

The Convention Committee on Charter and Canons presents the following Canon amendments to the 174th Diocesan Convention for approval:

- A. Amendments to Canons 4, 5, 6,7, 9 and 10 are proposed at the request of the Diocesan Council following their review of the role of the Diocesan Council as overseer of the business affairs of the Diocese and the governing body of the Diocese between conventions. The Canonical restructuring is part of an effort to make the Diocesan Council a more efficient and effective board. Primary substantive changes include: 1) the removal of the Regional Warden position, replacing it with an additional at-large lay representative; 2) clarifying seat, vote or vote by position; 3) extending the term for elected at-large Diocesan Council members from two to three years; 4) allowing re-election for one successive term and 5) clarifying quorum and the election of Vice-Chair.

CANON 4

Of Regions and Regional Canons

~~SECTION 5. Regional Warden.~~

- ~~(a) At the Pre-Convention Meeting, the Region's clergy and lay conventions delegates shall elect from the Region's lay convention delegates a person who shall be the Region's representative to the Diocesan Council (the "Regional Warden").~~
- ~~(b) The Regional Warden shall take office immediately following the upcoming convention and serve until their successor is seated. A Regional Warden may be reelected for one additional one-year term and shall not be eligible to be reelected for successive terms of office. If the term of the Regional Warden as a lay convention delegate shall expire at the congregational level while holding the position of Regional Warden, such person shall continue to serve as Regional Warden until their term as Regional Warden would otherwise expire.~~
- ~~(c) The Regional Warden shall be a person who attended Convention in the preceding year and shall not be a member of the Regional Canon's parish or mission.~~

CANON 5

Of the Secretary

SECTION 2. Duties.

- (f) The Secretary shall have seat and voice **but no vote** in the Diocesan Convention and in the Diocesan Council.

CANON 6

Of the Treasurer

SECTION 1. Election. The Treasurer of the Diocese shall be elected by the Diocesan Council and shall hold office during the pleasure of the Council.

SECTION 2. Specific Duties.

(a) The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all moneys collected under the authority of the Diocese and not otherwise regulated. The Treasurer shall forward, in due time, to the Treasurer of the General Convention the amount assessed upon the Diocese for the contingent expenses of General Convention.

~~SECTION 3. Additional Duties.~~

~~(a)~~ Property. The Treasurer shall oversee custody of all deeds, mortgages, insurance policies, and other documents pertaining to the property of the Diocese, together with such additional duties with respect thereto as the Diocesan Council shall from time to time specify.

~~(b)~~ Requisition of Information. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to prepare a form of requisition for information pertaining to all property of the Diocese and of each congregation, parish, mission or agency thereof. The information called for in such requisition shall be full and complete for the purpose of maintaining an inventory of such property, of determining the fair market value therefore, and of determining its insurable value. The Treasurer's annual report to the Diocesan Council shall include information pertaining to all property owned.

~~(c)~~ The Diocesan Council shall specify the additional duties of the Treasurer.

~~SECTION 6. Seat and Voice in the Diocesan Convention.~~ ~~(e)~~-The Treasurer shall have a seat and voice **but no vote** in the Diocesan Convention, and in the Diocesan Council.

SECTION 7. Assistant Treasurer. The Diocesan Council may elect an Assistant Treasurer and shall prescribe the duties for this office.

CANON 7

Of the Chancellor

SECTION 5. Seat and Voice in the Diocesan Convention. The Chancellor shall have a seat and voice **but no vote** in the Diocesan Convention and in the Diocesan Council.

CANON 9

Of the Standing Committee

SECTION 3. Officers. The Standing Committee shall elect from its membership a President and a Secretary. The President, who must be a priest, shall have a seat and voice **but**

no vote in the Diocesan Council except that, if there is no Bishop and the Standing Committee is acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, the President will have a vote in the Diocesan Council.

CANON 10 Of the Diocesan Council

SECTION 1. Statement of Purpose. The Diocesan Council shall be an executive body representative of the Church in this Diocese with power and authority to implement and carry into effect the policies and programs adopted by the Diocesan Convention and to act for the Convention between meetings thereof. The Council shall have overall responsibility for the Diocesan program and finances, and it shall provide for the efficient management of the business of the Diocese. It shall be an agency to relieve the Bishop of the Diocese insofar as practicable from the necessity of the detailed management of the business affairs of the Diocese.

SECTION 2. Composition. The Diocesan Council shall be composed of:

- (a) the Bishop (seat, voice and vote on Diocesan Council), ~~the Regional Wardens,~~
- (b) the Regional Canons appointed by the Bishop (seat, voice and vote on Diocesan Council),
- (c) ~~and four~~ five lay members-at-large elected by the Diocesan Convention (seat, voice and vote on Diocesan Council),
- (d) two clergy members-at-large elected by the Diocesan Convention (seat, voice and vote on Diocesan Council),
- (e) the Secretary of the Diocese (seat, voice, no vote on Diocesan Council),
- (f) the Treasurer of the Diocese (seat, voice, no vote on Diocesan Council),
- (g) the Chancellor of the Diocese (seat, voice, no vote on Diocesan Council) and
- (h) the President of the Standing Committee (seat, voice, no vote unless the Standing Committee is acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, then vote on Diocesan Council).

~~The Bishop shall be the chair.~~

SECTION 3. Terms of Members. Each at-large member of the Diocesan Council shall be elected for a term of ~~two~~ three years and shall serve until the member's successor is installed.

