

Diocese of Easton Diocesan Council
Special Meeting to review preliminary budget for 2024
November 15, 2023
Chrissy Aull, Secretary

Excused – The Rt Rev Santosh Marray

Present – staff and adjunct
Charlie Bohn
Randall Coates
John Dragone
Megan Timms
Fred Welsh

Members-
Chrissy Aull
Granville Blades
Rev. Dcn. Jim Kamaihachi
Rev. Dr. Nicholas Sichangi

Florence Adams
Gordon Fronk, Pres.
Rev. Mike Lokey
Rev. Dcn Peggy Samuels
Rev Dcn Barbara Coleman
Reverend Andrew Cropper
Linda Hurley
James Martinez

Meeting called to order at 6 p.m., Opening prayer offered by Gordon Fronk, Chrissy Aull as timekeeper

Agenda III – Diocesan Auditor’s report for year ending Dec. 31 2022 – Andrew M. Haynie, CPA, CRD, present by Zoom.
Report screen shared.

A detailed review was provided. Mr. Haynie advised no internal control issues, with compliments to Megan Timms, DOE staff. A healthy statement of financial position was advised.

No concerns with loss on investments – that should bounce back up. Pledges are up, contributions are down. Camp Wright has a loss in operating expenses.

Mr. Haynie invited questions – A general discussion regarding Camp Wright operating loss was held. Suggested that there be consideration of raising the awareness for the growing fiscal needs of Camp Wright and the fundraising goals that are likely needed.

James Martinez advised that he is directly involved with the Camp Wright council and based on his insights, appealed to the Diocese to consider increased financial support from the Diocese for the Camp which is the strongest active mission to reach children and youth for the entire DOE.

Time restricted further discussion - Suggestion offered by Gordon to bring the needs of Camp Wright to the Diocesan Council.

Agenda IV – Chris Maxwell, representing Board of Managers– present by Zoom

Advised portfolio is currently up by 10%.

Mr. Maxwell shared information regarding his relationship with identified management funds. Following his presentation, Rev. Mike Lokey moved that no further action is needed with regard to the

situation described. Rev. Dcn Coleman seconded. Unanimous vote to approve motion.

Agenda # V – Preliminary 2024 budget presentation

Megan Timms, DOE staff shared screen for all attendees and distributed paper copies. Ms. Timms shared a detailed review of budget lines with following highlights –

- As of today, 21 parishes pledging, all but 3 are 100%
- The IONA program is wrapping up, therefore expenses reduced. No sabbaticals yet scheduled for '24. There is no EYE (youth) convention and no mission trip scheduled.

Discussion/questions invited –

Some discussion regarding proposed reduction in expenses dedicated to Youth. Based on last year's experience, in which the funds were not spent, the line item for this year is reduced. Chrissy Aull raised the possibility that the reduced activity in '23 was Covid related and perhaps the activities would be or could be renewed going forward.

Rev. Lokey moved to approve the preliminary budget, Linda Hurley seconded, vote unanimous in favor

Agenda VI – Augustine Parish request for pledge forgiveness in 2024

Gordon read a letter delivered Augustine Parish, which Fred Welsh later noted was a prior year letter and clarified that the Parish is requesting a second year of forbearance. Rev Andrew Cropper moved to excuse 2024 forbearance with second from Florence Adams.

Agenda VII – Adjournment approved. Reverend Lokey offered closing prayer.