

Standing Committee Report, for July 2010 – June 2011

Continuing the trend from the last program year, the Standing Committee has reviewed many property matters – most having to do with properties being sold or refurbished. This work is in conjunction with recommendations by the Real Estate Advisory Committee. In addition, there were several Stokes Loan approvals and the review of revisions to the Constitution/ By-Laws of a number of parishes.

Respectfully submitted by,
Robin L. Preston and the Rev. Johanna Barrett, Co-Secretaries
Standing Committee

Below are the highlights for the past year:

July/August 2010

- July 29 - Voted electronically to consent to the consecration of Scott Hayashi as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Utah and Terry Allen White as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Kentucky.
- August 27 - Voted electronically to approve (with one abstention) a Stokes Loan in the amount of \$44,000 to St. Paul's, Bedford. This will add to their current loan of \$56,000, for a maximum loan of \$100,000. This will help to complete work for a preschool on the premises.

September 9, 2010

- VOTED to approve the granting of a Stokes Loan for St. Paul's Church, 39 East Central St., Natick, in the amount of \$100,000 for 15 years at an interest rate of 5% to renovate/refurbish parish rectory.
- VOTED with one abstention, to the granting of a Stokes Loan for St. John's Parish, 23 High Street, Sharon, MA in the amount of \$15,000 for 15 years, at an interest rate of 5% to replace the failing heating system.
- VOTED to the granting of a Stokes Loan for St. John's Parish, 222 Bowdoin St., Winthrop, in the amount of \$65,000 for 15 years at an interest rate of 5% to replace the Rectory & Parish Hall roofs and the Church rotted window fascia.
- By previous email vote provided advice and consent to the granting of a Stokes Loan for St. Paul's Church, 100 Pine Hill Rd., Bedford, in the amount of \$44,000 for 15 years at an interest rate of 5% for drainage and paving repairs to parking lot and driveway.
- VOTED with one abstention, provided advice and consent to the Bishop to allow Trinity Church, Topsfield to enter into a site lease with option with T-Mobile, Northeast LLC.
- VOTED to provide advice and consent to the Bishop to allow Christ Church, Andover to pledge the church property as collateral for a \$1.5 million bridge loan from a local bank to fund a new organ and renovations to the sanctuary in advance of funds being received from a capital campaign
- VOTED to approve for the dissemination of the GUIDE TO DIOCESAN REVIEW OF ACQUISITION, SALE, AND ENCUMBRANCE OF CHURCH REAL ESTATE as

submitted by the Real Estate Advisory Committee (REAC) pending the approval of the Bishops and any input from them and on their behalf by Canon Lloyd, and any revision REAC might make to the section relating to communication towers.

- VOTED to recognize the request from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Inc. (the "Parish") in Millis, to (i) close the Parish, liquidate its assets, and dissolve, and (ii) in order to begin such process, to reclassify the Parish as a Closing Mission, as provided under Canon 14, Section 4(1) of the Diocese, the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to the closing, liquidating, and dissolution of the Parish and to the reclassification of the Parish to a Closing Mission.
- VOTED to approve the replacement of the By-laws of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Inc., Millis, with the closing mission By-laws prescribed by the Diocese.
- VOTED to approve the adoption of the By-laws of St. Alban's Episcopal Mission, in Lynn, with such By-laws being prescribed by the Diocese.
- VOTED to approve the revised By-laws of St. Mark's Church, Burlington, as submitted.
- VOTED to the consent of ordination of Scott Hayashi as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Utah. Vote was taken by e-mail during the summer.

October 14, 2010

- VOTED to approve the revised by-laws of St. Paul's Church, Malden as submitted.
- VOTED to ratify the election of Ronald Doucette to the Vestry of Christ Church in the City of Boston (Old North Church) to fill the term left vacant by the resignation of Conrad Wall.
- VOTED to approve the revised by-laws as submitted for Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton, which removed the Lincoln Endowment provision.
- VOTED to give advice and consent to the Bishop to allow the Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton to sell land located on Newtown Road on the edge of the church's property, with the recommendation of REAC.
- VOTED to give advice and consent to the Bishop to allow St. John the Evangelist Church, Mansfield, to sell the annex with the proviso that the proceeds of the sale be put in trust with the Trustees of Donations and the income from that trust be used for the maintenance of the church, per the recommendations of REAC.

November 18, 2010

- The Standing Committee welcomed two newly elected members James Wagner and Mark McKone-Sweet.
- VOTED to elect Steve Ayers as President and Nick Carter as Vice-President to serve until Convention 2011.
- VOTED to elect Jo Barrett and Robin Preston as Co-Secretaries to serve until Convention 2011.
- VOTED to approve the revised Constitution of St. John's, Charlestown with the request to drop the word "By-laws" from the document and increase the number for a quorum from 10 to 25.

- VOTED to approve the following persons for ordination to the priesthood, as presented by the Commission on Ministry: Jeremi Colvin, Edwin Johnson, Daniel MacDonald, Sarah Randall and Matthew Venuti.
- VOTED to consent to the Ordination and Consecration of Michael Pierce Milliken as Bishop Diocesan in the Diocese of Western Kansas.
- VOTE DEFEATED with one abstention, to consent to the Ordination and Consecration of Daniel Hayden Martins as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Springfield.

December 9, 2010

- VOTED to approve a Stokes Loan for the Parish of the Messiah, 1900 Commonwealth Ave., Newton in the amount of \$31,000 for 15 years at an interest rate of 5% to repair the boiler room floor and the re-pointing of the front and chimney brickwork.
- VOTED to approve a Stokes Loan for St. James's Church, 1170 Broadway, Somerville in the amount of \$20,000 for 15 years at an interest rate of 5% to renovate the adjoined apartment.
- VOTED with one abstention, to approve for Trinity Church, Topsfield a bank line of credit not to exceed \$200,000.00 to cover construction projects as the Capital Campaign pledges come in.
- VOTED to approve the request of St. Matthew & the Redeemer Church, Inc., in South Boston to the closing of the Mission, liquidation and transfer of its remaining assets to the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese"), and its dissolution.
- Voted to approve Brent Was for ordination to the Diaconate, as voted electronically on 12/4/10.
- Voted by the clerical members of Standing Committee to accept the renunciation of Holy Orders in The Episcopal Church of the United States of America by the Rev. Gianstefano Martin and consent to his removal from Ordained Ministry in this church, releasing him from the obligations of all ministerial offices, thus depriving him of the right to exercise the gifts and spiritual authority as a Minister of God's Word and Sacraments in the Episcopal Church (U.S.A.) conferred on him in ordination in this church.

January 20, 2011

- VOTED, with one abstention, to support Bishop Shaw in his celebration of the marriage of the Rev. Canon Mally Lloyd and the Rev. Dr. Katherine Ragsdale.
- VOTED to consent to the ordination of Martin Scott Field as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of West Missouri.
- VOTED to consent to the ordination of Ralph William Franklin as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Western New York.
- VOTED to consent to the ordination of Rayford Jeffrey Ray as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Northern Michigan.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese") provides its advice and consent for the closing St. Paul's Church, Inc, Brockton, the liquidation and transfer of its assets to the Diocese, and the dissolution of the Corporation.

- VOTED that the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to the sale of the property owned by St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Inc., Brockton as provided for under Canon 18, Section 1 of the Diocese, at a value of not less than eighty-five percent (85%) of the appraised value of the property from which the seller would then net any remediation costs, not more than 5% of the appraised value.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to St. Thomas's Church, Taunton, for the purchase of the property at 1 Porter Square in Taunton in the amount of \$299,000 with the condition that there is a satisfactory environmental review completed on said property.
- VOTED to approve the revised By-Laws of St. John's Church, Saugus as presented.

February 4, 2011

In lieu of a formal meeting, a small meeting was included in the Standing Committee's Annual Retreat held at the Old North Church, in the North End.

- VOTED to approve the revised By-Laws of Calvary Church, Danvers as submitted.
- VOTED to approve the revised By-Laws of Trinity Church, Newton Centre on the condition that the Treasurer not be excluded as a member of the Vestry and that two-thirds of the members of the Vestry (six) shall constitute a quorum.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts (the "Diocese") provides its advice and consent for the closing of St. Andrew's Church, Natick, the liquidation and transfer of its assets to the Diocese and the dissolution of the Mission.
- VOTED to ratify the election of the following Officers and Vestry Members of Christ Church in the City of Boston as elected at the annual meeting on January 23, 2011:

Senior Warden:	Woodie Haskins
Junior Warden:	Kit Williams
Chancellor:	Richard Porteus
Treasurer:	Allyson Ross Davies
Clerk:	Bruce Shaw
Vestry:	Ronald Doucette
Vestry:	Jane Olszewski

- VOTED to accept and approve the Letter of Renunciation of the Reverend Franklin E. Huntress, Jr. based on Title IV, Canon 8, Section 1, of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church.

March 10, 2011

- Accepted the resignation of George Welles, from Standing Committee due to his upcoming retirement.
- VOTED to appoint Zenetta Armstrong to fill the vacancy until the November 2011 Annual Convention of the Diocese.

