



Diocese of California Standing Committee
1500 Taylor Street
San Francisco CA 94108
www.DioCal.org

STANDING COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2023, 9:00 AM

Wilsey Conference Center, Grace Cathedral

PRESENT: Warren Wong, president; Mauricio Wilson, vice-president; Jane Stratford, secretary; Todd Bryant; Sean McConnell; Carolyn Bolton; Robyn Amos; Gretchen Lintner.

GUESTS: Paul Fromberg & Brenda Paulin – *left @ 12:32 PM.*
Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Andrus, Bishop – *joined @ 2:15 PM; left @ 3:41 PM.*
Rev. Cn. Debbie Low Skinner, Canon to the Ordinary - *joined @ 2:15 PM; left @ 3:41 PM.*
Cn. Christopher Hayes, Chancellor - *joined @ 2:15 PM; left @ 4:13 PM.*

9:00 AM GATHER & COFFEE
Paul Fromberg, Brenda Paulin *joined at 9:00 A.M.*

9:32 AM CALL TO ORDER & CHECK IN
Robyn Amos offered opening reflection and prayer.
Members of SC & STC chairs checked in.

9:58 AM DISCUSSION ON SEARCH & TRANSITION COMMITTEE NOMINEES
Paul Fromberg, Brenda Paulin
Motion to enter executive session.
Moved/Mauricio Wilson; Second/Gretchen Lintner;
Carried/Unanimously.

12:30 PM Motion to leave executive session.
Moved /Mauricio Wilson; Second/Robyn Amos;
Carried/ Unanimously.

General Discussion about meet-and-greets. SC made a decision that candidates would visit Diocesan House Monday morning before returning home. Diocesan staff are welcome to be there to meet them and say hello but there will be no special meet-and-greet for them. They can attend any of the other meet-and-greets if they wish.

12:38 PM LUNCH



Diocese of California Standing Committee
1500 Taylor Street
San Francisco CA 94108
www.DioCal.org

Adjourned for lunch by acclamation.

1:32 PM MEETING RECONVENED AFTER LUNCH

**1:32 PM DISCUSSION ON SEARCH & TRANSITION COMMITTEE
NOMINEES CONT'D**

Motion to enter executive session.

Moved/Sean McConnell; Second/Todd Bryant;

Carried/Unanimously.

1:53 PM *Motion to leave executive session.*

Moved /Todd Bryant; Second/Gretchen Lintner;

Carried/by majority.

1:54 PM VOTE ON NOMINEES

Motion to accept slate as presented.

Moved /Gretchen Lintner; Second/Carolyn Bolton.

Motion tabled for further discussion requiring entering executive session.

1:56 PM *Motion to enter executive session.*

Moved /Gretchen Lintner; Second/Robyn Amos;

Carried/Unanimously.

2:16 PM *Motion to leave executive session.*

Moved /Mauricio Wilson; S/Gretchen Lintner;

Carried/Unanimously.

**2:17 PM *Motion to accept slate of candidates as presented for candidates
#5, #15, and #13.***

Moved /Gretchen Lintner; Second/Carolyn Bolton;

Carried/Unanimously.

2:18 PM BUSINESS MEETING CONVENES

Bp. Marc Andrus; Cn. Debbie Low Skinner, Cn Christopher Hayes joined the meeting at 2:18PM.

2:18 PM BISHOP'S TIME

Bp. Marc Andrus; Cn. Debbie Low Skinner, Cn Christopher Hayes

- *Bishop's Ranch By-Laws revision – by necessity Bishop's Ranch is increasingly relying on non-Episcopal groups for business. They have no intention to cease being an Episcopal entity and have reaffirmed their desire for a chaplain funded from the*



*Bishop's discretionary fund. They want to maintain a spiritual base from the Episcopal tradition. There are currently 19 elected + 2 appointed members on the BR Board. Bylaws currently require the majority of the Board (13) be Episcopalians who are canonically resident clergy and baptized Episcopalians from Diocal. They are requesting a change of bylaws to reduce that number from 13 to 10, which is more than Canons require. **Motion to approve bylaw amendment as proposed by Bishop's Ranch Board of Directors.***

Moved/Gretchen Lintner; Second/Todd Bryant;

Carried/Unanimously

Bishops concurs.

- *Discussion about sale of St. John's to Clayton Valley Community Church which some members of the Executive Council are concerned is not a LGBTIQ+ affirming Church. At their July meeting SC voted to leave the decision left to local congregation – Holy Spirit Church. There is no evidence on their website that Clayton Congregational Church is anti LGBTIQ+. This prompted a discussion about guidelines for congregations and other episcopal organizations leasing their space to other organizations which the recent Kairos revelation spotlight. SC suggested to the Bishop that it would be helpful if there was guidance for this, which would help congregations working with interfaith groups that may not have exactly the same values held by the Episcopal Church.*
- *Discussion on ordination process. Idea raised about joint discernment day for the COM, Bishop, & SC.*
- *General discussion on diocesan affairs.*
- *Bishop leaves for Abu Dhabi on 10/4.*
- *Cn. Christopher Hayes reminded SC that applicable Canons require congregations to be current with assessments in the 12 months previous to convention. If they are not, their delegation can be reduced proportionally. There are a number of churches seriously behind in their assessments and some less behind. The Secretary of Convention is reaching out to these congregations individually. SC agreed it is important to maintain integrity of process to avoid situations like FL. SC agreed that the same standard should be applied to Diocesan convention in October and not only the Special Electing convention in December.*

Bp. Marc Andrus; Cn. Debbie Low Skinner left the meeting at 3:41 PM.

