12,000 to \$17,500. This will change the net income after transfers line (line 275) of \$233 to a loss of \$5,267.

Discussion. Passed. Bob Sessum abstained.

B. Church Catholic

A written report and resolution were submitted.

Recommendations for the distribution of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 0.7% budgeted amount of \$7,781 for use during 2009.

Resolution: Whereas the World Bank projection that the current global economic turmoil will force more than 50 million additional people into deadly poverty this year alone with the death of children under the age of five expected to rise as much as five percent, and whereas with much of projected increase in poverty likely to occur in the Companion Diocese of Haiti, the Justice and Peace Commission respectfully recommends the distribution of the MDG fund total of \$7,781 as follows:

- \$4,781 distributed to the Family Health Ministries in support of their Medical Clinic, Orphanage, School Housing Projects and Nutrition Programs in Blanchard, Cite Soleil, and Fondwa, Haiti.
- \$3,000 distributed to the Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) to be used in any of their program focus areas: Alleviating Hunger and Improving Food Supply; Creating Economic Opportunities; Strengthening Communities; Promoting Health and Fighting Disease; or Responding to Disasters and Rebuilding Communities as dictated by the most pressing needs.

Discussion. Passed.

The Committee on the Church Catholic also urged the Diocese of Lexington deputation to General Convention to support Resolution A036 that will be presented by the Diocese of Haiti at General Convention. Bob Sessum moved, Mark Furlow seconded to encourage the deputation to support A036. Discussion. Passed.

#### C. Personnel

A written report was submitted. Bishop Sauls also requested a budget amendment as follows:

To increase the salary for the Deputy for Communications and Leadership Development to \$47,500 per year to be reviewed again with other compensation adjustments for 2011.

Such increase would be effective July 1, 2009 and result in a \$700 savings to the '09 budget. The amount is \$2,500 more than recommended by Executive Council. This salary will not be adjusted for 2010. Mark Furlow moved, Shannon Wilson seconded to increase the salary as listed above. Discussion. Passed.

#### D. Audit

A written report was submitted; no action required.

No other Executive Council committee reports were submitted.

#### **Old Business**

1. Salary adjustment for Kay Collier McLaughlin was addressed in the Personnel Committee report noted on the previous page.
2. Report of Taskforce for Fundraising was addressed in remarks made by Canon to the Ordinary Sam McDonald.

3. St. Martha's lease with the counseling center—Buck Hinkle reported no concern about the lack of a lease and renting on a month-to-month basis as long as those occupying buildings follow diocesan policies regarding insurance and so forth.
4. St. Paul's, Newport, parking lot was addressed in the Chancellor's Report on page 2.

### **New Business**

1. Appointments to Loan Committee

Bishops Sauls made the following appointments to the Loan Committee:

Bill Blackman, St. Mary's, Middlesboro, Chair  
Eddie Sloan, St. Andrew's, Lexington  
Fred Dittrich, St. Andrew's, Ft. Thomas  
Bob Sessum, Good Shepherd, Lexington

Carla VanMeter moved, Katherine Harper seconded the appointments as listed above. Discussion. Passed.

2. Sexual Harassment/Sexual Exploitation policy

Bryant Kibler had previously supplied copies of both policies to Council members.

Jan Dunnivant moved, Mary Jane Younce seconded to place the Sexual Harassment policy on the floor. Discussion. Audrey Miskelley moved, Katherine Harper seconded that the policy be tabled until the next meeting on August 29. Discussion. Passed.

Katherine Harper moved, Carla VanMeter seconded to place the Sexual Exploitation policy on the table. Discussion. Melanie Mudge moved, Katherine Harper seconded that the policy be tabled until the next meeting on August 29. Discussion. Motion defeated. Further discussion. Mark Furlow moved, Katherine Harper seconded that the policy be tabled until the next meeting on August 29. Passed.

3. St. James' request for Aided Parish status

The letter from St. James' requesting this status was reviewed. Bishop Sauls and the Small Church Ministry Consortium will work with St. James' to help them reorganize and get back on their feet. Barbara Crain moved, Melanie Mudge seconded that aided parish status be granted to St. James'. Discussion. Passed. Mary Jane Younce, Bryant Kibler abstained.

4. Disposition of All Saints' assets

The checking account for All Saints' (now closed) contains \$3,900. A check will be written to the diocese for this amount. Bishop Sauls requested that this amount be applied to Small Church Ministry Consortium expenses. Bob Sessum moved, Melanie Mudge seconded that the money be used in this way. Discussion. Passed. Shannon Wilson and Bryant Kibler abstained.

The next Executive Council meeting will be held on Saturday, August 29, at 10 a.m. at Mission House. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy McKee  
Secretary