

Executive Council Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

June 11, 2024

Minutes of the Teleconference

HBCU COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Canon Martini Shaw, Bishop Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, Ms. Martha Alexander, Fr. Dick Burnett, Canon Jamie Callaway, Dr. Joel Cunningham, Canon Anita George, Canon Michele Hagans, Dr. Eugene Lowe, and Bishop Sam Rodman.

Absent committee members: Mr. Scott Evenbeck.

STAFF AND CONSULTANTS: Mr. Kurt Barnes, Canon Ron Byrd, and Mrs. Nancy Caparulo.

Absent staff and consultants: Fr. Lang Lowery and Ms. Julia Alling.

Cn. Shaw called the meeting to order, with a quorum present, at 9:00 AM EDT. Canon Byrd offered a prayer.

Dr. Cunningham made contact with Bishop Haynes, who would like to speak with Cn. Shaw about the work she is doing with St. Paul's.

The next meeting for this committee was set for Wednesday, July 10 at 10:00 AM.

The minutes from the May 6 meeting were moved (Callaway), seconded (Lowe), and approved as presented.

St. Augustine's Update

Bp Sam talked a little about the board meetings of May 21 and June 7. He moved the committee to go into executive session at 9:10, inviting Cn. Byrd, Mr. Barnes and Ms. Caparulo to remain in the meeting. Motion was seconded (Lowe) and technical issues encountered around discontinuing the Zoom recording. It was decided the rest of the agenda would continue until the recording could be stopped.

Voorhees Update

Bishop Ruth reported the summer session just ended 166 online students participated. Gear-Up hosted 163 middle school students for a one-week residency, a living and learning program. There will be three additional weeks offered. An MOU was signed with the Center for Financial Advancement for a 3-year grant of \$147K to teach financial responsibility and money management. One student was named NAIA National triple jump champion in Indiana.

A question arose about an in-person meeting at Voorhees in the fall. Bishop Ruth was asked to communicate with the appropriate people there to see when it would be a good time to visit. It is hoped to have a date by the July meeting so planning can go forward.

Absalom Jones disbursement has been received at Voorhees. The chaplaincy is doing very well and Chaplain Chery is active in the diocese.

Canon Byrd Remarks

Cn. Byrd has not been in touch with Chaplain Hershey but will be. He will be making scholarship recommendations to the DFMS scholarship team this afternoon. He observed the applicant numbers were down for Voorhees this year (none) and only one from SAU. Awards this year will be \$40K between the two institutions and he works with both universities in this particular area. Chaplains might be helpful in promoting the scholarship opportunity.

Treasurer's Remarks

Mr. Barnes reported a clean audit had been presented to the Audit Committee the prior day. He has a July 23 date on the calendar to meet with the PB elect.

Bp. Ruth took the Chair for Cn. Shaw, who had switched to telephone access with no video.

St. Augustine's (continued)

Bp. Sam proceeded with the tape running. A lawsuit was formally filed on May 31 by a group of alumni against the board of trustees. Bp. Sam talked about the details around the suit and the actions of the annual meeting at SAU. The meeting minutes show that all except Bp. Sam voted in favor of a loan of \$7 million at 24% interest incumbering all of the land that is SAU.

Bp. Sam and Chaplain Hershey are in touch. She is ¼ time at SAU and ¾ time at a congregation in Raleigh. She has worked with historiographer and archivist to secure the history of SAU.

The recording stopped at about 9:40, Bp. Sam moved to go into executive session again and the committee did so until the meeting ended at 9:58 by motion and vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Caparulo
Staff support to the committee