

**MINUTES OF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Friday, October 01, 2010**

The semi-annual meeting of the Provincial Council of the Second Province of The Episcopal Church was called to order by President Michael Rehill at 9:35 am. The meeting was held at the Diocesan House of the Diocese of Newark in Newark, NJ. Prayer was led by the Rev'd Sandye Wilson.

President Rehill welcomed those present and announced that Laurie Wozniak, director of communication and Province II Representative to Episcopal Life Board, has resigned her position.

Present were

Honorable Michael Rehill, Esq, President  
The Rt Rev'd George Councill (Bishop of New Jersey), Vice President  
The Rev'd Edward H. Thompson, Secretary  
The Rev'd Jerry Keucher, Treasurer  
The Rev'd Sandye Wilson, Clergy Representative to TEC Executive Council  
Ms. Martha Gardner, Laity Representative to TEC Executive Council  
The Rev'd Dahn Gandell, Clergy Representative to Provincial Council  
Canon Rosalie Simmonds-Ballentine, Esq, Laity Representative to Provincial Council  
Canon Charles H. Perfater, Executive Coordinator of Province

Excused were

The Rt Rev'd E. Ambrose Gumbs (Bishop of the VI), Episcopal Rep. to Provincial Council  
Mrs. Dorothy-Jane Porpeggia, Esq, Chancellor of the Province  
Mrs. Laurie Wozniak, Province Representative to Episcopal Life

The Agenda was approved without changes.

Haiti Fund Raiser - Bishop Councill led the discussion around Haiti's reconstruction. He and Bishop Duracin, diocesan of Haiti, had met at the Compass Rose Society meeting in London and spoken about Haiti's post-earthquake rebuilding. The Province's HOB is mulling their next meeting in Haiti. As Haiti has also occupied considerably Executive Council's attention, Bishop Councill then invited Martha Gardner and Rosalie Ballentine, two of Province's three representatives to TEC's Executive Council, to share.

The Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) is involved in discussions and plans by House of Bishops (HOB) and Executive Council to raise and manage a \$10 million dollar mobilization and rebuilding fund. The money is to come principally from parishes and dioceses, and is for current operational expenses (i.e. to keep the diocese functioning), as well as to develop a comprehensive plan for infrastructural redevelopment. Plans for how to launch the appeal, possibly after Easter 2011, will be disclosed after Executive Council's October, 2010 meeting. Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) will be directly assisting the fundraising effort as well the management of receipts.

Following up on discussions at the Council meeting in February in the Virgin Islands, President Rehill raised the question, what will be Province Two's role ("what are we going to do")?

It was observed that, with the many disasters around the world and consequently many appeals, the messaging is essential. In that light, can Province II raise one million dollars designated for the Haiti Cathedral? This effort seems truly daunting but with the proper "marketing," stressing "mission" as well as mutuality as the focus, it can be done.

Another question was raised: Are we in the Province going to strategize around rebuilding the Cathedral, or around our part in the \$10 million appeal? It was clarified that the \$10m is mainly for "soft" infrastructure – immediate sustenance for teachers, nurses, doctors, relief workers, etc.

The "Reconstruction" document for Haiti was introduced at this point by Bishop Cancell. Following a protracted discussion, the consensus was to introduce the Haiti Appeal initially as a two-phase undertaking: a) phase one: mobilization and sustenance, and b) phase two: "bricks and mortars"; that we the Provincial Council encourage dioceses within the Province to be very involved and active in the \$10m appeal; and that we as a Province will subsequently pursue the major One Million Dollar fundraising effort to rebuild the Cathedral in Port au Prince. Our subcommittee comprising Bishop Cancell, Martha Gardner, Sandye Wilson, Dahn Gandell and Rosalie Ballentine will remain in place to coordinate this two-phase appeal; The Executive Coordinator will support their work as usual. An aspect of our role will be to ensure that the "diocesan coordinators" referenced in the Document are in place at the earliest. It was noted that some parishes will have to give more than others – "each according to his ability."

It was suggested and agreed that every diocesan Convention has someone speak to them about the Haiti Appeal.

