

# EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD

## THE ELECTION COMMITTEE

### Highlights of the Meeting of the Election Committee

January 9, 2010

Diocesan Center, Springfield, IL

Attending: The Rev. Canon Eugene A. Stormer, Chair, The Rev. Sheryl Black, Mr. Charles Evans, Mr. Keith Gehrand, Mr. Harry Gore, Mrs. Jane Hill, Mrs. Therese Kobel, Mrs. Elisabeth Langford, Dr. David Maurer, Mr. Joseph Patterson, The Rev. Canon Dr. George Pence, Mrs. Kathie Schmitt, and Mrs. Martha Stiehl

Absent: Dr. Steve Pearson and Ms. Sierra Gore

The meeting open at 10:05 a.m. with a prayer lead by Fr. Stormer. The minutes of the meeting on December 5, 2009 were distributed and reviewed. There were no corrections made.

Mrs. Jane Hill from Alton has been added to the Nomination Forms and Questionnaires Committee at her request.

Reports and printed material from the various committees were distributed and analyzed:

#### **The Profile Committee on Statistics and Facts:**

- A map of the Diocese with the location of the churches was submitted and accepted.
- Information concerning the capital city, Springfield, was submitted and could be included in the profile as a web address.
- Discussion ensued about including the major population centers: Bloomington-Normal, Springfield, Champaign-Urbana and the Metro East area of Madison and St. Clair counties - in the basic diocesan information.
- A suggestion was made to include the colleges and universities within the diocese.
- The acceptance of an observation statement that focused on a compilation of parochial reports and other diocesan data.

#### **The Survey Committee:**

- Compilation of an up-to-date listing of all parishes and missions in the Diocese with contact persons.
- Outline of the survey with each section being analyzed and changes made. A revised version is to be submitted for obtaining data.
- The survey, which is to be sent to the congregations shortly, will be available on the Diocesan web site in two versions – Microsoft Word and PDF. The diocesan family will be able to complete the survey either by mailing it to the Election Committee at the Diocesan Center or by emailing it to the Election Committee.
- The privacy of individuals will be protected since the Chair will be the sole committee member to open the mail marked “Survey” and addressed to the Election Committee and to receive emails with attached forms. The information will then be recorded.

- Congregations may submit forms collectively and anonymously either by mail or email to the Election Committee.

### **The Nominations and Forms and Questionnaires Committee:**

Outline of the nomination process and the required forms was presented.

The following areas were agreed on:

- The eligibility to nominate (Who can nominate?): All nominations will require one clergy and one lay person. Those nominators must be members of the Episcopal Church. No self nominations will be permitted.
- The acceptance of nominations of any clergy in the Anglican Communion as defined by the Archbishop of Canterbury. This excludes clergy persons of continuing churches like the Anglican Mission in America (AMIA).
- Nominators are to receive the permission of the individuals they are nominating in order to submit their names.
- Nominators will provide information about themselves, how they are acquainted with the nominee and why they believe the nominee is a good candidate for Bishop of Springfield.
- Each nominee is required to submit three references including one clergy person and one lay person.
- Discussion on Nomination Forms will take place at the next meeting.

A short discussion ensued on background checks of nominees and the procedure to be used in obtaining information.

### **The History Committee:**

Information on the episcopates of Bishops Beckwith, Hillestad and Hultstrand was presented. This historical information will be integrated into the brief history taken from the Diocesan Centennial Commission booklet of 1977. A shorter version will be provided for the Diocesan Profile.

### **Decisions made:**

- The formulation of the survey to be used throughout the Diocese and survey forms to be returned by February 2, 2010, The Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas).
- A proposed structure for the Diocesan Profile and information to be included.
- Identified the nomination process and nomination form to be used.

### **Outstanding Items:**

- Nominee package to be developed at the next meeting.
- Youth group and organization section of the profile to be completed.

### **Information:**

The email which the members of the Diocese will use to submit information for the election process is: [bishopsearch@episcopalspringfield.org](mailto:bishopsearch@episcopalspringfield.org)

The next meeting is planned for February 13<sup>th</sup> to finalize the initial profile.

The meeting ended with prayer at 2:15 p.m.