

## Resolution CC5 – Amend Canon 35- Deaneries

Author: Constitution & Canons Committee

October 23, 2013

**RESOLVED, that Canon 35 be amended to read as follows:**

### **CANON 35 DEANERIES**

**Sec. 35.1. Deaneries.** The Diocese shall be divided into Deaneries for the development and furtherance of ministry and mission of the Church. Parishes and Missions will be assigned to each Deanery by the Bishop with the concurrence of the Executive Council. The Bishop may, from time to time, change the number and composition of the Deaneries areas with the concurrence of the Executive Council. As new congregations and Mission Stations are organized as Missions in the Diocese, they will be incorporated into appropriate Deaneries as determined by the Bishop with the concurrence of the Executive Council.

**Sec. 35.2. Dean and Sub-Dean.** At the Pre-Convention Meeting, each Deanery shall elect a Dean and a Sub-Dean from the Deanery Council for a one (1) year term. Each must be either clergy ~~regularly~~ serving in or a confirmed adult communicant in good standing in a Parish or Mission of the Deanery.

1 The Dean shall call and arrange meetings as ~~outlined~~ provided in Section 35.4; shall be available to coordinate the Bishop's call for assistance to congregations ~~in the Deanery which are~~ without clergy; shall make an annual report to the Bishop; and shall perform such other duties as are provided by Canon or as may be assigned by the Bishop.

2 The Sub-Dean shall assist the Dean with the agenda, business, clerical, and financial concerns of the Deanery and preside at meetings in the absence of the Dean.

**Sec 35.3. Deanery Council.** Each Deanery shall have a Council made up of:

1. All members of the Clergy, active and retired, who serve or attend a Church of that residing in the Deanery and who are entitled to a vote in the Convention,

2. All the elected Convention Delegates for from the Parishes and Missions of the Deanery, and

3. The Lay Deanery Representatives from that Deanery to the Executive Council.

Retired and Non-Parochial Clergy shall declare in writing to the Bishop with which Deanery they choose to be affiliated, which declaration shall be forwarded to the Registrar and the Dean of that Deanery.

**Sec. 35.4. Meetings.** Each Deanery Council shall meet in February, ~~April-August and Pre-Convention. and December.~~ The Dean shall cause a notice of such meetings or any special meeting to be sent at least five days prior to the meeting by mail or electronically to each member of the Deanery to the address of such member on the books of the Deanery; provided, however, if the Deanery has established a schedule for its meetings, the failure to send such

notice will not affect the proceedings of the meeting. A majority of the members attending the meeting will constitute a quorum for the conduct of business at the meeting. The August meeting will include review of the next-year budget proposed by the Finance Committee. The Pre-Convention meeting shall be scheduled so that clergy and delegates may consider and discuss nominations, resolutions, proposed budget, and other pertinent materials sent to them from the Secretary of Convention. Further, during the Pre-Convention meeting the Deanery Council shall elect its representatives to the Executive Council as provided in Section 35.5 and its representative to the Nominations Committee as provided in Canon 45.2.b. The Deanery Council may conduct other business as from time to time seems necessary for the furtherance of the mission of the Church in the Deanery or as the Bishop or Executive Council of the Diocese may require, and additionally, at the discretion of the Dean.

**Sec. 35.5. Representatives to Executive Council.** At the Pre-Convention meeting, each Deanery Council shall elect on a rotating basis for three (3) years one (1) member of the Clergy or one of the two (2) Lay Representatives to the Executive Council by a ~~concurrent vote of a~~ majority vote of those present, ~~each order.~~ The Deanery Council shall also elect an alternate to each elected Representative, serving a term to equal that of the Representative and having, if the elected Representative is unable to attend an Executive Council meeting, the same voice and vote as the elected Representative. The Clergy Representative and Alternate must be regularly serving on a full or part-time basis in or attending a Parish or Mission of the Deanery. Each Lay Representative and Alternate must be a Confirmed adult Communicant in good standing in a Parish or Mission of the Deanery, but not of the same Parish or Mission.

**1. Filling Vacancies of Elected Representatives to Executive Council.** In the case of an elected Representative (either Clergy or Lay) vacating their position, the Alternate shall become the elected Representative (either Clergy or Lay).

**2. Filling Vacancies of Elected Alternates to Executive Council.** In the case of an elected Alternate (either Clergy or Lay) vacating their position, the Deanery shall, at their next scheduled meeting, hold an election to fill the vacancy.

**Sec. 35.6. Terms of Representatives.** The term of office of Clerical and Lay Representatives to the Executive Council of the Diocese shall be three (3) years on a rotating basis. No Clerical or Lay Representative who has served two (2) successive terms shall be eligible for re-election until the lapse of one (1) year after the expiration of his or her period of service. The three (3) year rotation means one (1) Representative is to be elected to a full term each year. Persons elected Lay Representative shall continue in that capacity for their full term regardless of whether or not they are elected to further terms as Convention Delegate from their Parish or Mission, as long as they continue to attend their Deanery meetings.

## **EXPLANATION**

*Changes are incorporated to better define the home Deaneries of retired, part-time, and non-parochial clergy in the Diocese.*

*Provisions are also made for alternate Lay Representatives to the Executive Council to assure full Deanery representation at all Executive Council meetings.*

*The number of required Deanery meetings is reduced while retaining the option that Deans may call additional meetings as required.*