BREAK

3:55 PM APPROVE PETITION PROCESS (attached)

Cn. Christopher Hayes

Motion to approve petition process as amended.

Moved/Mauricio Wilson; Second/Todd Bryant;

Carried/Unanimously.



- *Cn. Christopher Hayes informed SC of pending legal matters. Cn Christopher Hayes left the meeting at 4:13 PM.*

4:13 PM CONSENT CALENDAR:

- *Minutes August 11-12, 2023 (attached)*
 - *File Review – Hays Estera*
 - *Approval of appointments to Joint Disciplinary Board*
- Motion to accept consent calendar.***
Moved/Todd Bryant; Second/Robyn Amos;
Carried/Unanimously.

4:14 PM COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

- Commission on Ministry (Sean McConell)
Sean will let candidates know the dates and times of interviews. Todd and Jane will send zoom links.
 - Grace Cathedral Board
Waren on committee to work with wider diocese.
 - Working Group on Diocesan Institutions (Robyn Amos)
No report.
 - Committee on Nominations (Jane Stratford) – *attached.*
 - Executive Compensation Committee (Mauricio Wilson)
Their work is finished.
 - Episcopal Election (Todd Bryant)
- Motion to consent to election of John Armand as the XIV Bishop of Arkansas.***
Moved/Todd Bryant; Second/Mauricio Wilson;
Carried/Unanimously.
Consent for Bishop of Albany tabled until next month.

4:32 PM GENERAL DISCUSSION

- *2023-2024 Officers: discussion on the leadership needs for next term. Election of officers will take place after the new class is elected at diocesan convention.*
- *SC agreed that the initial retreat should be in person. Proposing possible joint retreat w/ Executive Council @ Bishop's Ranch in January, Th/Fri, 1/18-19.*
- *November/ December meeting dates: November's meeting will be in person (place TBD) starting at 3 PM to allow time for new member orientation. SC will meet on its regularly schedule day on December 14th by zoom. EC will meet and have dinner on 12/18. SC are invited to dinner with the EC and the Bishop after the meeting.*
- *SC tabled appointing committee liaisons until the January retreat.*



Diocese of California Standing Committee
1500 Taylor Street
San Francisco CA 94108
www.DioCal.org

- *Discussion about announcements re. slate.*

4:45 PM ***Motion to adjourn.***
Moved/Mauricio Wilson; Second/Robyn Amos;
Carried/Unanimously.
Dismissal by Carolyn Bolton.



Diocese of California Standing Committee
1500 Taylor Street
San Francisco CA 94108
www.DioCal.org

Diocese of California Committee on Nominations Report

The Committee on Nominations met on September 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. (PDT) via Zoom. In attendance: Stephen Siptroth, Jane Stratford, Don Miller, Sr. Dana Kramer-Rolls, William Burrell, Carolyn George, Patrick Anderson. The following is a copy of the notes from that meeting prepared by Patrick Anderson

1. Opening prayer offered by Jane at 4:03p.m.
2. Consider next steps related to verifying nominees' training completion. Stephen says we have nominees for each office. Next step is to confirm completion of required trainings. Should we send a list to Caren or Amy? Probably so. The status of some of the training lessons seems to be up in the air. Jane says there is later going to be a requirement for fingerprinting for Safe Church. Some discussion whether it is our responsibility to follow up to ask if they have completed the trainings. Someone suggested the nominees should accept some responsibility. Stephen will contact Caren and Amy to ask if the diocese is tracking this information.
3. Review and approve the chair's report to the Convention. Carolyn asks if it should say the EC and SC should nominate and recommend candidates. Don says if those bodies recommend candidates, other people will refrain from running against them. Jane says certain skill sets are needed, which is why some EC and SC members want to nominate people with those skills.
4. Consider outreach to deanery presidents ahead of fall deanery elections. Jane asks, do we really need two representatives from each deanery? Should we propose a change to the constitution? Clergy are already in short supply, and fewer lay people are stepping forward. It is understandable that we have reps from the EC and SC on this committee, but what do we expect from them? No answer needed now, but we should ask next year's folks to contemplate that.
5. Set next meeting date and time? No more meetings are needed before the convention. There is a unanimous Woo Hoo!
6. Closing prayer: Sr. Dana offers prayer at 4:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Stratford
Standing Committee Liaison