

**The Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real
Board of Trustees**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 29, 2022 – Zoom Meeting

P A Voting Members

- The Rt. Rev. Lucinda Ashby, *President*
 The Rev. Kristine Johnson, *Vice President*

2022

- The Rev. Mary Blessing
 Mr. Joe Heston, *appointed*
 The Rev. Ian Delinger
 Mr. John Cribb

2023

- Mr. Win Fernald
 The Rev. Maly Hughes
 The Rev. Kristine Johnson, *see above*
 Vacant

2024

- The Rev. Laurel Coote
 The Rev. Tina Heidmann
 The Rev. Julie Nelson
 Mr. Steven Sosnowski

P A Non-Voting Members

- Mr. Jeff Diehl, *Secretary*
 Ms. Joanna Shreve, *Treasurer*
 Mr. Steve Kottmeier, Esq., *Chancellor*
 Mr. Joe Head, *Finance Committee Chair*
 Ms. Shonna Close, *Standing Committee Liaison*
 The Rev. Canon Martha Korienek, *CTO*

Visitors

- Dean Julia McCray-Goldsmith
 Ms. Suanne Ramar, Budget Committee Chair

AG-1 Call to Order and Reading of Norms

The September 29, 2022, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of El Camino Real was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Bishop Lucinda. The Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.

The Rev. Laurel Coote opened the meeting with prayer and led the Board in *lectio divina* on Philippians 2:1-11, Paul's description of Christ's example of humility. The Board wrestled with the language in The Message and noted the contrast with the anthemic language in the NRSV. Paul is calling us to work for the greater good of our communities.

The Board followed the *lectio* with a reading of the Norms.

AG-2 Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- 2.1 Agenda for September 29, 2022, meeting (Attachment A). After AG-6, we will receive a brief update from the Rev. Ian Delinger and the Rev. Mary Blessing on the Restoration Process (AG-A1), and an Executive Session to receive information from the Chancellor (AG-A2).
- 2.2 Acceptance of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 25, 2022.

Resolution RM20220092901	Moved: Blessing	Seconded: Sosnowski
Resolved , That the Board of Trustees adopt the Minutes of the August 25, 2022, meeting.		
Yes: 10	No: 0	Abstain: 0

AG-3 Collaboration: Trinity and SJS Canterbury

Dean Julia McCray-Goldsmith gave a presentation on the Trinity Cathedral/Canterbury Bridge Collaboration (Attachment B). The Cathedral is building office space and residential units for 8 students in their parish hall for underhoused SJSU students. Occupancy is anticipated for Fall 2023. The Chancellor stated that he will review the legal documents related to this collaborative effort.

AG-4 Bishop's Report

The Bishop reported that the Deacon's retreat this past weekend was a great success. The Bishop gave a presentation on Theresa of Avila.

The Bishop has made two presentations on her experiences at Lambeth, both with lively conversation about the church. She will be doing the same presentations at the clericus in SLO and the clericus in the Santa Clara Valley. The Bishop has also been conversation with the Bishop in Mexico.

Sargent House has a new roof. The cost of the roof was \$83,000.

An in-person leadership retreat will be held on January 21, 2023, at St. Paul's/San Pablo, Salinas.

The Bishop reported on the expansion of mandated-reporting requirements as of January 1, 2022. We now have a curriculum that will be presented to the clergy in late October. The Bishop has solicited a proposal for the diocese to fully support the presentation of the curriculum to the entire clergy, staff, and volunteers of the diocese. The curriculum should be available in Spanish in January 2023.

AG-5 Canon's Update

See Attachment C.

AG-6 Convention Update

The Secretary reported that the Diocesan Convention Design Team continues to prepare for the November 5, 2022, Diocesan Convention to be held by Zoom. Deanery pre-convention meetings were held September 13 to 15 and participants offered meaningful feedback, particularly on the budget. The Secretary introduced the VPOLL online voting platform at the pre-convention meetings where a majority of the participants voted in sample polls with no issues. Nominations for diocesan office are due tomorrow, September 30, and preliminary reports from the Nominating Committee indicate that we will have a full slate of candidates. The Constitution and Canons Committee has posted their report on the diocesan website along with a summary document that has been translated into Spanish. The Resolutions Committee is working with the proposers of four resolutions to settle on final wording. After the resolution wording is settled, the resolutions will be translated into Spanish and published on the diocesan website. Hearings are scheduled for mid-October with the budget hearing on October 11 at 6:30pm, the Constitution and Canons Hearing on October 12 at 6:30pm, and the Resolutions Hearing on October 13 at 6:30pm. All hearings will take place on Zoom.

