**Minutes of the Diocesan Board for December 14, 2021**

**12:00 noon**

**Zoom**

Attending Members: Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe, Chair, Paul Frolick, Becky Drebert, Christine Day, Dan Kenney, Steve White, Treasurer,

Attending Non-Members: Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, Martha Berry, Chancellor, Cathy Hobart, Controller, Sarah Alamond, Board Secretary, Henry Wakefield, Property Committee Representative.

Not in attendance: Debbie Barker, John Rohde, Jonathan Fellows, Chancellor, Molly Payne-Hardin, Standing Committee Rep. (TBD)

The Board did not meet jointly today with the Standing Committee.

Chris Day opened the Board meeting at 12:00 pm with prayer.

**Bishop’s Time:**

* Excited about the Discernment process and the first meeting held last week, looking forward to hearing thoughts from board members.
* Invited by Lisa Kimball to be part of webinar series from Baptized for Life
* Commissioned Martha Berry, Esq. to gather a group to do a revision of Constitution and Canons and to bring something forward that can be presented at Convention in 2022.
* We are seeing cases of Covid rise. We continue to express the importance of getting vaccinated, boosted, and wearing masks.
* Bishop: Would like to have a yearly service at Paris Hill, in honor of Saint David Oakerhater who was ordained there.

**Reports:**

**Motion to approve** [**minutes from November 23rd, 2021. meeting**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/18jsGEzEZYwxCgmlxSviA2oepUUlfKMKCXD0lJSl8HVg/edit?usp=sharing)**. Steve White moves, Becky Drebert seconds. All in favor. Motion approved.**

**Canon’s Report:**

*Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent****:***

* **Goal for year:** more regular and consistent offerings in the diocese. She came up with a schedule to continue with the *Small Church Resource Group* every 2 months, every other month also two months apart the *Church Leadership Resource Group*.

Other offerings:

* + Roundtable discussions - “Churches who also take care of Cemeteries”
  + Wardens meetings will continue every other month in the evening
* **Transitions going well:** Better than other dioceses who are seeing high retirements and clergy leaving.
* **Search for a new Canon:** Search going well. A variety of applicants. Some to be excited about. Applications due by the end of the calendar year.
* **Parishes -** a lot of parishes working together in creative ways. Great to see!
* **Vitality Markers Group:** work continuing, difficult but important work. Important for us and the parishes to both see their vitality, to evaluate long-term.
* **Speak Faith Continues**

**Financial Reports:**

*Steve White:*

* Financial Reports so far are fairly benign ([Aug](https://drive.google.com/file/d/17JMx_5XZnjnKMb7JJc6gRDx_kmt-ewUc/view?usp=sharing), [Sept.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/18WkQs5C9xyVXH-nTegGCobmXReF8Q5eG/view?usp=sharing), [Oct.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_vUxYlvNWwH6mHXbHOEHfQN3zGvVQxJF/view?usp=sharing))
* Surplus due
* 11 parishes have not returned pledge cards. Result = approx. $9,000 a little less than anticipated, but the budget can absorb that if needed.
* [2020 Audit:](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LrpNlWijfG6zqGDmubNYdAP3WLROXz-H?usp=sharing) very happy, looks clean. Good job, Cathy Hobart!

Motion to accept the financial reports and 2020 Audit. Chris Day moves and Becky Drebert seconds. All in favor. Motion approved.

**Chancellors report:**

*Martha Berry, Esq.:*

* Decker Trust - One of the beneficiaries is Church of the Savior. After litigation was settled involving misdealings of a former trustee, the sister of George Decker, Carol wants to dissolve the trust and distribute money. Church of the Saviour would receive $131,753.37. However, Church of the Savior has been dissolved as an incorporated parish, and is now a Chapel, so the funds will now go to the diocese.
* *Chris Day commented: Concern that the money should still benefit the Church of the Saviour somehow, as it was intended.*
* *Cathy Hobart commented:* *What we’ve done in the past is put it in a fund for the benefit of a parish, but keep it unrestricted*

Make a motion to consent to the dissolution of the Decker Trust. Chris Day moves, Steve White seconds. No discussion. All in favor. Approved.

**Property Report:**

*Henry Wakefield:*

* Would like to make sure there is clarification on the vote taken last month at the November meeting re: the Sale of the Waverly property. The intent of the vote was to approve the sale (directly) to a church that wants to buy it. They would make a deposit, we would hold a 16 yr. mortgage that our diocese would hold. Buyer is in process to make a purchase offer, which the Bishop will sign if approved by board.
* *Paul Frolick Commented:* believes we consented to putting it on the market.

Motion to Approve the sale of 441 Park St., Waverly, NY 14892. Chris Day moves, Dan Kenney seconds. No discussion. All in favor. Motion Approved.

* *Henry:* Just received confirmation that the demolition in Whitesboro has started today. Will be complete by tomorrow.

**New Business:**

**Resolution for Diocesan Staff Clergy Housing Designation:**

Motion to approve the [Housing Resolution 20](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M2YIjCvqnhTobljtyAr3bkLH9IaNFLqK/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=101688158953197321434&rtpof=true&sd=true)22. Steve White moves, Dan Kenney seconds. All in favor. Motion approved.

**Late Ministry Grant Application:**

Church of the Resurrection, Oswego submitted a late application for a ministry grant for technology. The request is $3,000. Issue: Do we fund late applications? Does that set a bad precedent?

* *Steve:* Understands desire not to set a precedent to approve late applications. But threads needle by saying that grants on time get first priority, and first access to funds. If we have spare cash then a later application may be considered.
* *Becky:* How close are we to the next cycle? (Spring - approx. 6 mos). Does it affect their ability to stream?
* *Paul:* It would help with their streaming capability.

Motion to approve $3,000 ministry grant application to Church of the Resurrection, Oswego. Dan Kenney moves, Steve White Seconds. All in favor. Approved. Chris Day Abstains.

**Question Burst:**

***Focus: As the diocesan board, we are tasked with fiduciary responsibilities, strategic governance, and visionary leadership in a complex and constantly changing context.***

**Feelings before:**

Sleepy

Sort of ok

Hot hot hot

**3 minute question period:**

* Are we reactive or proactive?
* What is the most important responsibility?
* What is weighing us down?
* Should revisioning in this way involve the standing committee?
* Who do we need to help us with these tasks?
* Is strategic governance and visionary leadership the same thing?
* Should we expand our membership to allow us to do more complex work?
* What voices are we missing?
* How do we involve the Spirit to guide us or is it just strictly a governance committee?
* Do we believe that our current structure is the best way for God to act?
* How are we set up to get results we do not want?
* What questions are we afraid to ask?

**Feelings after:**

Curious

Serious

Awake

Bishop Closes in Prayer.

Motion to adjourn made at 12:55pm.

[**2022 Meeting Dates:**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1P-O6N5iAEiUAphDZDb9f7_ogXZ72THxY/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=101688158953197321434&rtpof=true&sd=true)(held by Zoom until further notice).

January 18

March 15

May 17

August 16th (budget)

September 20

December 13