

Diocese of Easton
Diocesan Council Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2026

Prior documents distributed – finance material, prior meeting minutes, proposed Letter of Agreement for Diocesan Deacons

Due to adverse weather conditions, meeting entirely by Zoom, Megan Timms at Bray House, hosted the meeting.

Present- Rev Darcy Williams, Pres. Standing Committee, Granville Blades, Vice Pres., D.C.,

Chrissy Aull, Sec'y, Rev. Andrew Cropper, Rev, Stephanie Clayville, Vic Edwards, Rev. Dcn Jim Kamihachi, James Martinez, Myron Richardson, Treasurer, Sally Rifenburg, Rev. Suz Southern

Megan Timms, staff, Ned Aull, Personnel and Compensation Committee

Excused – Kay Ferraro, Jim Fitzgerald, Rev. Susie Leight

A quorum was noted.

Granville called to order at 6:01. Rev. Darcy opened with a prayer

Granville introduced James Martinez as the new Lay DC member who will fill the vacancy created by Rev Dcn Lynda Habel who stepped down once becoming a member of the Clergy. The position is a Lay position.

Rev. Stephanie Clayville shared her spiritual journey and, in response she received several responses of appreciation from members for a particularly open and moving share.

Agenda V – Approval of Minutes, Chrissy asked for comments or questions regarding November 2025 meeting minutes, there being none, Andrew Cropper moved and Sally seconded with a vote to approve the stated minutes.

Agenda VI – Rev. Darcy was present as the liaison from Standing Committee and shared the Ecclesiastical Authority Report

Clergy transitions - St. Paul, Centreville has reviewed 6 candidates and is now communicating with one finalist. St. Paul's Kent is scheduling interviews with candidates, St. Alban's Salisbury will be led by Rev. Sheila McJilton as Interim following an upcoming surgery. Pastor Terrence Lively is serving as assistant to Rev. Frank Crumbaugh at Christ Church Kent Island.

At Tunis Mills, Rev Mary Friel and Rev Betty Hudson are serving as supply priests. Rev John Schaeffer of St Mary Anne's, North East will retire this summer.

Rev Dcn Barbara Coleman was able to open a temporary overnight shelter through St Andrews in Hurlock

As Ecclesiastical Authority, the Standing Committee has assigned a liaison to all committees

Discussion was held regarding the installation of security cameras at Bray House, as staff are now at three people and sometimes only one in the office by themselves. Vic motioned to approve the installation costs and Jim Kamihachi seconded, vote unanimous.

One question regarding the status of Terence Lively as an Episcopal curate, Darcy noted there is more action needed for him to obtain this status/position,

Agenda VII – Chrissy shared an update on the recent Gather Listen Connect series of events, She invited James Martinez and Darcy to share as they are active in the Steering Committee. A discussion followed with specific comments that it is time to move on and pursue the business of the DOE in transition. Chrissy indicated she would take the feedback to the Steering Committee as they are planning for one more GLC event and a presentation at Convention.

Agenda VIII- Finance Report – Megan Timms, staff finance, presented and reviewed all recent changes to 2026 Diocesan budget. She noted that all apportions were in, noted a draw for Camp Wright from endowment funds with plans to repay the draw.

Discussion around St Paul's by the Sea parish and their decision not to pledge/pay their apportionment. One comment that there should be no exceptions to

parishes paying apportionment. Suggestions were offered. Darcy noted that negotiations with the SC were in progress with the parish and that there is information the Standing Committee is not at liberty to share at this point. Another suggestion/request was made to allow the Standing Committee to keep working this problem as they currently are, Andrew Cropper made a motion to approve the Standing Committee to continue to address the problem, Stephanie Clayville approved, no further discussion. A vote resulted in a majority agreeing with the motion, with one opposing.

Megan noted that the facility of St. Paul's Vienna, having been formally and canonically closed is now the responsibility of the DOE, pending longer term solutions,

Agenda IX – Revised Letter of Agreement for DOE Deacons – Ned Aull, Chair, Personnel and Compensation Committee presented a review of the LOA that has been drafted by the Committee. Rev Stephanie Clayville assisted Ned with the review as she is a member of the Committee. Following the review, a suggestion was offered for the LOA template to go up on the website, Ned indicated that it would be posted. Myron expressed his support for the document and made one suggestion that under section 7e II - Benefits, remove a notation for 18 %. The suggestion was affirmed and will be changed on the template.

Some Q& A followed, Sally Rifenburg made a motion to accept the LOA with the suggested edit, Rev Sichangi seconded, the vote to approve was unanimous.

Agenda X – Darcy shared an update on Convention planning

Agenda XI- Granville closed the meeting with prayer

Noted that we are holding Feb 23 open in case the Council needs to meet prior to Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Chrissy Aull
Secretary

