

The Episcopal Church in Delaware
Diocesan Council Meeting Minutes
Held: September 14, 2023 – Approved October 19, 2023 for Archives

Minutes – The Minutes of the June 2023 meeting were moved, seconded, and approved.

Action Required/Requested

Cost of Living Adjustment for 2024 Frank Daniels

The Finance Committee presented a motion that the COLA for 2024 be 0 percent. Because the motion came from the committee, no second was needed. The motion passed.

Resolution to Approve Additional Check Signers for Camp Arrowhead and Memorial House

Resolved that Council approve the additional signers to the above WSFS accounts and that these signers be the Vice President and Treasurer of Diocesan Council effective September 14, 2023.

Because the motion was presented by the Mission Support Office, no second was needed. The motion passed.

Approve Dates for 240th Convention: Friday, November 15 and Saturday, November 16, 2024

A motion from the Convention Planning Committee was introduced that the 240th Convention be held on Friday, November 15, and Saturday, November 16, 2024, at a location still to be determined. No second was required because the motion was presented by the Convention Planning Committee. The motion passed.

Camp Arrowhead Teri Valente, Frank Daniels, Bishop Brown

Teri Valente reported on the summer season at Camp Arrowhead served 1,423 youth this year, including 11 percent were BIPOC, 10 percent were from underserved communities, 18 percent were Roman Catholic, 11 percent were Episcopalian, and 7 percent were Delaware Episcopalians. Campers included Latino youth from Trinity Parish and youth from Boys and Girls Club, Lighthouse for Broken Wings, and the Nanticoke tribe. Grant applications for the Carmine Environmental Center renovations are being completed in hopes to cover project costs. Bishop Brown reported that the Executive Director position is still open.

Budget and Financial Performance Frank Daniels and Canon Gregory

Most of the budget requests for 2024 are in. We have received acceptances from 13 of 32 parishes. Frank Daniels asked council members to urge their parish delegates to attend one of the pre-convention budget hearings to prepare to make an informed vote on the budget.

Audit Overview

The audits for Diocesan Council, Trustees, and Master Fund A have been completed. All fourteen audits in the Small Church Audit program are completed. A record number of parishes participated this year.

2024 Active Employee Medical and Dental Insurance Canon Gregory

Canon Gregory reported that the medical insurance policies offered are not changing, but dental coverage is changing from Cigna to Delta Dental per the Church Medical Trust decision. A resolution was made to keep all current medical plans and to switch dental coverage to Delta Dental at no premium change. Because the motion came from a committee, no second was needed. The motion passed.

For the Record Helen Spence Diocesan Council Vice President and Open Position

Helen Spence invited lay members interested in the open Vice President position in 2024 to contact her.

Bishop's Remarks

Bishop Brown reported that he has an article about his sabbatical in the latest issue of *Delaware Communion*. The Standing Committee has reviewed the Mutual Ministry report and in the interest of transparency will present the report at convention and then release the report to everyone.

The bishop reported that he will attend two bishop consecrations in the next several weeks. The new rector of Saints Andrew and Matthew will start this coming Sunday. The search continues for a new rector at Immanuel Highlands.