Attendance:

Pamela Cochran

Audrey Scanlon

Susan Bentley

Patricia Downing

Judith Gregory

Ellyn Crawford

Philip Steptoe

Lisa Brown

Christopher Hart

Nathaniel Pierce

Chris McCloud

Mary Friel

Eddie Vance

Matthew Taylor

Dina Van Klaveren

Glenna Huber

Jack Barrow

Jessica Sexton

Matthy Milling Downing

Geoffrey Wild

Russell Bishop

Steven Jones

Kevin Brown

Cheryl Wild

Welcome: At 9:28 AM, Lisa Brown opened Provincial Council with Morning Prayer. At 9:50 The President of the Executive Committee, the Reverend Nathaniel Pierce presiding, confirmed with Secretary Steven Jones that we had a quorum. Confirmed, the meeting was called to order. Meeting Norms were presented by Eddie Vance. The 2021 minutes were approved without changes.

Presentation on UTO:

Ms. Matty Downing made a presentation on the United Thank Offering. Canon Judith Gregory and the Reverend Pierce noted the impact the UTO has had in Province in the past.

Selection of a representative to the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism and Reconciliation:

At 10:12 the Provincial Council discussed the Episcopal Church’s Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism/Reconciliation and their expectations for selecting a representative. The Reverend Canon Chris McCloud nominated herself as it was noted that if we did not have a nominee the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church would select someone for us. She shared with Council her experience with racism within the Church. At 10:17 the Council unanimously approved her nomination.

Celebration of the Opioid Task Force:

At 10:23 The Reverend Dina van Klaveren presented, for the last time, her report on the Opioid Task Force. Her colleague, Karl Calder could not attend. She noted the task force’s many accomplishments such as pushing legislation within the Church, raising regional and national awareness, launching Camp Spirit Song, promoting Compassion Response Statements and conduct a pilgrimage in West Virginia. Dr. Cochran then shared with Council a slideshow to highlight the task force’s successes. Finally to celebrate and decommission the task force after five successful years, The Rt. Rev. Kevin Brown led us in a “sending out” liturgy. Provincial Coordinator Pamela Cochran presented the Reverend van Klaveren with a prayer stone as a token of the council’s appreciation of her service.

Treasurer’s Report, 2023 Proposed Budget, 2024 Proposed Provincial Apportionment:

At 10:44 the Council took a break and reconvened at 11:06. Treasurer Canon Judith Gregory presented the Treasurer’s Report which included the 2023 Proposed Budget to be adopted and the 2024 Proposed Provincial Apportionment to be recommended to Synod 2023. Based on the 2022 Balance Sheet, President Pierce noted that we have a relatively large checking account balance in part due to the lower expense associated with this year’s abbreviated 80th General Convention and ministry events that did not happen due to adopting Covid-19 Protocols

**Resolution #1** (Council receives the budget report) was moved, seconded and adopted.

There was discussion over whether 40% was the appropriate amount to waiver, whether it should be a waiver or refund of money sent in 20222, and whether dioceses should be required to request it or it should just be refunded.

**Resolution #3** to approve the proposed 2023 budget, projects a deficit of $22,787 which will be increased if all dioceses request the 40% waiver. In addition a proposed COLA adjustment of 7.1% in 2023 was discussed. Canon Gregory moved to approve the 2023 Budget as presented; Jack Barrow seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution #4** recommended that the figure of 0.0035 continue to be used for calculating the 2024 apportionment to support Province III. Evelyn Crawford made a motion to approve; Matthew Taylor seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution #2** recommended authorizing a grant to each diocese of the Province in the amount of $1,000 to support an event and/or commemoration of Harriet Ross Tubman on or about March 10, 2023 provided that (original Resolution #2 is quoted here):  
  
"a)  the Bishop of the Diocese submit a request for this grant to Canon Judith Gregory, Treasurer of Province III ([jgregory@delaware.church](mailto:jgregory@delaware.church)); and  
  
"b)  a report is submitted of how this grant was used to the President of Province III, the Rev. Nathaniel W. Pierce ([nwpierce@verizon.net](mailto:nwpierce@verizon.net)), on or before June 30, 2022."  
  