The Council was reminded of the need for a comprehensive, holistic document that should include an educational resource. Such a resource should include more than a money appeal; it should be a resource that would emphasize the total recovery of the whole person (victims of the earthquake), and that we are doing this because "Haiti is us and we are Haiti." [Perhaps something along the lines of the resource produced by *Leader Resources* for this past Lent, *Searching for God in the Rubble of Haiti*, might be considered.]

#### Treasurer's Report (moved up on the Agenda)

It is crucial at this point in time to determine what will be left at year's end, given the significantly reduced intake from TEC and Dioceses. The treasurer, Jerry Keucher advised that the Diocese of New York had reduced by about \$4,000 their assessment. Expenses are about on target, in keeping with Budget approved at Synod. We will end year with about \$26,254.93 deficit; we are living off of surplus for the last three years. "Unless that stops, we're driving into a hole."

*Observations:*

- VI diocese left out of list of diocesan payees – an oversight. The diocese’s annual assessment is \$180, which is outstanding. The treasurer will send out invoices after this meeting.
- Concern was expressed about the Diocese of Albany’s assessment (for the past few years they have given only \$500 flat). Bishop Council agreed to speak with William Bishop Love of Albany.

Treasurer’s Report accepted by unanimous motion.

*Plan for life-after-reserves (for the rest of this Triennium):*

- a. reduction in Exe. Coordinator’s salary for 2011 & 2012
- b. expenses reduced to \$5,000
- c. changes in amount for GC 2012
- d. other adjustments

A Motion from to grant the request of the *Economic Justice Network* \$2,000 for an event to strengthen awareness in dioceses, to pull together diocesan focus persons and revitalize the Provincial network was approved.

Executive Coordinator, Charles Perfater offered to accept a reduced salary for the rest of the year, to further reduce deficit. Offer was graciously applauded, and Chuck was thanked.

The revised (expense side of) budget for 2011 and 2012 was approved by unanimous motion.

*MDG 2010 money* – Motion by Dahn Gandell to fund Carpenter’s Children in Tanganyika, a project undertaken by dioceses of Rochester and New York, by budgetary allocation (of .07%) was approved.

Minutes were approved with one correction: strike “Martha Gardner was confirmed as our representative to ERD.”

Matters Arising

– Now that Laurie has resigned, what becomes of the website she had offered to host?  
Answer: The offer still stands.

– What about the money for the Seminary in Haiti? \$15,000 of the \$26,000 collected has been transmitted; the balance will be sent within the context of the February Council decision.

Report from Fall HOB Meeting in Phoenix, AZ - Bishop Council: was a very good meeting. *Theme: Changing Contexts for God’s Mission – What Is the New Invitation?* ELCA Presiding Bishop made presentations. Bishop James Jones of Liverpool, England also was

present. Members of SCLM presented on implementation of CO-56. Bishop Councill noted his distaste for a novel liturgy introduced and used at this HOB meeting, which he characterized as “pretty wanting” worship. The liturgy, called “Daily Prayers for Faithful Seasons,” was of sufficient concern to many bishops present. Bishop Councill emphasized the need for church bodies to maintain the approved principles of Anglican worship.

*Matter of the Bishop of Pennsylvania* – discussion was hard but honest. Resolution of the “mind of the House” was courageous and exemplary.

*Coalition of Episcopal Latinos* debuted.

### **LUNCH Break** at 12:15 pm

Network Coordinators joined us during lunch. Pres. Rehill brought the coordinators up-to-speed on the Haiti initiative – on the \$10m first phase appeal to sustain and assist the Diocese of Haiti to keep critical infrastructures function. A second-phase comprehensive rebuilding plan is anticipated. We as a Province are going to be part of and supportive of TEC Executive Council’s \$10m appeal to keep that diocese functioning. [This is not raising money for someone else; this is raising money for **us**, because Haiti is us.]

### Network Reports

*Haiti* – Coordinator Doris Crocker – Haiti still awaits the aid promised by the secular world. The Province has owned the Cathedral rebuilding project.

