Resolution 2

Call for Episcopal Election

Resolved, that the 145th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh hereby calls for the election of the Eighth Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh at a Special Convention of the Diocese to be held on Saturday, April 21, 2012; and further

Resolved, that the Standing Committee appoint a Nomination Committee, to establish and institute specific procedures to prepare a diocesan Profile and to implement the Standing Committee’s Guidelines for contemporaneous Nomination by Petition and Nomination by the Nomination Committee, and to present to the Special Convention a ballot with no fewer than four Nominees, without reference to their mode of Nomination; and further

Resolved, that the Standing Committee appoint a Transition Committee, to work with Bishop and Mrs. Price, the diocesan staff, the Standing Committee, the Nomination Committee, and other diocesan officers and organizations, and the Bishop-elect and his or her family, to manage the logistics of the pre-election process, the election, the celebration of Bishop Price’s ministry, and the welcoming and ordination/consecration of a new bishop; and further

Resolved, that the Standing Committee, in consultation with the Office of Pastoral Development of the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church, appoint a Diocesan Consultant, to advise diocesan leadership and the Nomination and Transition Committees and to provide ongoing resources and support; and further

Resolved, that the Standing Committee prepare a budget for expenses related to all aspects of diocesan transition and the election and consecration of a new bishop and submit that budget to the Board of Trustees for approval and funding by special allocation from diocesan reserves.

Explanation:
The Rt. Rev. Kenneth L. Price, Jr., Bishop Provisional of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, has indicated to the Standing Committee his intention to complete his service in Pittsburgh in the summer or fall of 2012, and has, with the concurrence of the Standing Committee, called for the election of the Eighth Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh.

After considerable deliberation, and following consultation with the Rt. Rev. Clay Matthews, Director of the Office of Pastoral Development of the House of Bishops, the Standing Committee has approved a process leading to the election of our next bishop intended to promote prayerful deliberation and the highest possible degree of openness and transparency.

The Nomination Committee will develop a broad and open process of diocesan conversation leading to the creation of a Profile. Following the publication of the Profile, the Nomination Committee will begin the process of assembling a ballot of no fewer than four nominees to be presented to the Special Convention on April 21, 2012. There will be two contemporaneous modes of nomination.
The first mode of Nomination will be Nomination by Petition. Any three canonically resident clergy, with any three laypersons certified at the time the petition is presented as Deputies to Diocesan Convention, from at least two different parishes, may submit a Nominating Petition in writing to the Nomination Committee. Individual Clergy and Lay Deputies may submit only one petition. All qualified persons who have been nominated by Petition will be included on the ballot presented to the Special Convention.

The second mode of Nomination will be Nomination by the Nomination Committee. Any person within or beyond the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh may present a name (including self-nomination) to the Nomination Committee, but without a Nominating Petition. The Nomination Committee may also solicit submission of nominations through the Church Deployment Office or any other available resource. Informed by the Profile, the Nomination Committee will develop its own procedures to consider these nominees. The Nomination Committee may, if it chooses, identify one or more Nominees to place on the proposed ballot, along with those Nominees presented by Nominating Petition.

The Nomination Committee will complete the necessary background checks and clearances for all Nominees and work with Nominees to prepare materials necessary to introduce the Nominees. The Nomination Committee will collaborate with the Transition Committee to arrange for “Walk-About” opportunities for the Clergy, Lay Deputies, and other members of the diocese to meet the Nominees.

Nominees will be presented without reference to the mode of their nomination.

Sponsors: The Standing Committee

From pages C-1 and C-2 of Materials for Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh