

**The Diocese of East Carolina
Standing Committee Minutes
June 12, 2025, at 1:30 pm**

Present: The Reverend A. Michael Singer, The Reverend Caleb J. Lee, The Reverend Dr. Farrell Graves, Jane Gordon, Thomas Warren. **Absent -** Vera Guarino

Welcome: The Rev. Michael Singer began the meeting at 1:32 pm.

Opening Prayer: The Rev. Dr. Farrell Graves

Minutes: Caleb made a motion to accept the minutes from the May meeting. Jane seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Report from the Co-chair of the Search Committee: Lisa Richey - Before Lisa was let into the Zoom meeting, Caleb told the committee that he was in the process with the Search Committee and, like other decisions pertinent to the search, would be recusing himself from Lisa's upcoming report. Lisa then gave an update regarding the search process. Lisa and the Standing Committee also discussed Caleb's involvement in the process and agreed that Caleb was keeping appropriate boundaries.

Report from the Co-chair of the Transition Committee – Mary Duane Hale updated the Standing Committee on the routing of the upcoming Meet and Greets. After a few questions and answers, the committee seemed pleased with the route. Farrell made a motion, with Thomas seconding, to approve the route and timeline for the Meet and Greet as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- The Standing Committee will meet with Bishop Skirving and Trustees on Tuesday, June 24th at 1:30 pm via ZOOM for the purpose of considering a request received from the Trinity Center Board of Managers to sell the Executive Director's condo.

New Business:

- Father Singer updated us on **an article written by the Search Committee** that appeared in News and Notes regarding the election of a Bishop process. There were several problems with the article and it did not reflect the canons of the Diocese of East Carolina. Father Singer responded by letting the co-chairs of the Search Committee know that it would be best if any updates from the Search Committee only reported about the Search Process itself. Father Singer is looking into making sure that the article is taken down or revised.
- **First reading - Petition process** for the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina IX Bishop election 2025
The Committee performed a first reading and edit of the Petition process. Father Singer is going to run the first draft by Blanca Silvestrini for edits and comments.
- Communication from Sarah Stonesifer-Boylan – Senior Leadership Development Officer – The Episcopal Church – Medical and Psychiatric Exam on Bishop – elect.
The Committee discussed options for these exams to take place for all the finalists vs. only the bishop-elect following the election. Father Singer is going to get more information about the costs of both options and bring it back to the committee.
- Father Singer has communicated to Tess Judge on request for a financial package for Bishop-elect and we can expect to receive a report at our July meeting. Father Singer has also requested a report on how our overall search budget is looking.

- Father Singer has communicated to Chris Williamson on the status of psychiatric reports on Hugh Davis, Gary Fetter, Nick Kohlmann, and Stephen Thomas for Candidacy. Chris has indicated that the exams have taken place, but the Office of the Bishop has not yet received reports back. Chris will be following up this week.

Future Items:

- Next scheduled meeting: July 10, 2025, at 1:30 pm

Adjournment

Farrell made a motion, with Thomas seconding, to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 2:50pm.