

Minutes Of the Standing Committee March 4, 2025

Present: +Bishop Audrey Scanlan, Eric Hillegas+, Jennifer Mattson+, Rick Breach, Allison Carnahan, Barbara Cross, Sarah Reid, Jennifer Mattson+, Bob Davis, Jr.

Absent: Veronica Chappell+, David Luo, David Wirick

Devotional: Eric led the group in an opening devotional.

Appointment of Secretary of the Diocese: Bishop Scanlan's nomination of Catherine "Cricket" Tate Webb as Diocesan Secretary was addressed for action by the Committee. Bishop Scanlan had made the impressive qualifications of candidate Webb available to the Committee in advance. Bishop Scanlan explained that a vacancy exists due to the resignation of Tyrone Powell as Diocesan Secretary after last year's Diocesan Convention, noting the outstanding service he had given to the Diocese. Between Diocesan Conventions, the Standing Committee is responsible for appointing a new Secretary. After brief discussion of the duties of the Diocesan Secretary and of additional qualifications of candidate Webb for the position, upon Motion of Bob, seconded by Barb, candidate Catherine Webb was unanimously appointed as the new Diocesan Secretary, effective March 4, 2025. This appointment will be in place until the formal reunification with the Diocese of Bethlehem is complete. A new Secretary will be elected for the Diocese of the Susquehanna at our Convention in September 2025 and begin upon reunification in January 2026.

Standing Time With The Bishop:

Bishop Scanlan reported on the wide-ranging activities of the many committees working hard to deal with the challenges of reunification with the Diocese of Bethlehem. Among challenges to the working Committees are drafting of the Constitution and Canons of the reunified Diocese of the Susquehanna, reconciling the differences in selection of membership and procedures of their respective Commissions on Ministry and other practical challenges such as adjustments of diocesan staff and the process by which all convocations will be provided a pre-Convention opportunity to learn about and support the various proposals for organization and operation of the reunited diocese.

Barb reported on the work of a reunification subcommittee with a focus on the challenge of reconciling the differing approaches to selection and operations of the Diocesan Disciplinary Boards. Barb invited Committee members to send her their individual input on the issues and concerns she raised.

Bishop Scanlan also reported the good news that the problems of the parish which the Committee had discussed in its January meeting seem to have been addressed by agreements of reconciliation and by negotiated letters of agreement of parish members and clergy of the parish and that a working plan to address the problems is now in place with strong hopes that they will be solved and will require no further attention or action of the Committee.

Minutes of January 7, 2025 Meeting were approved by unanimous vote of a majority that responded to a poll over the internet.

Next Regular Meeting Tuesday April 1st, 2025.