Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons

Remote Meeting, Zoom Platform

February 27, 2025

**DRAFT** Minutes

(subject to corrections and additions when approved by the Commission)

Members present: Scott Barker, Anita Braden, Nancy Cohen, Lynn Carter Edmands, Andrew Dumas, Carolyn Glosby, Tom Little, Frank Logue, Andrea McKellar, Aaron Perkins, Russ Randle, Diane Sammons, Susan Brown Snook, Rachel Taber-Hamilton, Eva Warren.

Others present: Ian Douglas, representative of the Presiding Bishop; Michael Glass, Chancellor to the President of the House of Deputies; Sally Johnson, Consultant; Mary Kostel, Chancellor to the Presiding Bishop; Louisa McKellaston, liaison of Executive Council.

Frank Logue convened the Standing Commission with prayer at 4:02 p.m. Eastern Times, declared a quorum present, and read through the agenda:

Approval of Minutes of the November 18-20, 2024, Meetings

Subcommittee Check-ins

-Title IV Database – Anita Braden

- Lay Accountability – Russ Randle

- Dioceses facing Challenges – Andrea McKellar

- Custodian Clean-Up Details – Diane Sammons

- General Convention Legislative Process Subcommittee Update – Frank Logue

Discussion toward setting an agenda for the April 3-5 in-person meetings

Adjourn

The Members unanimously approved the Minutes of the November 18-20, 2024, meetings, as posted.

The subcommittees proceeded with their updates.

**Title IV Database Subcommittee**. Anita Bradenreported the subcommittee held meetings on December 17 and February 19 and summarized those discussions, which focused on responding to Resolution A026 (Establishing a Database for Title IV Outcomes on the Office of Transitional Ministry Profiles of Clergy). There is no official funding for the work called for by this Resolution, although Anita senses that some funding may be forthcoming. The subcommittee will complete its analysis and drafting in time to present its recommendations to the Commission at its November 2025 meetings and requests one hour of plenary time and small group sharing sessions for that purpose.

**Parochial /Lay Accountability for Parishes Without Clergy Subcommittee**. Russ Randle reported that this subcommittee met on December 19 and resumed its study of the issues and concerns raised when a congregation has no fulltime clergy. He noted that our canons assume that a congregation has fulltime clergy, and canonical changes are in order to reflect this significant change. He requested one hour of plenary time in November.

**Dioceses Confronting Challenges Subcommittee**. Andrea McKellar reported that the subcommittee has continued to look carefully at Resolution D071 (Governance Support for the Diocese of Haiti and leadership for Dioceses in Crisis). She requested one hour of plenary time in November. Ian Douglas noted that last month the Diocese of Haiti convened a diocesan convention and successfully elected a Standing Committee, a substantial milestone for them.

**Custodian of the Constitution and Canons Details and all other Resolutions**. Diane Sammons reported that at the November 2024 meetings the subcommittee prepared drafts of five Resolutions (responding to GC 2024 Resolutions A020, A047, A070, D038, D065) and proposes to bring them to the Commission for a vote at the April meetings. The subcommittee is reviewing 16 or so other Resolution topics and is in the process of prioritizing them to focus on the more important ones. The subcommittee will be very busy at the April meetings.

**Resolution D022 Task Force on the General Convention Legislative Process Update**. Frank Logue advised that on February 26 the presiding officers appointed the 11-member roster of this task force. Of the 11 Commission members who volunteered to serve on the task force, one was selected, Craig Loya, and Frank himself was appointed. This was not what many on the Commission were expecting, and some members recommended that two additional Commission members should be appointed to be more consistent with the language of Resolution D022, which directed the Commission itself to undertake the study of the legislative process.

**Discussion of Agenda for the April 3-5 In-Person Meetings**. Frank explained that the Commission leadership would reflect on today’s meeting and the subcommittee reports and develop a draft agenda for the April meetings to be held in Chicago.

Lynn Cater-Edmands asked about the Title IV website update initiative, which will be addressed in the April meetings by the Title IV Database Subcommittee.

Frank Logue then led the members in closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Little, Assistant Secretary