

**Second Province of The Episcopal Church
Provincial Council Meeting
February 4, 2011
Diocesan House, Newark, NJ**

The winter meeting of the Provincial Council of the Second Province of The Episcopal Church was called to order by the Honorable Michael Rehill, President, at 9:20 am on Friday, February 4, 2011. The meeting convened at Diocesan House of the Diocese of Newark in Newark, New Jersey. Opening prayer was led by the Reverend Edward Thompson.

The following members of the Council were present, constituting a quorum sufficient to conduct business:

The Honorable Michael Rehill, President (Diocese of Newark)

The Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Vice President (Bishop of Long Island)

The Reverend Edward Thompson, Secretary (Diocese of the Virgin Islands)

The Reverend Jerry Keucher, Treasurer (Diocese of New York)

The Reverend Canon Sandye Wilson, P2 Clergy Rep. to TEC Executive Council (Diocese of Newark)

The Reverend Martha Gardner, P2 Lay Rep. to TEC Executive Council (Diocese of Newark)

Attorney Rosalie Simmonds-Ballentine, P2 HOD Lay Rep to Provincial Council (Diocese of the Virgin Islands)

Mr. Charles "Chuck" Perfater, Executive Coordinator of the Province

The Reverend Dahn Gandell, P2 HOD Clergy Rep to Provincial Council (Diocese of Rochester), joined by telephone.

Attorney Dorothy-Jane Porpeggia, Chancellor (Diocese of Albany), joined by telephone

Introductions - The Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island was introduced formally as replacing the Right Reverend George Councill who had resigned as Vice President of the Province.

President Rehill announced the resignation of Bishop Councill, and a motion was passed unanimously to accept and thank him. Bishop Provenzano's appointment per the President's earlier letter to Council was affirmed unanimously. A letter will be sent to TEC (Presiding Bishop's) offices informing them of Bishop Provenzano's appointment.

The **Agenda** was approved without changes.

The **Minutes** were approved, and will be sent to our webmaster for posting to the website.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Jerry Keucher distributed his report. Income has been slashed, mainly from the allotment from the “national church.” Of that amount, Province Two's share is **\$9,333.33**. The Treasurer projected a **LARGE** deficit! Diocesan “asking” now is *three-tenths of one per cent* of a diocese's operating income based on the 2005 diocesan budgets. Some diocese's paying their asking is in question, such as Albany. Bishop Provenzano reported that Bishop Council had raised the matter at the last House of Bishops meeting. Bishop Provenzano offered to reach out personally to Bishop William Love of Albany about the matter.

A lively discussion ensued concerning the cuts to the Provinces by TEC. Making said cuts while at the same time urging Provinces to galvanize for doing mission and ministry seems to be counter-intuitive. Why are Provinces being hit so hard? Is it bad faith, someone “looking over their shoulder,” were questions raised during the discussion.

It was suggested that we (all players here: TEC, Provinces, etc.) seem to be reactive rather than responsive, and there is need to re-envision the structures of the Provinces, and to propose new models that will make the Provinces viable so that they can be heard with respect. A new model for doing ministry is needed for this 21st century.

Return to Budget - The 2011 budget has a deficit of more than \$1,000, and if nothing is done at this meeting that deficit will be larger! What do we do? Can networks find the funding somewhere else? Among other things, Council decided to hold at least one Council meeting a year by teleconference or on-line. Again, Bishop Provenzano offered to speak to fellow bishops to be more forthcoming with diocesan asking. Council resolved to craft clear ideas on re-strategizing and re-formatting of our mission and ministry *vis a vis* finances for Synod's consideration next year. The Treasurer's report was received and accepted unanimously upon motion.

There is need to conduct a professional yet inexpensive audit of the Province's finances. Bishop Provenzano offered to look into finding someone do a non-CPA audit.

Executive Coordinator Charles Perfater reported that our Insurance has been taken care of.

Haiti Fundraiser – “Rebuild Our Church in Haiti” is up and running, with a website. Literature was distributed. Attorney Rosalie Simmonds-Ballentine added that Executive Council has asked *every diocese to have a coordinator* for the Haiti project. The Executive Coordinator will contact bishops about coordinators, occasionally gather the coordinators and check in with Terrie Mathes, TEC’s Executive Council coordinator, from time to time.

Review of the Provincial Ordinances – Dorothy-Jane led the discussion by teleconference, pointing out highlights of the proposed changes. Proposed changes include membership qualifications for both Provincial HOB and HOD, reference to the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe as a diocese or not, and the Episcopal Life Representative. If the proposed changes are approved by Synod, Province Two will be referred to simultaneously as “The International Atlantic Province,” noting that some Provinces of TEC are adopting names indicative of their geographical location ~~or cultural and social demographic~~. This was preceded by a brief discussion about the appropriateness of the proposed name?

Question regarding membership dues and costs of attending Chancellors’ Conference – This generated an spirited discussion on the need for a provincial chancellor, the role thereof, and the cost to the Province, among others. The question of membership due was approved unanimously on voice vote. The question of attending the conference in San Diego, CA was approved by motion. The Chancellor will petition for funding from the Program line item in the Budget when she has a better idea of the agenda.

Executive Council Report – Province Two is expected to make a presentation at the next TEC Executive Council meeting in Fort Worth, TX. An overview of that presentation along with a one-page handout was given. It will be a Power-Point presentation or slide show of activities and ministries to tell the story of the Province.

Formatted: Not Highlight

House of Bishops Reports – Bishop Provenzano reported on Haiti, the resignation of Bp. Councill, Episcopal election in Western New York, the effects of the economic down-turn, and the impact of the work of ERD. He noted the appreciable camaraderie among the bishops of the Province.

Everyone was urged to support and promote the **Spring Conference** on *“Anglicanism Remixed: Embracing the Other, Our Traditions and the Future.*

2012 Synod – May 3-5, 2012, at Holiday ~~inn~~-Inn on Wolf Road in Albany, NY. \$109/rm. Chancellor Porpeggia has looked at a contract and given her consent to it, which the Executive Coordinator will sign with the Hotel. The preliminary plans were approved by voice vote.

General Convention Resolutions – The Province hosted an Anti-Racism conference in ~~2011~~2010, in keeping with A-142. We will report our support of C-071, based on the last *Resolved*. Also, we hosted a conference on health care, in keeping with C-071.

Future Meeting Dates and Locations – Given that it is very possible for our current location to be unavailable soon (the Diocese of Newark is considering moving out of their current location and putting it on the market), the next option is Cathedral House, Newark, Oct. 7, 2011 in Newark. The February, 2012 meeting will be on the 3rd and on line (webinar or teleconference).

Provincial Communications – The new ENS Advisory Committee representative replaces the Episcopal Life Representative. Jan Paxton was appointed as Province Two's representative by unanimous voice vote. She is now, in keeping with the Ordinances, a member of the Provincial Council. A motion to approve request for the Communications Officer to attend the Episcopal Communicators Conference this spring, approximately \$1,000, was carried by vote.

The January issue of *InProv 2* is available.

Provincial Leadership Conference Meeting Report– President Michael Rehill reported on the ~~(date and place)~~December meeting of Provinces' Presidents, Vice Presidents and Executive Coordinators called the *Provincial Leadership Conference* ~~;-that was held in Newark~~. The role of the Province, the need to re-vision the of the Provinces structure-wise, and a decision to not disburse any more money to Province Eight until there is a financial report from them were items discussed at that meeting.

Network Activity – changes to network leaders were announced.

Motion to adjourn carried was unanimously and the February, 2011 meeting Provincial Council of Province Two adjourned at 3:20 pm.