

2019 CANONICAL RESOLUTION C-3

Submitted by: The Rev. Charlie Bauer, Hickory Neck, Toano; The Rev. Bruce Cheney, St. Paul's, Newport News; The Rev. Lisa Green, St. Martin's, Williamsburg; The Rev. Samantha Vincent-Alexander, St. John's, Hampton

RESOLVED, That the 127th Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia amend Canons VII(1)(b) and (c), VIII(3), XI(1)(a)(iii), and XXIV(2)(d) to read in the form and language as herein proposed:

CANON VII

OF FINANCES

SECTION 1. Program Budget & Review Committee.

- (b) The Program Budget & Review Committee ~~chairman~~ President shall be appointed by the Bishop and confirmed by the Executive Board of the Diocese and serves at the discretion of the Executive Board.
- (c) Each February or when a vacancy exists, upon consultation with the Bishop, the Program Budget & Review Committee ~~chairman~~ President shall appoint members to the Program Budget & Review Committee. Members need not be members of the Executive Board. Each member will serve a one-year term and may be reappointed for subsequent one-year terms. A new member's term commences ~~with his upon~~ by the President. The Program Budget & Review Committee may remove any member for any reason, including failure to contribute to the work of the committee, for lack of attendance or for not keeping the committee's work confidential. *Ex officio* members of the committee include the Bishop, the Treasurer and the Comptroller.

CANON VIII

OF CONVOCATIONS

SECTION 3. The Bishop, at each Annual Council, shall appoint a Dean from the order of Priests resident in each convocation to serve for a one year term. Deans may be reappointed to successive terms. Deans shall not be members of the Executive Board. The Deans shall act as a council of advice to the Bishop, shall be responsible for the arrangements for all intra-diocesan meetings within the convocation and may be given such other directives and responsibilities ~~by that~~ deems the Bishop ~~as he/she may deem~~ appropriate.

CANON XI

OF DEPUTIES TO THE GENERAL CONVENTION

SECTION 1.

(iii) YOUTH DELEGATE – At least one of the lay deputies or alternates to General Convention shall be a youth or young adult who is 16 years of age or older at the time of election and 26 years of age or younger on the opening day of the General Convention to which ~~he/she~~ has- the person shall have been elected. If no person in this age group is elected as a deputy or as a 1st through 3rd alternate, a separate election for 4th alternate shall take place at the next Diocesan Council, with at least 2 youth or young adult candidates for this position. Should a youth or young adult be elected as a lay deputy or 1st through 3rd alternate, the 4th lay alternate shall be the next leading vote receiver. The youth's or young adult's expenses shall be paid by the Diocese no matter what position to which they are elected.

CANON XXIV

OF THE CHURCH PENSION FUND

SECTION 2.

(d) Through the chair of the Commission, its-chairman-President, to file a written report with Council on the activities of the Commission, including a financial report of its income and expenses, and any pertinent information received from the Diocesan Pension Fund.

Rationale: The Episcopal Church affirms in I.17.5 of the Canons of the Episcopal Church that “no one shall be denied rights, status or access to an equal place in the life, worship, and governance of this Church because of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disabilities or age, except as otherwise specified by Canons.” Similar rights are reflected for clergy in the Canons for discernment (III.1.2) and licensing to officiate in a diocese (III.9.7(a)).

While the intent of our shared life in the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia is to include all persons, the impact of non-inclusive language in our Canons suggests otherwise. These amendments affirm our commitment to inclusion of all persons throughout positions of leadership in the Diocese.