

The Joint Committee on Agenda and Arrangements

Membership and Meetings

Joint Rule of Order, No. 14, as amended, sets membership on the Committee on the Agenda and Arrangements for the General Convention. The members are 3 Bishops, appointed by the Presiding Bishop, and 3 Presbyters and 6 Lay Persons, appointed by the President of the House of Deputies, who shall be Deputies at the time of appointment. Ex officio members are the Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Chairmen of the Committees on the Dispatch of Business of the two Houses. The duties of the Committee are (a) to consult with the Presidents of the two Houses, the Chairmen of the Joint Committees and Joint Commissions, the Executive Council, and such others as it may deem necessary, in the study and determination, prior to any meeting of the General Convention, of the arrangements for, and the nature of, the Agenda thereof, to be recommended by it to the General Convention for such meeting, and (b) to investigate, subject to the instructions, if any, of the General Convention, possible sites for future Conventions, and to report its recommendations to the General Convention for determination by that body. The Committee is to certify to the Convention the willingness of the Dioceses within which recommended sites are located to have the General Convention meet within their jurisdictions.

The Presiding Bishop, in respect of Bishops, and the President of the House of Deputies, in respect of Presbyters and Lay Persons, appointed the following persons to the Committee on Agenda and Arrangements:

The Rt. Rev. Willis R. Henton (Northwest Texas)
The Rt. Rev. Wesley Frensdorff (Nevada)
The Rt. Rev. Francisco Reus-Froylan (Puerto Rico)
The Rev. Jesse Anderson, Jr. (Washington)
The Very Rev. Allen Bartlett (Kentucky)
The Ven. O. Dudley Reed (Springfield)
Mr. Bryan Jones (Utah)
Mr. Byron Rushing (Massachusetts)
The Hon. George T. Shields (Spokane)
Mrs. Henry N. Somsen (Minnesota)
Dr. Malcolm D. Talbott (Newark)
Mrs. J. Willmette Wilson (Georgia)

Subsequently, the Hon. George T. Shields was made Chairman of the House of Deputies' Dispatch of Business Committee. He was not replaced on the Committee.

At its first meeting, the Committee elected the following officers: Bishop Henton, Chairman; Archdeacon Reed, Vice-Chairman; and Mrs. Somsen, Secretary and Liaison with the Diocese of Minnesota. Mrs. Somsen asked not to serve as Secretary, and Mrs. Jane Wallace was elected to this position.

In addition to the ex officio members of the Committee, Mr. James M. Winning (Springfield), the Rev. Wm. F. Maxwell, Jr. (Oklahoma), and the Rev. Austin R. Cooper, Sr. (Ohio), were asked to serve as Consultants. Upon their election, the Presiding Officer of the Triennial Meeting, Mrs. Carter C. Chinnis, and the Assistant Presiding Officer, Mrs. E. Carl Hann, were invited to meet with the Committee. The Rt. Rev. Philip F. McNairy, Bishop of Minnesota (or his delegated representatives) was invited to all meetings.

Present at all meetings, and invaluable for both information and implementation, were the Rt. Rev. Scott Field Bailey, General Convention Executive Officer, and Mr. Bob Wallace, General Convention Manager.

A permanent Steering Committee was appointed, as follows: the Chairman, the

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Vice-Chairman, the Executive Officer of General Convention, the General Convention Manager, Fr. Maxwell, Miss Olive Mullica (Triennial Liaison), Martha Wilson, Malcolm Talbott and Byron Rushing. Ex officio members of the Steering Committee were the three Presiding Officers and Secretary Jane Wallace.

Meetings of the full Committee were held on March 8, 1974 (New York); May 2-3, 1974 (Minneapolis); and January 28-29, 1975 (Minneapolis). The Steering Committee met on September 9, 1975 (New York). Other Sub-Committees and Ad Hoc Committees have met before and after meetings of the Committee and at other times to complete special tasks assigned by the Committee.

