

Executive Council Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

December 17, 2020

Minutes of the Teleconference

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

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

Canon Shaw called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM EST. Bishop Waldo offered a prayer.

The minutes from November's meeting were moved (Waldo), seconded (Hagans) and approved as presented.

St. Augustine's Update

Bishop Rodman discussed matters at SAU following the funeral of Dr. McPhail a couple of weeks ago. He remarked about the tremendous loss to the university with Dr. McPhail's passing.

Enrollment has increased since summertime. A balanced budget was projected. There is a SACHS visit scheduled in April with a fuller report from the school anticipated in 2021. The school is closed until the spring semester after having a good fall term with very few students contracting COVID. They maintained their hybrid teaching schedule. Work continues on enrollment and the search for a new president.

Bishop Rodman sees the board as a unified body at this juncture. He discussed his service going forward. The Diocese of North Carolina is supporting the chaplaincy and the chaplain. Bishop Rodman will meet with the PB to discuss his continuing on the board and in what capacity. Cn. Callaway talked about the relationship between the AECU and SAU given the requirements for a university to be considered an Episcopal school. Cn. Lowrey noted the SACHS' right to look at all matters at the school, not merely those at issue. Mr. Barnes pointed out that the DFMS block grant could be made specific to the chaplain or chaplaincy and Dr. Lowe stressed the importance to SAU of SACHS accreditation.

Voorhees Update

Bishop Waldo reported on the recent board meeting at Voorhees and the interim president appointed. A consulting firm has been hired to mount a search for a replacement for Dr. Evans. Cn. Callaway said MacKenzie Scott gave them \$4 million, which allows the school to move forward. The status of the Trinity grant application was discussed in some depth along with a discussion about the critical nature of solid internal leadership. Cn. Shaw will follow up with Trinity.

Consultant Report

Cn. Lowery said that Voorhees had achieved its \$1 million goal on the Day of Giving. Dr. Brown had greatly energized the event, which was very successful. Cn. Lowery supported the interim appointment of President at Voorhees.

Blue Book Report

Cn. Shaw complimented the work of Dr. Lowe and Cn. Callaway on the blue book report. Dr. Lowe cited about 30 meetings this committee had convened over the triennium and the focus of the committee on specific areas at the colleges, especially the chaplaincies. He opined that the committee should talk about what it wants to do going forward, including face-to-face meetings once a year and visiting the campuses to achieve a deeper understanding of the work.

The next meeting date was set for Thursday, February 4 at 10:00 AM EST so that Bp. Rodman can report on the SAU January board meeting.

Cn. Callaway observed the opportunity for adding resolutions for support to the HBCUs and funding for the committee's budget. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the BB report the framers have completed, along with the resolutions.

Cn. Shaw explained that Sean Decatur has resigned his seat on this committee as he does not have time within his schedule to participate.

With good wishes to all for Christmas, Cn. Shaw adjourned the meeting at 10:03 AM and Bishop Waldo closed with a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Caparulo
Staff support to the committee