- (a) The terms of the at-large members shall be so constituted that ~~each year one-half of the membership of each order shall be elected.~~ the election of those members is staggered over the three-year election cycle.

- (b) ~~The Diocesan Council shall designate by resolution those elected for initial one-year terms.~~ The Regional Canons shall serve as members of the Diocesan Council during their period of appointment as Regional Canons.
- (c) The Secretary of the Diocese, the Treasurer of the Diocese, the Chancellor of the Diocese and the President of the Standing Committee will serve as members of the Diocesan Council for the period of time they fill their respective positions.

SECTION 4. Limitation on Successive Terms. A member-at-large person shall not be elected a member of Diocesan Council for more than two consecutive ~~successive~~ terms.

SECTION 5. Vacancies. A vacancy in the membership of the Diocesan Council shall exist in case of the death, resignation, removal from the Diocese, or incapacity of a member. ~~If the vacancy is with respect to the Regional Warden, for reasons specified above or by removal from the congregation in the Region, the unexpired term shall be filled by such Regional Canon.~~ If the vacancy is with respect to a member elected at large by the Convention, the Diocesan Council shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term thereof.

SECTION 6. Meetings and Quorum. The Diocesan Council shall meet at the call of the Bishop or any six members thereof. The Council shall meet at least once each calendar quarter. One-half of the voting members of the Diocesan Council (excluding the Bishop) shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 7. Rules and Procedures. The Diocesan Council shall have the power and authority to prescribe its own procedural rules for the performance of its duties and for the carrying out of its functions. The procedural rules so adopted shall not be in conflict with the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese.

SECTION 8. Officers. ~~The Bishop shall be chair of the Diocesan Council. The Bishop will nominate and Diocesan Council elect a Vice-Chair from the lay members-at-large within thirty days after the Diocesan Convention. The Vice-Chair will preside at meetings of the Diocesan Council when the Bishop (Ecclesiastical Authority) is absent. The Diocesan Council shall have the authority to elect~~ ~~The Diocesan Council shall have power and authority to elect from its membership a Executive Vice Chair, who shall be a lay person, and such other officers as are provided for in these Canons.~~

SECTION 9. Powers. The Diocesan Council shall have the following powers:

- (a) **Powers of the Diocesan Convention.** The Council shall have all the powers of the Diocesan Convention when the latter is not in session except the power to elect a Bishop, to amend the Articles of Reincorporation or the Canons or to adopt rules of Convention.

(b) Responsibility for Business Affairs of the Diocese. The Council shall have the responsibility for the business affairs of the Diocese and of each Board and Committee thereof, which responsibility shall include but shall not be limited to the following:

- (i) property management;
- (ii) supervision of investments and the determination of investment policies;
- (iii) preparation of Diocesan program and a budget for submission to the annual meetings of the Diocesan Convention;
- (iv) authorizing the expenditure of all funds;
- (v) the management of all Diocesan bank accounts, including, but not limited to, selecting banks of deposit, closing bank accounts, and designating those authorized to sign checks for the Diocese;
- (vi) the receipt of all funds of the Diocese. The Council shall promulgate regulations governing the handling and depositing of such funds and shall name the person or persons responsible therefore;
- (vii) ordering an annual audit of the affairs of the Diocese by an independent certified public accountant and whatever special audits of any Diocesan office or business the Council may deem appropriate.

(c) Electing and Nominating Body. The Diocesan Council shall have the function as the nominating or electing body, as the case may be, for all Trustees and Directors and members of directly controlled Diocesan institutions. In case of the death, resignation, removal from the Diocese, or incapacity of any person elected under this subsection, the Council shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term by election.

SECTION 10. Reports. The Diocesan Council shall provide for reports to be made to it by the officers of the Diocese, and each board, committee or other agency of the Diocese, and shall require such reports not less frequently than once each calendar year.

SECTION 11. Reports to Diocesan Convention. The Diocesan Council shall submit to the annual meeting of each Diocesan Convention a narrative report of the work done under its supervision during the preceding year with such exhibits and attachments as it shall determine to be appropriate. The Diocesan Council shall make recommendations to each such Diocesan Convention with respect to the administration of the affairs of the Diocese.

SECTION 12. Salaries. The Diocesan Council shall fix the salaries of all persons employed by the Diocese, except those fixed by the Diocesan Convention.

SECTION 13. Committees of Diocesan Council.

(a) Establishment. Committees may be established by Diocesan Council to perform specified functions.

- (b) **Membership.** The Bishop with the concurrence of the Diocesan Council shall appoint the chair of each committee and all committee members.
- (c) **Purpose and Composition.** The purpose and composition of each committee shall be prescribed by the resolution establishing the committee.
- (d) **Common Ministry Budget Committee.** Diocesan Council will establish a Common Ministry Budget Committee to prepare for submission to Diocesan Convention a budget for the funding of Diocesan programs, with such directions as Diocesan Council may deem reasonable and proper.

SECTION 14. Boards. Supervisory or regulatory boards may be created by Canon and shall be under the supervision of the Diocesan Council pursuant to this Canon.

B. Change is to align with the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church which defines an Adult Member as a member sixteen years of age and over.

CANON 19

Of Congregations and Vestry Meetings – Selections and Duties

SECTION 3 Vestries

- (b) **Qualifications.** Members of the vestry shall be ~~persons eighteen years of age or over who are~~ adult confirmed communicants in good standing of the parish for a period of six months last past at the date of their selection.