AG-A1 Evaluation of Restoration Process

The Rev. Mary Blessing reviewed the historic practice for the Restoration Process. Congregations entered the restoration process if they could not pay for their clergy, could not pay their diocesan assessment, or could not pay for their ministries. The Rev. Ian Delinger summarized how to observe the warning signs as congregations move toward entering the restoration process. Father Ian reviewed the existing congregational vitality tool available to our congregations. The goal is for congregations to anticipate when they may need support. The Bishop requested that a written report and proposal be submitted to the Board.

AG-7 Committee Reports**7.1 Finance (refer to Attachments D through H)**

The Treasurer reported that the Finance Committee had debated the 4% COLA recommended in the current proposed budget for 2023. The Personnel Committee has recommended that the COLA remain at 4%. The Board acknowledges that the budget as passed at Diocesan Convention in 2022 includes a transfer of \$205,000 from income off of endowments of which we will transfer \$100,000 now including \$25,000 from General Purpose; \$25,000 from Mission Activity; \$15,000 from Education; and \$35,000 from Diocesan Enhancement.

Ms. Sue Ramar, Chair of the Budget Committee, reported that the Budget Committee has reviewed the input from the pre-convention deanery meetings regarding the 4% COLA. The committee is recommending holding the COLA at 4% and increasing the merit pool for 2023 from \$5,000 to \$8,000. Also, the preliminary estimate of the assessment to The Episcopal Church was too high and has been reduced to an accurate calculated value (\$148,800). The designated income from income on endowments in 2023 will be \$141,000.

7.2 Property

No report.

Resolution RM20220092902	Moved: Coote	Seconded: Sosnowski
Resolved , that the Board of Trustees recommend that the 42 nd Convention of the Diocese of El Camino Real adopt the proposed budget, as amended.		
Yes: 10	No: 0	Abstain: 0

AG-A2 Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 3:48 pm to receive information from the Chancellor. The Board returned to Regular Session at 3:55pm.

AG-8 Discussion of proceeds from the sale of St. Mark's

The Bishop asked the Board to suggest ideas for how to use the proceeds from the sale of St. Mark's. The suggestions included doing something for all of the congregations and endowing the position of Bishop. Other suggestions included to just pause and do some intentional long-term visioning that honors the St. Mark's legacy in the diocese. Someone suggested to think beyond what we think we actually know.

The Bishop suggested that we revisit this discussion in October.

AG-9 New Business

None.

AG-10 Deanery Reports

- 10.1 Santa Clara Valley Deanery. No report.
- 10.2 Monterey Deanery. No report.
- 10.3 San Luis Obispo Deanery. The SLO Deanery is meeting every other week to engage in the Storied Pilgrimage with Race curriculum.

AG-11 Meeting Summary and Items for Next Meeting

- 11.1 Three items for RealEpiscopal eNewsletter
 - 11.1.1 Dean Julia McCray-Goldsmith informed the Board about a collaborative effort between the Cathedral and Canterbury Bridge at San Jose State University to provide residential space for underhoused students on the Cathedral campus.
 - 11.1.2 In response to input at the pre-convention deanery meetings, the Board reviewed an amended proposed budget prepared by the Budget Committee that addresses concerns about the Cost of Living Adjustment. The Board voted to recommend that the 42nd Annual Convention of El Camino Real adopt the budget as amended
 - 11.1.3 The Bishop announced that a Leadership Retreat will be held on January 21, 2023, at St. Paul's/San Pablo, Salinas, for members of the Standing Committee, Board of Trustees, and Commission on Ministry.
- 11.2 Items for October 27, 2022, Meeting at 2:00 pm.
 - 11.2.1 Lectio Leader – The Rev. Maly Hughes
 - 11.2.2 Action Items
 - Written report on Restoration Process from Ian and Mary
 - Continue discussion on St. Mark's proceeds
- 11.3 Words in Passing

APPROVED

APPROVED

APPROVED

11.4 Closing Prayer

The Bishop closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Jeff Diehl
Secretary

Attachments:

- A – Agenda
- B – Trinity Cathedral/Canterbury Bridge Collaboration
- C – Report from the Canon to the Ordinary
- D – Highlights of the Finance Committee Meeting, September 17, 2022
- E – Budget vs. Actual Report, August 2022
- F – Fair Share Flow Chart, August 2022
- G – Endowments
- H – DIT Report, August 2022

Attachment A

Agenda

Attachment B

Trinity Cathedral/Canterbury Bridge
Collaboration

Attachment C

Report from the Canon to the Ordinary

Attachment D

Highlights of the Finance Committee
Meeting, September 17, 2022

Attachment E

Budget vs. Actual Report, August 2022

Attachment F

Fair Share Flow Chart, August 2022

Attachment G

Endowments

Attachment H

DIT Report, August 2022