

Council of Advice Meeting Tuesday 16 May, 2023 Online via Zoom

Points of Communication

- **Opening Prayer and Dwelling in the word:**

- Rev. Richard Easterling opened our meeting with prayers, followed by our custom of using scripture to focus our work together. This month our reading was Ephesians 1: 15-23.

In the Convocation Cycle of Prayer our prayers were for the Church of the Ascension, Munich, Germany: The Rev. Daniel Morrow, Priest in Charge; The Rev. Dr. Ali Gray, Priest Associate

- **Council of Advice Items**

Bishop's Report – As the Bishop had not sent a report in his absence from our meeting this month, Lois advised us of news since our last meeting. Most importantly, a theme for our Convention and Festival of Gathering in October has been set as “Creating Beloved Community”. Bishop Mark is approaching potential speakers but suggestions of others will be welcomed and considered.

Survey results from Convention and Festival 2022 -

As decided at our last meeting a Survey was finally sent out to all participants. Council members received a collated summary of the results. The maximum number of responses to each question was 28 replies. In general most responses felt that the pricing for the event was correct. There was much discussion over the demands of time on weekends before and after the in-person event and Council recommends that this be limited and dates clearly defined with the Call to Convention if possible. When there are online events, it was recommended that sessions be recorded and made available afterwards for those who were unable to attend.

Report on Resolution 2022-8 and Becoming more Missional -

A working document had been shared in advance and discussion was begun. Using this as a start, we agreed to refine and perfect it when we can be together in June, or at the latest in July so that our response is prepared before Convention.

Finance input – Denis le Moullac, our treasurer, informed Council that the next Finance Committee meeting will be on 27 May. At this meeting they will be drafting a proposed budget for 2024. This will not include specifics of any grants as has been decided at our last Convention. Liaisons were encouraged to be in touch with their partners, especially parishes and missions, regarding any changing expectations for their requests for next year, knowing that the specific documentation will only be requested after Convention. Council members were reminded that written Liaison reports will be expected for our June meeting.

- **Executive Session**

Denis Le Moullac left our meeting at this point. Archdeacon Walter Baer and Sophie Plé had not been able to attend.

- **Diocesan Council Items**

There were none.

- **Standing Committee Items**

Progress on Survey for Geneva Heads of Ministry, 'Diocesan Trust Questionnaire: Previous meetings had encouraged the use of a survey in advance of our Convocation Leader's meetings in June. Suggested questionnaires have been shared with our facilitators for their use with us. It was agreed that if no questionnaire is part of our June meetings, that Council will draft and distribute a document that would be used at least annually. As this process is repeated, a question asking for whether progress on issues would be added.

- **Any Other Business**

The dates of our next meetings were clarified. A problem with the July meeting was identified and Lois will ascertain availability and determine the date soon.

Our meeting adjourned with all reciting the Grace as found in 2 Corinthians 13:14:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.