*Higher Education - Campus Ministries* – Coordinator, The Rev’d Greg Bezilla – distributed written report and gave writing pens as gifts. Campus Ministry shows a “more excellent way” to young people. Some campus ministries have worship attendance greater than some parishes. GC 2009 offered grants for new campus ministry start-ups. Council supported an event held earlier this year. Greg introduced the book, Almost Christian – What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church, by Kenda Creasy Dean. The author is speaking at Trinity Cathedral, Trenton on January, 2011. Establishing a campus ministry is best started utilizing relationships – tapping young people from the parish who go on to college. They will invite their friends. There are other infrastructures, such as YASC (Young Adults Service Corps).

*ECCE (Episcopal Council for Christian Education)* – Coordinator Donna Devlin – ECCE’s last gathering was last year; is currently in a state of flux; is now looking at what they’re to be doing. ECCE’s stated goals: was created by GC to support and foster and further the Christian Formation goals established by the Gen. Con.

*Hispanic Ministry* – Coordinator Alejandra Trillos – trying to reorganize the Network. Held first meeting at Trinity last year, after inactivity for seven years! The post-meeting efforts recruited seven persons; appointed coordinators on March 9 with the help of Bishop Romero. The Network has monthly teleconferences – to check in with each other on happenings in their areas. Active dioceses currently are Newark, NJ and Long Island. The

transition of Bp Taylor and the Archdeacon in New York hampered progress in that diocese. Attended a meeting of Hispanic commission in New Jersey last year; had a presence in Hispanic ministry in Long Island in January; supported the Stewardship Campaign in NJ in March, which was not only translated but also interpreted and adapted. First all-Spanish workshop held in Long Island is intended to be used as a national (Church-wide) model. Alejandra participated in a conference call with Provincial Hispanic coordinators. A meeting was held recently following the HOB's meeting in Arizona; PII was represented by two clergy persons. Many ideas are on the table, but need direction/mentoring and help with recruitment. The network would like to craft a strategic plan, and to articulate the Hispanic identity in The Episcopal Church. A success story: Church of the Redeemer in Astoria, NY.

*HIV/AIDS* – Coordinator Judith Mason -- No current contact with people working in this ministry around the Province. Only one parish in TEC has a working ministry to HIV/AIDS people – at St. George's, Brooklyn, NY. Judith has a dilemma of contacting such people. Martha offered the NEHC online tutorial.

Coordinator's Report – (See Chuck's report) Chuck reported on his coordinating efforts with Network point persons, including efforts to recruit nominees to fill vacancies.

The *Evangelism Conference* in Syracuse has to happen May 5-7 (possibly end on the 6<sup>th</sup>), or we lose \$6,700 if cancelled by Nov. 1, and double that if cancelled after Nov. 1. Registration is \$115; hotel is \$109. Offering at least one workshop in Spanish is a possibility. Publicity will follow.

*Provincial Synod* is scheduled for May 3-5, 2012 in Albany. A planning committee would comprise only elected deputies to GC 2012.

Dorothy-Jane will have a re-statement of the Ordinances for our next meeting in Feb. 2011.

Executive Council Report – Martha sits on Finance; Rosalie chairs World Mission; Sandye sits on Governance and Mission. The Rev'd Gay Jennings is now TEC's clergy rep to ACC, replacing Bp Ian Douglas who is now the HOB's rep, replacing Bp Catherine Roskam whose term has expired. Bp. Councill noted the blessing that is ours to have these three gifted sisters from our Province on TEC's Executive Council.

Executive Coordinator's Contract – motion to renew Chuck's contract was carried unanimously. Discussion: The issue of payment as contractor or an employee came up again. Other issues of goals, evaluation, and time commitment were considered. The Committee appointed at last Feb. Council meeting will continue to craft a job description, and Pres Rehill will ask Chuck to give the committee a description of his current time commitment. It was decided also to ask the Executive Coordinator to give a monthly update to the President.

Next Meeting – Friday, Feb. 11, 2011 (later changed to Feb. 4). Adjourned at 3:40 pm; prayer led by Bp. Councill.