

STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE DIOCESE OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES OF MEETING OF NOVEMBER 5, 2024

Present: Bishop Audrey Scanlan, Eric Hillegas+, David Wirick, Allison Carnahan+, Barb Cross, Veronica Chappell+, Jennifer Mattson+, Bob Davis, Jr., Sarah Reid

Absent: Rick Breach, Kevin Barron+, Kyle Murphy+, David Luo

Pastoral Update: Bishop Scanlan informed the Committee of the tragic and sudden death of David Kish, long-time partner of Committee member Kyle Murphy+. The meeting was then opened with prayer.

Election of Officers

Upon motion by Barb Cross, seconded by Dave Wirick, Eric Hillegas+ was unanimously elected to serve as President of the Standing Committee.

Upon motion by Eric Hillegas+, seconded by Dave Wirick, Bob Davis, Jr., was unanimously elected to serve as Secretary of the Standing Committee.

Certification of Suffragan Bishop

After brief discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to certify the election of Rev. Angela Maria Cortinas as Suffragan Bishop of West Texas. Motion by Jennifer Mattson+, seconded by Barb Cross.

Interviews

Ryan Tobin, Candidate for Priesthood.

Kathy Hettinga, Candidate for Priesthood.

Each candidate highlighted recent elements of their formation journeys and placement experiences, as well as anticipated areas of continued growth in ministry.

Motion by David Wirick, seconded by Veronica Chappell+, to approve Ryan Tobin for ordination to the priesthood. Unanimously approved.

Motion by David Wirick, seconded by Allison Carnahan+, to approve Kathy Hettinga for ordination to the priesthood. Unanimously approved.

Standing Time With the Bishop

Bishop Scanlan gave a positive report about initial recovery from recent foot surgery.

She next gave an overview of the next steps in the process of reunification with the Diocese of Bethlehem, highlighting the role of the Transition Leadership Committee

(TLC) that will oversee various Working Groups. The Standing Committee is responsible for appointing three members to the TLC.

Eric+ indicated that Barb Cross, Lisa Work+, and Jim Strader-Sasser+ all indicated a willingness to serve on the TLC, if nominated. After brief discussion, a motion was made by Veronica Chappell+, seconded by Jennifer Mattson+, to appoint Barb and Lisa+ to the TLC. A separate motion was made by Eric+, seconded by Barb, to appoint Jim+, conditional upon his formal acceptance.

Bishop Scanlan shared the good news that 54 applicants have already expressed interest in joining one of the 10 working groups that will engage in the detailed strategic and institutional work of reunification.

The meeting was adjourned .

Next Meeting Tuesday, December 3rd.