

**The Standing Committee of the Diocese of California**  
**Meeting Minutes – Approved**  
**June 3, 2014**  
Grace Cathedral Chapter Room  
1:00 to 5:35 pm

**Present:** Mr. Chris Butler, The Rev. Br. Richard Edward Helmer (Secretary), Mr. Ron Hermanson, Ms. Brenda Paulin, The Rev. Sue Thompson (Vice President), Ms. Mary Vargas (President), The Rev. Lori Walton

**Absent:** The Rev. Annette Rankin

1:00 Opening devotions were led by Richard Edward Helmer.

1:05 Standing Committee held personal check-in.

1:26 Standing Committee reviewed minutes from the May meeting.

**MSCU (Walton / Paulin)** Standing Committee approves the minutes, as amended, from the May meeting.

1:28 Reports

- Commission on Ministry – Lori Walton  
No report this month. COM has not met since the last Standing Committee meeting.
- Executive Council – Mary Vargas reported.
- Executive Compensation Committee – Brenda Paulin reported.
- Grace Cathedral Board of Trustees – Mary Vargas reported. There was no meeting this month.
- Committee on Governance – Ron Hermanson filed a written report.  
Noted that The Rev. Chip Larrimore has joined the committee as an Executive Council appointee. The upcoming June meeting will be held at DioHouse.

**MSCU (Paulin / Hermanson)** Standing Committee appoints Dianne Audrick Smith to serve on the Committee on Governance.

- Working Group on Diocesan Institutions – Chris Butler noted that this is now a regular matter before the Committee on Governance.
- Scholarship Committee – Chris Butler sent a report of scholarship apportionments to the Standing Committee for review for recommendation. A new scholarship committee will be brought together by the Bishop's appointment in the coming cycle.

**MSCU (Helmer / Paulin)** Standing Committee approves the expenditures of scholarship funds as outlined in the scholarship committee report, accordingly:

- \$57,750 from the Eastman Fund
  - \$26,635 from the Mont eagle/CDSP Fund
  - \$5,500 from the Turtle Fund
  - \$11,000 from the Deaconess Fund
- Nominating Committee – Annette Rankin sent a written report.

- Episcopal Elections – Richard Helmer reported.

**MSCU (Walton / Butler)** Standing Committee consents to the consecration of The Rev. Alan M. Gates as Bishop Diocesan of Massachusetts.

- Diocesan Mutual Ministry Review – Sue Thompson and Brenda Paulin led discussion.

3:00 Standing Committee took a brief break

3:15 Sacred Space – Mary Vargas and Lori Walton updated the Standing Committee that Sacred Space has now found permanent space.

3:21 **MSCU (Helmer / Walton)** Standing Committee entered executive session.

3:28 **MSCU (Walton / Paulin)** Standing Committee exited executive session.

3:30 The Standing Committee opened an ongoing discussion on the canons governing ministry and ordination.

4:05 Bishop Marc joined the meeting.

Standing Committee discussed ordination process with the Bishop as part of an ongoing conversation. Noted the work under way in the School for Deacons for a curriculum review, and the challenges at CDSP in recruitment and restructuring.

4:13 The Bishop updated the Standing Committee on parishes in transition.

4:30 Leadership from Church of the Nativity, San Rafael – Susan Monahan (Treasurer), Calvin Crosby (Vestry member), Susan Pick (Senior Warden), and The Rev. Stacey Grossman (Rector) – joined the meeting to discuss future directions for the parish with the Standing Committee and the Bishop.

5:08 Susan Monahan, Calvin Crosby, Susan Pick, and The Rev. Stacey Grossman departed the meeting.

5:35 Bishop Marc departed the meeting.  
Round Table Discussion – Mary Vargas

- Action item review
  - Mary and Richard will start work on the August agenda next week
- Wrap-up

5:40 Closing prayer

Faithfully submitted,

The Rev. Br. Richard Edward Helmer, BSG  
Secretary

*minutes approved by Standing Committee on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014.*