

Report of the Standing Committee to the 128th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado—October 1-3, 2015

Purpose:

The Standing Committee functions as the Board of Directors of the Diocesan Corporation known as *The Bishop and Diocese of Colorado*. Colorado's Standing Committee also combines Diocesan Council duties which may be a separate body in other dioceses.

Standing Committee responsibilities are:

- Council of Advice to Bishop
- Develop Mission Strategy
- Conduct business of the diocese
- Diocesan Finances
- Diocesan Policies and Compliance
- Alienation and Encumbrance Requests
- Communications to Congregations
- Approval of Board Appointments to Diocesan Institutions
- Consent to Election of Bishops

Membership : Name	Region	Clergy	Lay	Parish	Position
Jim Wolfe	High Plains		X	Ch of the Good Shepherd	Secretary
Scott Turner	Northwest	X		St. Paul's	President
Harry Tournay	Sangre de Cristo		X	Ascension	Member
George Berlin	Front Range	X		St. Phillips & St. James	Member
Lyn Burns	High Plains	X		St. Charles	Member
Allan Conrad	Southwest		X	St. Matthew's	Member
Denson Freeman	Sangre de Cristo	X		Our Savior	Member
Caroline Hollowed	Northwest		X	St. James	Member
Robert Morse	Front Range		X	St. John	Vice-President
Leigh Waggoner	Southwest	X		St. Barnabas	Member

The Standing Committee consists of one elected lay and clergy representative from each of the five regions of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado. We are charged with both canonical and secular duties. We elect from our membership a President, Vice-President and a Secretary to respond to corporate requirements and to act as our Executive Committee with the appointed Treasurer and the Bishop. This group handles delegated duties between our regular meetings.

In addition to this body of ten there are three ex-officio members: the Bishop; the Treasurer, Mr. Chuck Thompson; and the President of the Colorado Episcopal Churchwomen, The Rev. Twila Zittle. Mr. Larry Hitt, Esq. is the Diocesan Chancellor (lawyer) and attends as needed.

Canon to the Ordinary, The Rev. Canon Carl Andrews; the Canon Missioner, The Rev. Canon Lou Blanchard; the Director of Communications, The Rev. Becky Jones; and the President of the Colorado Episcopal Foundation, Ms. Anita Sanborn attend as senior staff. They provide reports on the work of the various ministries that the Bishop's Office oversees. An appointed Chaplain, The Rev. Michelle Danson, guides us during the first morning of our meetings in faith formation experiences. Others are invited on an ad hoc basis to provide legal advice and/or to give reports. We generally meet at five regularly scheduled meetings per calendar year, plus one retreat at Cathedral Ridge.

Ad hoc meetings are called from time-to-time, with one of these typically being during the Diocesan Convention when the elected members meet with postulants nearing ordination who are attending the convention at the invitation of the Bishop. This is one of our canonical duties.

Our principal canonical duty is to consent to the election of bishops when we are presented with the invitation to do so. A majority of Standing Committees throughout the Church, as well a majority of bishops exercising jurisdiction in separate election, must consent to a bishop-elect's election before ordination can take place. Several elections have gained the consent of the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee deliberations are benefited by members who are active in the life of the Episcopal Church outside our diocese. The Rev. Lyn Burns and our Chancellor, Larry Hitt, were Deputies to General Convention. The Rev. Scott Turner was with them in Salt Lake City as first clergy alternate. Time was taken at two consecutive meetings to have conversations with members of Colorado's Deputation. The significant issues were discussed and opinions expressed.

We have continued to take as our guiding principles, the four mission foci:

- I. Living Missionally at a Grassroots Level
- II. Establishing Radical Generosity as a Core Pattern of Life
- III. Engaging Substantively with the Suffering of the World
- IV. Committing Fully to Evangelizing Youth and Young Adults

In our retreat in April, we did some future casting that showed that in the future additional principles may be added. None the less, we are continuing to shape diocesan resources to support congregations in living out the four stated missional goals.

In particular, the visioning of the task force on faith formation has led to the creation of a three person office under the leadership of The Rev. Canon Ken Malcolm. He will oversee all of the programs and camp sessions at Cathedral Ridge Camp and Conference Center. His team will also be involved in various formation events, training, retreats, and congregational support.

Cathedral Ridge has been at the center of many meetings. A great deal of the SC time has been spent on the details of contracts, loans, repayment schedules, and the property pool that was created to pay those loans back. The two properties that brought in the largest return were the old St. George's campus in Cherry Hills Village and what was called Camp Illium in Southwestern Colorado. Together, they were sold for nearly \$2,000,000.

Cathedral Ridge has a solid business plan, a visionary purpose in forming youth, young adults, and adults. In order to make a start on an ambitious development plan, the Bishop and Standing Committee approved the implementation of a \$5,000,000 capital funds drive. The campaign called **Generation to Generation** has begun soliciting congregations for pledges to be paid over 3-5 years. The members of SC have all been solicited and have made personal pledges.

The SC has to approve any loans on or sales of church property. Several large projects are in varying states of progress. Calvary, Golden; and, St. Brigit's in Frederick; are church projects that include partners from governments at different levels, philanthropic organizations, and non-profit organizations. St. Raphael's in Security has purchased and is renovating an older house to be a day care center/preschool. These are a few of the bold new ministry initiatives in the Diocese.

It is a privilege to serve the Diocese as members of the Standing Committee. It is a joy to be able to see and know about the many amazing ministries being carried on by the faithful members of our church.