- VOTED that Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to the Bishop to permit St. Peter's Church, Cambridge to proceed with the sale of the church Rectory, located at 15 Clinton Street, Cambridge, MA with the proviso that the proceeds from the sale be placed in the Diocesan Investment Trust and that all proceeds be dedicated to the provision of clergy housing.
- VOTED, as provided for under Canon 14, Section 4(1) of the Diocese, the Standing Committee acting at the request of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Belmont, Inc. provides its advice and consent to the closing of the Mission, liquidation and transfer of its remaining assets to the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese"), and its dissolution.
- VOTED to approve the revised by-laws, including requested changes, of St. Barnabas's Church, Falmouth, conditional on the ratification of these changes at the next all-parish meeting.
- VOTED to approve the revised by-laws of St. John's Church, Westwood, pending clarification as to whether or not they are incorporated.
- VOTED to approve the following individuals for Candidacy to the Priesthood effective December 1, 2010: Lynn Campbell, Jessica Flaherty, Lisa Fortuna, Margery Kennelly, Kiel Walter Mitchell, and Meghan Sweeney.
- VOTED to approve the following individuals for Candidacy to the Diaconate effective December 1, 2010: Virgilio Fortuna, Julian K. Fredie, Holly Hartman, Therese Hofmann, Peter L. Jeffrey, Ema Rosero-Nordalm, and Ken Schmidt.

April 14, 2011

- VOTED to consent to the ordination of Brent Was to the Priesthood, Dan Horgan to the Diaconate and Suzanne B. Wade and Lynn Campbell to the Transitional Diaconate.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee recommends approval of the lease with Tri-CAP on the condition that the Vestry of Grace Church/Everett vote to become 'a congregation at risk' and follow the November 12, 2010 'congregations at risk' policy.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee provide its advice and consent to the Bishop for a Stokes Fund Loan in the amount of \$100,000 for 15 years at 5% interest on the church property of Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 124 River Road in Topsfield to be used to replace the church boiler and heating systems, subject to the following condition: the review of the most recent balance sheet by the Diocesan Loan Committee.
- VOTED to approve the new Constitution of St. Luke's – Hudson as revised.
- VOTED to approve the By-Laws of Christ Church – Hamilton as revised.
- VOTED that, as provided for under Canon 14, Section 4(1) of the Diocese, the Standing Committee acting at the request of St. David's Mission, of Halifax, provides its advice and consent to the closing of the Mission, liquidation and transfer of the remaining assets to the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese"), and its dissolution.
- VOTED to the consent of ordination of George Young as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of East Tennessee.
- VOTED to the consent to the election of a Bishop Coadjutor, Diocese of New York.
- VOTED to the consent to the election of a Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of Virginia.

May 12, 2011

- VOTED that Standing Committee gives its advice and consent to allow Grace Church, Everett to enter into a long-term lease with the Tri-City Community Action Program, Inc. (Tri-CAP), provided that Grace Church agrees to enter into a strategic planning process utilizing their deanery and appropriate diocesan resources with an interim report outlining the planning process to be submitted to Standing Committee by January 2012 and a final strategic plan by January 2013.
- VOTED, that the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to the Bishop for the sale of the properties owned by St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Inc., located at 128 Village Street, Millis, and 903 Main Street, Millis, as provided for under Canon 18, Section 1 of the Diocese, at a price of not less than 85% of the current appraised value of \$165K for the rectory and 295K for the church.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to permit St. Peter's Church, Buzzards Bay to enter into a long-term lease with Susan Heinlein, d/b/a Discovery Preschool, conditional on inclusion of a provision in the lease giving St. Peter's the right to terminate the lease on its anniversary upon 9-month's notice to the tenant, with the recommendation of the REAC.
- VOTED that the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to the Bishop to permit St. Peter's Church, Salem to sell the rectory located at 2 Fairfield Street, Salem, Massachusetts on the condition that the proceeds are used to provide housing for the clergy of the parish.
- VOTED to consent to the election of a Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Haiti.

June 8, 2011

- VOTED that the Standing Committee provides its advice and consent to the Bishop to grant permission for the recording of an encumbrance on the title to the church at St. Paul's, Nantucket, for the purpose of securing a \$155,900 Community Preservation Act grant for renovation of stained glass windows.
- VOTED as provided for under Canon 14, Section 4(1) of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese"), the Standing Committee acting at the request of St. Luke's Episcopal Church Parish of Malden, a Massachusetts corporation, provides its advice and consent to the Bishop for the closing of the Mission, liquidation and transfer of its remaining assets to the "Diocese", and its dissolution.
- VOTED as provided for under Canon 14, Section 4(1) of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese"), the Standing Committee acting at the request of The Church of the Holy Trinity, Massachusetts corporation, provides its advice and consent to the Bishop for the closing of the Mission, liquidation and transfer of its remaining assets to the "Diocese", and its dissolution.
- VOTED as provided for under Canon 14, Section 4(1) of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts ("Diocese"), the Standing Committee acting at the request of The Parish of St. Augustine's Church, Lawrence, a Massachusetts corporation, provides

its advice and consent to the Bishop for the closing of the Mission, liquidation and transfer of its remaining assets to the “Diocese”, and its dissolution.

- VOTED to approve the revised by-laws of St. John’s Church, Newtonville with certain changes.