A statement of the income and expenses of the Committee is appended to this Report.

SITE OF THE 65TH GENERAL CONVENTION AND ARRANGEMENTS

The 64th General Convention voted to hold the 16th General Convention in the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The Committee voted to call the 65th General Convention the Minnesota Convention. Chosen for the opening service was the St. Paul Civic Center. Chosen for all other sessions and exhibits was the Minneapolis Convention Center. Most space was assigned at the May, 1974, meeting, with all assignment of space being completed for the Convention Center at the January 1975 meeting. Various sub-committees of the Committee worked on these aspects of the arrangements: Facilities, Liaison with the Diocese of Minnesota, Committee Structure and Process, Relationship to Triennial, Preparation, Plans and Liaison with Various Groups, and Evaluation during General Convention. Provisions were made for a "Common Ground" at the Convention Center and for a "Gathering Place" outside the Convention Center during the evening hours. The Diocese of Minnesota has assumed responsibility for planning and staffing the Common Ground and the Gathering Place, as well as volunteers in the areas of worship, transportation, housing, entertainment, volunteer workers, pages, communication, and youth hostels. Arrangements were made for translation services for overseas delegates who do not have English as their primary language.

The Committee voted to provide for Special Diocesan Representatives should a diocese deem that the elected delegates do not adequately represent the viewpoints and interest of the Diocese. The resolution read as follows:

1. The Joint Committee on Agenda and Arrangements, on the strength of the 1973 General Convention Resolution calling for open and representative General Conventions, urges the election to the 1976 General Convention of deputations representing the diversity of interests and viewpoints within each diocese.
2. If, after the election of a deputation from a diocese, there are viewpoints and interests not adequately represented within it, a diocese may choose no more than three (3) Special Diocesan Representatives.
3. The chosen representatives may, by paying the Convention registration fee, be designated as identified Special Diocesan Representatives from their dioceses.
4. The identified representatives may subscribe to the Convention materials furnished to members of the House of Deputies before and during the Convention for a fee of six dollars.
5. These Diocesan Representatives will be eligible to participate in the orientation process of new deputies.
6. The Committee directs the Secretary of the Convention to take necessary action to inform the Dioceses and implement the recommendation of the General Convention of 1973.

The Rev. William F. Maxwell, Jr., Consultant to the Committee, was appointed Coordinator of Committees, Caucuses, and Open Hearings for the Minnesota General Convention. Fr. Maxwell has also been asked by the Presidents of the

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Houses to be in charge of the process of evaluation of the Minnesota Convention. Bishop Henton will serve as liaison with the House of Bishops in this process.

CHANGE OF NAME FOR THIS COMMITTEE

The Agenda and Arrangements Committee feels this Committee is misnamed and would better be called, The Planning and Arrangements Committee. Under the Rules, the real agenda for the business of General Convention is set by the Presidents of the two Houses on the advice of their Dispatch of Business Committees. We therefore offer the following Resolution for the consideration of this Convention:

Resolution A-55

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Rule No. 14 of the Joint Rules of Order be amended, by a change of name, wherever it shall occur in the Rule, from "Committee on Agenda and Arrangements" to "Committee on Planning and Arrangements."

FUTURE CONVENTION SITES

The Committee was asked by a number of resolutions to seek less expensive sites for General Convention. The Committee has tried. The General Convention Manager, Bob Wallace, has contacted more than 30 college campuses, for instance. The size of our Convention, and the Triennial, plus the many visitors we gladly welcome, makes this impossible.

