

**Province Two Council Meeting  
January 31, 2012  
Diocesan House, Newark, NJ**

The regular semi-annual meeting of the Provincial Council of the Second Province of The Episcopal Church was called to order at 9:05am by President Michael Rehill. Prayer was led by Bishop Lawrence Provenzano, Vice President and Bishop of the Diocese of Long Island.

In attendance were:

The Honorable Michael Rehill, President  
The Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Vice President  
The Reverend Edward Thompson, Secretary  
The Reverend Jerry Keucher, Treasurer  
Ms. Martha Gardner, Executive Council Lay Rep  
The Reverend Dahn Gandell, HoD Clergy Rep  
Attorney Dorothy-Jane Porpeggia, Chancellor  
Attorney Rosalie Simmonds-Ballentine, HoD Lay Rep  
Mrs. Jan Paxton, Rep. to Episcopal Life Board  
Mr. Charles "Chuck" Perfater, Executive Coordinator

The Right Reverend E. Ambrose Gumbs and the Reverend Sandye A. Wilson were not present.

No changes were made to the Agenda as presented, and the Minutes for the October 6, 2011 as taken and presented by Jan Paxton were accepted.

Treasurer's Report, by Jerry Keucher – We ended the year with only \$1,100 in the bank, "successfully depleting" the reserves. The Executive Coordinator took another cut in pay in order to allow the Province to keep afloat. The dioceses of New York and Newark made the biggest reductions in their asking, which could leave the Province \$17,000 less than budgeted. Even with a slightly larger share of TEC's Executive Council appropriation to PLC, of \$20,000, we're still likely to be in the red in 2012.

In the discussion that followed, all agreed that we have to change the way we do business, if we must continue the Mission. It was observed also that there is a

shift in parishioners' loyalty to parishes, dioceses, and the "national church," which explains why individuals are holding back. The "shift" seems to be on mission at the local level. In spite of the cuts, or due to the PLC appropriation, we should survive through 2012.

Still on the finances of the Province, the question was asked, who pays for Council members who are not deputies from their dioceses to attend Synod? The answer was that Council might make a concession if absolutely necessary.

At the current cost of \$125 per head for Synod registration, Synod could be self-supporting. The cost of General Convention might even be zeroed out as well; and possibly be able to assist Haiti and VI with Synod expenses. Jan will be covered by Budget. Budget as revised was approved on motion.

Audit – Jerry and Chuck will find someone to do the audit.

### Synod

- Agenda – Resolution from the Diocese of Long Island, on re-structuring as proposed by Bishop Stacy Sauls of the Church Center was provided and discussed. There were questions and clarifications to and by Bishop Provenzano, who explained that this is simply a lobbying effort – to garner support from dioceses of the Province at Synod.
- Triennial Budget – The following were bases of the conversation that followed: what formula is being used? Current base-year is 2005. Is 3-year average realistic? Ask Synod to approve a .025% formula? Add D&O Insurance - \$1,000; reflect \$4,000 for P2 Council in 2015.

Still on the budget, Council decided to collapse Provincial Executive salary and Provincial Executive expenses into just "Provincial Executive," with an expense line of \$50,000. Given the changes to the Expense side, Chuck and Jerry will re-work the income side and disseminate it to Council members for approval before Synod.

- Workshops - The following Workshops were announced to take place at Synod: DHP, Anglican Covenant, Title IV, Same-Sex Blessings, each time slot to include presentation and Q&A. Several high-ranking persons within TEC, including the PB, will present at Synod.

- **Worship:** Bishop William Love of Albany will celebrate the Synod Eucharist; Bishop Co-adjutor in New York will be asked to preach.
- **The Nominating Committee** presented Bp. Provenzano as President, Rosalie Ballentine as Vice President and Edward Thompson as Secretary in addition to the list of the nominees presented. Following a discussion, Council agreed to extend nominations deadline to Feb. 15, 2012. Final nominees and Ordinances will be distributed by March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Council took a 10-minute break.

**General Convention** – all deputy elections within Province Two have taken place; still awaiting lists from Haiti and Europe. At GC, Provincial Caucuses will nominate two persons in each order for the Joint Committee to Nominate candidates for Presiding Bishop. The elected list along with bios and photos is then sent to the GC Office forthwith, who must reproduce the info for deputies. The HoD will then elect one from each Order in each Province. HoB will also elect one from each Province. The PB election will occur at GC in 2015. The Provincial Caucuses will be held on Sunday, July 8, at General Convention in Indianapolis.

Information material for “Province Night” was distributed by Chuck.

**Provincial Leadership Council** – Michael and Chuck reported. Provincial Leadership Council met on Dec. 6-7, 2011, mainly to apportion Executive Council budget appropriation. There was a laborious discussion of PLC “procedures” and by-Laws. Next annual PLC meeting will be somewhere on the west coast of the US. Bishop Provenzano offered to pay his own cost if his schedule will allow him to attend. Chuck shared copies of his report to the “national church’s” offices.

**Ordinances** – following extensive revisions and editing, the Revised Ordinances of The Second Province were passed on unanimous vote to recommend the edited, revised Ordinances to Synod for approval. If approved, Province Two will be known as the “International Atlantic Province.”

**House of Bishop’s Report** – Bp. Provenzano reporting: the House of Bishops has spent a lot of time on issues of local strategies, and some time on international or church-wide matters as well. The Bishops were able to resolve the issue of the episcopacy in the Diocese of Ecuador Central during their meeting in that diocese.

Consecration of Bishop-elect Dietsche, Co-adjutor of New York, is on March 10; of Oge Beauvoir, the Bishop Suffragan-Elect of Haiti is May 22.

Executive Council Meeting – Mrs. Martha Gardner reporting: a large part of last week’s Executive Council meeting was spent on the triennial meeting coming up in Indianapolis, IN this summer in July. The budget for triennial 2013-2015 also got considerable scrutiny – two budget scenarios were presented at the Executive Council meeting: the one based on a 19% asking was merged with (beginning with) the one based on a 15% asking. The meeting before then decided to elect an Executive Committee of the Executive Council. Keeping the “Five Marks of Mission” in focus received unanimous affirmation.

A motion to split MDG allocation of \$488 with the Inspiration Fund – Nets for Life (ERD) and the Furnishings Support Fund for Bishop-elect Oge Beauvoir carried.

Executive Director Search Process – Michael praised Mr. Perfater, and advised that the decision for Chuck’s replacement be made carefully, not on economics or in haste or on a sense of urgency. Michael departed for a previous engagement, and Vice President, Bishop Provenzano chaired the meeting. He asked Chuck to give us a written reflection of his job description, etc. Council will intensify efforts to complete the process after General Convention 2012. It was agreed to have Chuck’s written reflection by Synod, and hopefully have a definitive document by Council’s fall Meeting (October, 2012).

Next Meeting of Council – Friday, Oct. 12, 2012. Place to be determined. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.