

TIVTFIIMinutesIV

Minutes of telephone conference

December 14, 2007

12:00 -2:00 pm

Participating by telephone were Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq., (Chair), Duncan A. Bayne, Esq., (Secretary), Joseph L. Delafield, Esq., Ellen Bruckner, Rt. Rev. C. Wallis Ohl, Rt. Rev. Dorsey F. Henderson, Rt. Rev. Robert L. Fitzpatrick, Rt. Rev. Clayton Matthews, Sally Johnson, Esq., Rev. R. Stan Runnels, and the Rev. Barbara Bender-Brock.

Unable to participate were Fred C Isaac, Esq., Luis Gonzalez, and Diane E. Sammons, Esq.

Bishop Henderson opened the meeting with a prayer.

Duncan Bayne moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of September 30-October 2, 2007, which had been previously distributed. Approved.

The conference was turned over to Joseph Delafield, as lead draftsman, to run through the comments and revisions received since our meeting in Minneapolis.

- (1) The modification of Canon I.17.8 regarding lay discipline was approved and a separate resolution was to be prepared and submitted by Mr. Delafield.
- (2) Diane Sammons' proposed comments on discovery matters had not yet been received; it was agreed to defer on these until later.
- (3) Impairment has been proposed as an addition to Title III as a separate resolution. This was agreed to be sent to SCMD for its consideration for proposal to General Convention. Bishop Ohl and Rev. Bender-Brock will shepherd this resolution.
- (4) Mr. Bayne had redrafted the Abandonment of the Communion canon for consideration. Mr. Delafield proposed we offer this as a separate resolution, but it was agreed to go forward with it as part of the master draft and await comments between January 1 and June 30. Bishop Henderson suggested adding "in any other way" to the list of offensive behaviors in the Bishop's portion of the Canon, as it did so appear with respect to Priests and Deacons. Ms. Johnson suggested that we delete the provision that the three most senior bishops act with the Presiding Bishop, and substitute the Disciplinary Board for Bishops. She further proposed that we limit the time for Priests or Deacons to recant to two months, which is the time allowed for Bishops. These suggestions were all agreed to.
- (5) Canon3, Sec.3 the description of "material and substantial" was returned to its earlier phraseology.
- (6) Rev. Stan Runnels discussed the Voluntary Submission provisions and argued that the existing language, leaving the sentence entirely for agreement between the Bishop and the Respondent, furthered disposition of matters by Voluntary Submission, and urged its retention. The Task Force did not agree, and approved making such sentences subject to approval by the outside agency.

- (7) A question was raised of “service” of a restriction on ministry, but was withdrawn after a closer reading of the proposed text.

The Chair then turned the discussion to continuing educational activities of the Task Force. The members had all received a draft PowerPoint presentation prepared by Luis Gonzalez, and all agreed it was a fine draft. Mr. Gonzalez had suggested in sending it out that it still needed work.

Members were urged to pursue opportunities to present the Title IV draft around the Church. The following such opportunities have been identified so far:

- (1) NECCA Board meeting January 7 to 11, 2008 in N.Y. Rev. Barbara Bender-Brock will be attending this meeting.
- (2) Province I Bishops and Chancellors meeting later in January. Joseph Delafield will attend and present at this meeting.
- (3) House of Bishops March 7-13, 2008.
- (4) SCCC meeting April 7 - 9, 2008 in Orlando. Mr. Bayne will try to attend.
- (5) Western Chancellors Conference April 30-May 2 in Albuquerque. A number of Task Force members will be attending.
- (6) SCMD meeting June 23-25, 2008. Bishop Ohl and Rev. Barbara Bender-Brock will be attending.

There are other such meetings but no dates were yet available. As dates and meetings come together, members are urged to share the information by email.

The hour of 2:00 p.m. having arrived the meeting was adjourned with prayer and blessing.

Duncan A. Bayne
Secretary
Title IV Task Force II