We have also been asked to try to move General Convention to other parts of the country other than the Midwest. We are mindful that the 64th and 65th General Conventions have been in the mid section of these United States, Louisville and Minneapolis, and that the 64th General Convention voted to hold the next two General Conventions in Denver and Milwaukee (tentative). At our request the General Convention Manager has looked at sites on both coasts and in the Southwest. Convention centers of the proper size for our Convention, with the necessary hotel space nearby, are difficult to come by. We do have two nominees for the 68th General Convention of 1985, one in the mid-section of the country and one on the west coast. The Committee desires to present both options, with a priority rating: the Convention Center in Anaheim, California, and the Convention Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Our priority voting was very close, with the Anaheim Center only slightly ahead of Kansas City. Both the Dioceses of Los Angeles and West Missouri would be pleased to have the 68th General Convention within their jurisdictions. We therefore offer the following Resolution for the consideration of this Convention:

Resolution A-56

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 68th General Convention be held in Anaheim, California, in the Diocese of Los Angeles.

Should the above Resolution fail, we offer the following Resolution for the consideration of this Convention:

Resolution A-57

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 68th General Convention be held in Kansas City, Missouri, in the Diocese of West Missouri.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

The Committee recommends the adoption of the following Resolution:

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Resolution A-58

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 1976 General Convention function through the following activities:

- (1) Formal legislative sessions of the two Houses;
- (2) Meetings of the legislative Committees of the two Houses; and
- (3) Open hearings to be conducted as needed by all Committees and Commissions.

The Committee proposes the following schedule and daily time-table for the Convention:

Resolution A-59

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, that the schedule and daily time-table for the 1976 General Convention be:

September 12, Organizing Sessions in both Houses, 3:00-5:00 P.M.; Joint Session on the Proposed Prayer Book, 7:30 P.M.

September 13-23 (except Sunday, the 19th), Committee Meetings — 8:00-9:30 A.M.; Daily Worship — 9:40-10:20 A.M.; Houses Convene — 10:30 A.M.; Lunch — 12:30-2:00 P.M.; Legislative Sessions, both Houses — 2:00 P.M. (except Saturday, the 18th, and Thursday, the 23rd); Open Hearings — 7:30 P.M. (except Friday and Saturday, the 17th and 18th, and Thursday, the 23rd)

September 13, Joint Session to hear Executive Council Report, 11:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

September 17, Bicentennial Commission and Diocese of Minnesota Occasion honoring the Presiding Bishop and Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Nation.

September 18, Joint Session for Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance, 11:45 A.M.

September 19, Holy Eucharist, with United Thank Offering, 11:00 A.M.; Open Hearing, Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance, 7:30 P.M.

The Committee proposes this further resolution concerning the schedule and daily time-table:

Resolution A-60

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, that neither House modify the foregoing schedule without prior notice to the other.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR TRIENNIUM 1977-79

Resolution A-61

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, that the financial support for this Committee for the Triennium 1977-79 be \$25,000.

EVALUATION

The Committee will evaluate its own work and the functioning of General Convention following the close of the Convention. However, a preliminary evaluation of the work of the Committee suggests the following matters for the planners of 1979:

(1) Since it has little to do with the business agenda, the name of the Committee should be changed to Committee on Planning and Arrangements, (as proposed by the resolution above.)

(2) The Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies could clarify and speed the work of the Committee by defining its purpose in writing before its first meeting. There appears to be some confusion between its planning and advisory functions.

(3) The expectations of the Diocese within whose jurisdiction the Convention is

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held should be clarified.

(4) Lack of funding has resulted in some members feeling their contributions to the Committee's work ended in January, 1975. Additional funds and an early awareness of the inevitability of staff decisions in the last year of the Triennium would reduce this frustration.

(5) There is general satisfaction among members with the work of officers and staff.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

APPROPRIATIONS

Budget, 1973-76 Triennium	\$ 5,000
Adjustments approved, June 1974	<u>20,000</u>
Total	\$25,000

EXPENDITURES

For travel and subsistence of Members and Consultants at Meetings of Committee, Steering Committee, and task groups:	
1973	\$ 3,048.02
1974	11,747.56
1975	<u>6,092.28</u>
Total	\$20,887.86
Balance February 29, 1976	\$ 4,112.14