

Executive Council Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

January 17, 2020

Minutes of the Teleconference

HBCU COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Canon Martini Shaw (Chair), Ms. Martha Alexander, Father Ronald Byrd, Fr. Jamie Callaway, Dr. Joel Cunningham, Canon Anita George, Canon Michele Hagans and Dr. Eugene Lowe. **Those absent:** Dr. Sean Decatur, Dr. Scott Evenbeck, Bishop Andrew Waldo.

Guests: Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple, Ms. Cecilia Malm, Brian Murray. **Regrets:** Mr. Kurt Barnes, Mr. Lang Lowrey, Bishop Sam Rodman.

Canon Shaw called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and Fr. Callaway offered a prayer.

The roll was called. Minutes from the December meeting were moved (Dr. Lowe), seconded (Canon Hagans) and approved as presented.

St. Augustine's Update

Bishop Anne reported on the President's search. One very strong candidate remains from the original pool of applicants. The board will vote next week.

There has been an offer extended to a priest to fill the Chaplain's post. The announcement cannot be made until the official documents are signed. They are working on getting her positioned so that her clergy pension can continue through the HR office at St. Aug's and there will be parity achieved between the position and that of other clergy in the church.

The Strategic Planning Committee, of which Bishop Anne is a member, will be presenting its proposal to the board next week (January 23-24). She will inform the committee about the status of the President vote and the announcement of the University Chaplain. There is work ongoing to align all the departments at the school with the goals of the strategic plan. Bishop Anne discussed briefly the status of the staff changes. Fr. Callaway discussed the good work of the interim president.

Voorhees Update

Phil Jackson's Visit: he is priest in charge at Trinity Wall Street. Father Callaway has met with him and reported that he is committed to the HBCU profile. The low-key meeting will take place March 16 - 18 at Voorhees, described as "friend-raising." He will meet with Dr. Evans and his cabinet after students have just returned from the spring break, giving him the opportunity to meet with them.

Ms. Malm reported on the Absalom Jones Campaign. A letter went to all bishops from the PB to highlight the opportunity to support Voorhees and St. Augustine's and a follow-up letter will go out this week to bishops and prior donors. Kim Coleman, the new UBE President, has been working with Ms. Malm and helping with getting the word out about opportunities to give, leading up to February 13. An ENS reporter has been connected with Voorhees to do an article.

Face-to-face Meeting

Canon Shaw thanked Brian Murray for handling committee arrangements. An arrival date of Palm Sunday, April 5, has been established with an opening meeting on the 6th. There is some question as to the location for the Monday meeting. Accommodations at Orangeburg or at the airport were discussed. The PB will be staying overnight in Columbia and there was hope that breakfast with him could be managed. Father Callaway advocated for meeting with students and having the Monday meeting on campus. Dr. Evans is very supportive of the committee's work. Father Callaway talked about the importance of Founder's Day and the event happening during the committee's visit. Ms. Malm wondered about invitations being sent to the Voorhees family; she will e-mail Dr. Evans. Dr. George, Ms. Alexander and Canon Shaw will work with the General Convention Office to develop the Monday schedule.

Next meeting: February 28 at 9:00 AM EST.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 AM. Father Shaw brought the meeting to a close with thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Caparulo
Staff support to the committee