

# Report of Legislative Acts of 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Council of Diocese of Atlanta

## C07-1 Amend Constitution Article 2, Section 2- Council Lay Delegates

*Resolved*, the Constitution of the Diocese of Atlanta, Article 2, “Of the Council of the Diocese”, Section 2, “Lay Members” be amended as follows:

In paragraph (a.), the phrase “Confirmed Communicants in Good Standing” be deleted, and be replaced with “Communicants”.

Subsequently, the wording of the chart in this section is replaced with “Communicants”, following the form in the text.

Paragraph (b.) replace “confirmed communicants” with “communicants.”

**Changes in the text are shown below**

### **2. Lay Members:**

(a). Every Parish and Aided Parish in the Diocese shall be entitled to Lay Delegates and Alternate Lay Delegates elected as provided by the Canons of the Diocese. The number of Lay Delegates and Alternate Lay Delegates from each Parish or Aided Parish is determined by the number of Communicants reported on the latest available Parochial Report from the Parish or Aided Parish. Each Parish or Aided Parish shall be entitled to the following number of Lay Delegates:

#### **Number of reported Communicants/ Number of Delegates**

More than 3, but not more than 200, 2;

More than 200, but not more than 400, 3;

More than 400, but not more than 600, 4;

More than 600, 5;

and a like number of Alternates.

(b). Any group of Communicants of the Episcopal Church which has a definite organization recognized by the Ecclesiastical Authority and which conforms to the minimum requirements for a Parish may, upon annual request, and approval by the Council, thereafter have one Lay Delegate and one Alternate Lay Delegate to the Council of the Diocese.

(c). [*unchanged; authorizes Convocation Youth Delegates.*]

(d). [*unchanged; authorizes certain campus ministries' Lay Delegates.*]

## C07-2 Amend Canon 10-Of the Trustees of the University of the South

*Resolved*, that Canon 10, Of the Trustees of the University of the South, be rescinded *in toto* and a substitute be adopted to read as follows:

Section 1. The Bishop shall nominate candidates and the Annual Council shall elect one presbyter and two lay communicants of the Diocese of Atlanta to be Trustees of the University of the South for three year, staggered terms. The order of nominations and elections shall follow the order in effect at the time of adoption of this canon. The proposed Trustees shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) Trustees shall be personally committed to the aims and purposes of the University as set forth in its Mission Statement and Constitution, Ordinances and other governing documents.
- (b) Each Trustee shall demonstrate his or her personal commitment to the University by, among other things, attending the Board of Trustees annual meeting, such other special meetings as may be called, and one orientation session for new Trustees, which sessions are held immediately prior to each annual meeting. Trustees shall also familiarize themselves with the Trustee Handbook and the University's governing documents, including its Charter, as amended, Constitution and Ordinances.
- (c) Trustees shall serve as direct communicators between the University and the Diocese from which the Trustee was elected, and shall timely inform that Diocese of the actions of the Boards of Trustees and Regents and the University administration.
- (d) Trustees shall provide a meaningful level of annual financial support to the University as a symbol of their commitment to its mission and financial well-being.

Section 2. In the event a Trustee becomes unwilling or unable to serve, the Bishop shall appoint a qualified lay communicant or presbyter, as appropriate, to complete the remainder of the term.

Section 3. A Trustee may be elected to no more than four consecutive terms, after which, one year must elapse before that Trustee is eligible for election.

Section 4. Trustees shall report annually to the Diocesan Council on conditions and affairs of the University of the South.

### **C07-3 Amend Canon 11 Of Church Construction**

*Resolved* that Canon 11 "Of Church Construction" be amended to read as follows:

#### **CANON 11 Of Church Construction**

**Section 1.** There shall be a Commission on Church Architecture and Church Construction appointed annually by the Bishop. Members will be appointed for a three-year term, and are eligible to serve successive terms.

**Section 2.** The Commission on Church Architecture and Church Construction provides assistance to parishes beginning construction projects of all types as well as exploring how to best utilize their campus and/or existing buildings. The Commission can assist parishes in all areas of project design, site master plan, building programming, fundraising feasibility studies, architect, contractor, and sub-contractor referral listings, and plan review. The Commission's role shall be primarily to function as a resource to parishes and make recommendations to the parish and Bishop regarding construction, renovation, and architectural matters.

**Section 3.** The governing body of any Parish or Aided Parish or Diocesan owned property shall not erect a new building, or make structural alterations or additions requiring a building permit to any present building on its Church property without first securing the advice of the Commission for such proposed construction. Parishes shall consult with the Commission before the project begins, specifically

- (a) During master plan design, site utilization planning, project scope definition, and budgeting; and before commencing Schematic Design; and the Commission may request further consultation with the

Parish, depending on the scope of the project. Additional consultation may be requested at the following points of the project:

(b) During master plan design and before commencing the development of Construction Documents and Specifications; and

(c) During Design Development Drawings and Specifications, before reaching 100% completion of Construction Documents.

**Section 4.** Following construction, as-built drawings and specifications shall be furnished to the Diocese.

**Section 5.** Should any dispute arise as to the application of this Canon, such dispute shall be referred to the Bishop for resolution.

#### **C07-4s Rescind Canon 41 Of the Cathedral Board of Trustees**

*Resolved*, that the Cathedral Board of Trustees be dissolved at the earliest practical time consistent with effectuating the purposes of this Resolution; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Cathedral Board of Trustees take the appropriate steps to transfer, before June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008, title to the real property now held by the Cathedral Board of Trustees to the Parish of the Cathedral of St. Philip, which shall hold property in trust for The Episcopal Church and Diocese of Atlanta; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the oversight of the Loridan's Fund and McDougall Fund, both established for the Benefit of the Cathedral of St. Philip, be transferred from the Cathedral Board of Trustees to the Board of Trustees of the Endowment Fund of St. Philip's; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the Cathedral Board of Trustees take all action necessary to effectuate this Resolution, including dissolution of the Board and any corporate entity constituting the Board at the earliest practical time; and be it further

*Resolved*, that Canon 41-Of the Cathedral Board of Trustees be deemed repealed as of the time that all of the following have occurred:

- (a) Title to the real property now held by the Cathedral Board of Trustees is transferred to the Cathedral of St. Philip in trust for The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Atlanta; and
- (b) The entity constituting the Cathedral Board of Trustees has been dissolved or abolished.

#### **RO7-1a Establish Diocesan Committee on Disability Concerns**

*Resolved*, that this 101st Council of the Diocese of Atlanta convene a committee on disability concerns; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the committee engage vestries to conduct accessibility surveys of their buildings and all aspects of their parish life with the assistance of experts in this field, to share the results with the diocesan committee and to designate a person or persons to be particularly responsible for disability concerns; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the committee undertake a survey of all that would be necessary to make all diocesan properties and all Episcopal Church meeting places accessible to persons with disabilities and barrier-free and report such findings to the 102nd Council .

### **R07-2 Extend Companion Relationship with Diocese of Ecuador Central**

*Resolved*, that the 101st Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta extend its Companion Diocese Relationship with the Diocese of Ecuador Central for a period of three years.

### **R07-3a Commitment to Mission and Ministry**

*Resolved* that we, the people of the Diocese of Atlanta, affirm our desire to remain members of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, and pledge to participate in the listening process across the Anglican Communion; and be it further

*Resolved*, that as we acknowledge the health, missional direction, and faithfulness of our Diocese and of our Bishop, we, for our next hundred years and beyond, resolve to set our hope on Christ and continue our commitment to the Great Commandments and Great Commission — thereby sharing the Good News with all people, raising up people for ministry and discipleship at all levels, and building strong and faithful congregations in the name of Christ.

### **R07-4a Encourage Parish Support of Episcopal Charities Foundation**

*Resolved* that this Council commend Episcopal Charities Foundation for its quarter century of making certain that the Good News of God in Christ is shared with the poor in every corner of the diocese; and be it further

*Resolved* that every parish of the diocese be encouraged to share the regular support of its prayer and financial resources with ECF and commend its members to do the same and to designate a person responsible for ECF concerns.

### **R07-5a Establish Position of Assistant Bishop**

*Resolved*, in response to the request of the Bishop Diocesan with the consent of the Standing Committee and before the next Annual Council, this 101st Annual Council of the Diocese of Atlanta (hereafter, this Council) hereby approves the creation of the position of Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta; and be it further

*Resolved*, that this Council hereby authorizes the Bishop Diocesan to appoint a Bishop for this position, with the consent of the Standing Committee of this Diocese, under such conditions as the Bishop Diocesan may determine.

### **R07-6 Support of House of Bishops and Concern for Lesbian and Gay Persons**

*Resolved*, that this 101st Council of the Diocese of Atlanta supports the House of Bishops in its “passionate desire to remain in communion [with the Anglican Communion]” (House of Bishops statement, September 25, 2007), and also shares with the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church its concern for “the additional pain and estrangement inflicted on lesbian and gay members of the church” (Executive Council Resolution NAC026, October 28, 2007).