

## Executive Council Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

June 15, 2020

### Minutes of the Teleconference

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

**Guests:** Father Ronald Byrd, Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Sam Rodman, Canon Lang Lowrey, Ms. Cecilia Malm.

The meeting came to order at 8:30 AM with check-ins. Fr. Byrd offered a prayer.

The minutes of May 20 were moved, seconded and approved as presented.

#### Report from the Consultants

Canon Lowrey discussed in general the environment for schools in the fall given the unknowns about COVID-19. According to public health specialists he has consulted, there will be no therapeutic available any time soon. There are expectations that there will be a short-term vaccine early in 2021. It is unknown whether there will be government funding for that.

At Voorhees Dr. Evans needs to get students back onto campus. The financial impact of having one student per dorm room is severe. The school could suffer a \$1 million impact if students are unable to return to campus. Dr. Evans believes Voorhees has an emergency situation on the horizon. The fund-raising is not going forward as robustly as hoped and needed. Canon Lowrey will be meeting this afternoon with an individual who has capacity for a major gift that could make a significant difference. The question of off-campus housing discussed. Plans are in place for quarantine housing, if needed. Testing was discussed. CORE may be willing to do on-campus testing.

Ms. Malm reported a big uptick to the Absalom Jones fund. The web traffic on the Development office site is robust. Eight people have been identified within the major donor strategy.

#### Report from Guest Bishops

Bishop Sam gave an update that the presidential search process at St. Augustine's is expected to conclude. St. Augustine's is trying to plan for student returns or continue with online classes. The new president will be part of that decision-making process.

Bishop Anne discussed the success of the restoration of the stained glass windows at St. Aug's. She raised the issue of the lack of benefits for Chaplain Hershey Stevens and Deacon Sally Simpson. This matter was looked at in some detail specific to funding sources for the chaplaincies at both colleges and the responsibility of the Church. Canon Lowrey explained the distribution and uses of triennial block and sustainability grants to both entities. Ms. Malm

suggested that it might be an attractive development approach in the nearer future endowment of both chaplaincies.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion concerning the financial needs (and eligibilities) of international students and the scholarships available through the scholarship programs at the church center.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 5 at 10:00 AM Eastern time. Request was made to put Zoom contacts on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Caparulo  
Staff support to the Committee