*[Note: the full text of the original Resolution #2 is in the file of all financial resolutions submitted to the Provincial Council and is attached to these Minutes.]*  
  
Evelyn Crawford moved that this be amended, and the Reverend Glenna Huber seconded. The resolution as written was not approved. The Reverend van Klaveren noted that the idea sounds good, but requires more examination because most Bishops will be away for their meeting of the House of Bishops during that time. The Chair authorized an *ad hoc* committee to draft a substitute resolution during the break for lunch. The resolution was redrafted by this substitute resolutions group comprised of Matthew Taylor, the Reverend Glenna Huber, and the Reverend Dina van Klaveren.  
  
At 12:01 Council recessed for lunch.  
  
Business:     Council reconvened at 1:00. The substitute Resolution #2 (as further amended) was introduced for a vote:  
  
*Whereas*, the 80th General Convention encouraged all dioceses and parishes, in cooperation with other judicatories and local communities of faith, to honor Harriet Ross Tubman on the 110th anniversary of her death (March 10, 2023); and  
 *Whereas*, the Third Province of the The Episcopal Church encompasses the geography of Harriet Tubman’s life and ministry; and  
  
*Whereas*, the Third Province of the Episcopal Church recognizes the role and complicity of the Episcopal Church in the promotion of chattel slavery; now, therefore, be it  
  
*Resolved*, That The Third Province of the Episcopal Church will provide financial grants up to $1,000 for each member diocese to use in commemorating Harriet Tubman in celebration of the 110th anniversary of her death  (March 10, 2023); and be it further  
  
*Resolved*, That to this end the Provincial Council of Province III, meeting in Martinsburg, WV, on Monday, November 7, 2022, authorizes up to a total of $13,000 to be used in support of commemorations of Harriet Ross Tubman, whether oriented as worship, education, formation or historical research; and be it further  
  
*Resolved*, That the Province III Provincial Council hereby establishes a committee of three (3) to five (5) members to promote the commemoration of Harriet Ross Tubman and oversee the Provincial grant making process. The members of the committee will be Ellyn Crawford (Virginia), Matthew Taylor (Washington), the Rev. Sean Mullen (Pennsylvania), and the Ven. Ruth Elder (Maryland).  
  
FOR COMMITTEE PROCESS:  
  
In order to apply for the $1,000 grant:  
  
a) the Church entity within Province III requesting a grant shall submit a request for this grant to the Committee by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which must have approval of the bishop or ecclesiastical authority; and  
  
b) a report is submitted of how this grant was used to the Committee on or before June 30, 2024;  
  
and be it further  
  
*Resolved*, That a Press Release to news organizations for stories about such events in March 2023 will be distributed. The Executive Committee and the Committee herein established will announce the grantees before the 110th anniversary of Harriet Ross Tubman’s death on March 10, 2023.  
  
The Reverend Patricia Downing moved to accept and approve the substitute resolution, Canon Judith Gregory seconded; the motion was adopted on a unanimous vote.

Presentation on the Diocese of Maryland’s Reparations Program:

At 1:22 The Reverend Canon Chris McCloud presented a report on the Diocese of Maryland’s Reparations Grant Program; her focus was on reclaiming the definition of reparations, noting its implications, and how we can be effective agents for this reparative work. She noted that $175,000 was dispersed in 2021 across six grants. She asked/challenged the Council as to how it can support this work. President Pierce asked her if she would prepare a presentation for the Synod meeting in May on this issue; she agreed.

