

Executive Council Minutes
 Thursday, January 18, 2024
 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
 In person and via ZOOM

Attendance: Present Absent Excused

Officers:

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop and President P
 The Rev. Kirsten Spalding, Chair of 2024, Class of 2025 (Convention) P
 Leigh Flesher, Vice Chair, Class of 2025 (Bishop’s Appointee) P
 Peter Fairfield, Secretary, Class of 2024 (Convention) P

Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Bruce Morrow (Alameda) P	Vance Frost (Marin) P
The Rev. David Erickson (Convention) P	Carolyn George (Convention) P
Bill Burrell (Marin) P	The Rev. John Kirkley (San Francisco) P
Michael Diamond (Peninsula) P	The Rev. Will Scott (Alameda) P
Mary Frances Leopold (Southern Alameda) P	Jim Wiant (Contra Costa) P
Class of 2026	Bishop’s Appointees
George Strait	
Anna Marie Hoos	
Chris Benson	

Ex-officio members:

The Rev. Brother Richard Edward Helmer, Secretary of the Convention P
 Lane Ringlee, Treasurer of the Diocese P

Diocesan Staff:

The Rev. Canon Debbie Low-Skinner, Canon to the Ordinary P
 The Rev. Michele Racusin, CFO P
 Canon Amy Cook, Canon for Faith Formation P

Other attendees:

Canon Christopher Hayes, Esq. Chancellor of the Diocese P
 The Ven. Carolyn Bolton, Standing Committee P

4:10 PM The meeting was called to order by Chair Lund. The Rev. John Kirkley offered opening prayers.

10:37 PM Chair Spalding opened the meeting and called on Lane Ringlee to present the current financial statements and generally outline the duties of the Executive Council with regard to financial matters. Questions arose concerning the size of some expenditure variances for the month of December and George Strait asked about the role of the Executive Council in setting priorities for the budget. Lane replied that it is indeed part of the role of the Executive Council in their oversight of the budget. It is the duty of the Executive Council, he said, to make sure that the diocesan staff is fulfilling the mission of the church. Chair Spalding suggested that the Council take a closer look at their role in questions like expenditure variances at the February meeting, but for now we should just acknowledge receipt of the December financial statements.

11:18 Chair Spalding announced that Bruce Deal had been appointed to serve as Finance Committee representative from the EC. Leigh Flesher moved that the appointment be approved. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Chair Spalding announced that Susan Ailey had been appointed to serve as Bishop's appointee to the Finance Committee. Vance Frost moved that the Council give consent to the bishop's appointment. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

11:21 The Rev. Canon Debbie Low-Skinner began a discussion of the sale of the church property of St. John's, Clayton. Some concern was expressed about the sale of the property to a church of another denomination, but Chancellor Hayes explained that church property is difficult to sell at the best of times, that this buyer has not been found to discriminate in ways that we would find objectionable, and that they are paying a price that we believe to be above the market value, all of which should lead us to approve the current negotiations.

11:30 Chair Spalding announced that the search for a Canon for Social, Racial and Environmental Justice has progressed. Eleven candidates have been vetted, four have been interviewed and one has been chosen. As a formal acceptance has not yet been received, no announcement can yet be made.

11:35 Carolyn George moved that the meeting go into executive session to discuss legal matters. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

11:45 The meeting left executive session by unanimous consent.

11:46 The bishop made an announcement concerning the appointment of the venerable Gary England as archdeacon.

11:48 The Rev. Kirsten Spalding closed the meeting.

Action Items

Chair Spalding and Lane Ringlee to distribute material relating to the responsibilities of the Executive Council in regard to financial oversight before the February meeting.