Ordinances:

Mr. Christopher Hart, member of the Ordinances and Resolutions Committee at 1:59 proposed updates to amendments to ordinances. After presenting the proposed amendments, Mr. Hart made the motion to accept the changes, it was second by Canon Judith Gregory. The motion carried. These proposed changes to the Ordinances of Province III will be submitted to the Synod on May 1, 2023.

President’s Remarks

President Pierce announced that the Rt. Rev. James J. “Bud” Shand, retired Bishop of the Diocese of Easton, had agreed to accept the position of our Ordinance VII Bishop, “the Bishop not on the Provincial Council from whom the employee may seek counseling or advice or to whom the employee may address a complaint.”

Executive Council Reports:

The Reverend Patricia Downing and Matthew Taylor, Province III’s representatives to the Executive Council presented their report highlighting “Mission Beyond”, the Presiding Bishop’s three pillars and plans for the selection of the next Presiding Bishop. The 81st General Convention will be held in Louisville 2024. It was noted that the proposed format will be longer than the 80th General Convention’s four days, but shorter than the traditional length about 10 days.

Provincial Coordinator Report:

This has felt like a rebuilding year, which seems appropriate:

* We are coming out of the long period of Covid, during which our work continued as we pivoted online (which included the beginning of 2022):
  + Anti-Racism book discussion with Kelly Brown Douglas on her latest book, *Resurrection Hope*
  + Hybrid Youth Racial Reconciliation Pilgrimages: in SWVA, DEL, MD, others?
  + The Formation ministry continued to meet online, almost monthly, for “Deep Dives”.
* We began also to venture into some in-person ministry:
  + Synod met in person last May (no known Covid cases as a result).
  + The College for Congregational Development met in person at Claggett (no known Covid cases as a result).
  + A scaled down, successful GC, was held in Baltimore in July.
    - I helped plan and assist at Maryland night and volunteered every day at the House of Deputies.
    - Sharon Nachman, our provincial altar Guild coordinator, coordinated the altar guild at GC.

This fall, my work has focused on meetings with people as we re-new, re-establish, and re-vision the ministry that we can do best together, between our dioceses and across our province. This has struck me as an appropriate time for this, coming out of pandemic, with a new president and Executive Committee, and marking my 5th year in this position. Among those meetings have been:

* Meetings with Bishops. Some suggestions from them:
  + Networking groups for folks with canonical roles that every diocese has to have:
    - secretaries of convention;
    - presidents of standing committees;
    - diocesan council presidents;
    - presidents of the disciplinary boards;
    - chairs on Commissions on Ministry
    - retreat/gathering for some Diocesan Canons
    - Come together to discuss big ministry issues, like: What are we looking for in ministry? Where do we need to scale up? What about our economic model works/doesn’t work? Our model is coming off the rails; what comes next?
  + Young Adult Ministry
  + Another province-wide Title IV training next fall
  + Safe church training?
  + Share materials on Tubman, the Underground Railroad across the Province prior to the March celebration for her (liturgy; Lenten study materials; historical information links to websites and films).
* Meetings with Formation leaders on EYE and P3@EYE event prior, also Deep Dives, and Forma
* Discussions with Anti-Racism leaders (inc. the possibility of doing a province-wide Sacred Ground group made up of POC and White members).
* Meeting with a number of people (scholars, archivists, the Director of the NPS UGRR program) about Harriet Tubman materials.
  + Meet on the UGRR…
* Meeting with a newly appointed representative to the National College Ministry TF
* Along with the usual Exec. Comm., PLC meetings, work on the budget and preparations for Synod and Council

Vice President’s Report:

Bishop Kevin Brown, Provincial Council Vice President, could not share his remarks as he had to leave early for a meeting of the General Seminary Board of Trustees.

Other Business:

Mr. Christopher Hart made the motion to send Bishop Mike Klusmeyer a letter of congratulations on his appointment to be Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Ministry within The Episcopal Church. It was second by Matthew Taylor and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, at approximately 3:15 the Reverend Mary Garner closed the Council meeting with a prayer.