

The Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements

Joint Rule of Order VI (17) of the Houses of the General Convention gives sole responsibility between Conventions for matters pertaining to planning and arrangements for the Convention to the Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements.

MEMBERSHIP

- The Rev. Canon James R. Gundrum
Executive Officer of the General Convention
- The Rt. Rev. Robert Rusack
Bishop of local diocese
- The Rev. Arnold A. Fenton
General Chairman of Arrangements of the local diocese
- The Rt. Rev. James Montgomery
Vice-President of the House of Bishops
- The Very Rev. David B. Collins
Vice-President of the House of Deputies
- The Rt. Rev. Scott Field Bailey, *Chair*
Secretary of the House of Bishops
- The Rt. Rev. William E. Sanders
Chairman, Committee on Dispatch of Business, House of Bishops
- The Hon. George T. Shields
Chairman, Committee on Dispatch of Business, House of Deputies
- Mr. Matthew Costigan
Treasurer of the General Convention
- Mrs. Sylvia Corey
Presiding Officer of the Triennial Meeting
- Mrs. Marylyn Adams
Chairman of the Triennial Meeting
- Ms. Lori Arnold
General Convention Coordinator
- The Rev. Canon Lloyd S. Casson
Presbyter appointed by President, House of Deputies
- Mrs. Elizabeth Weeth
Lay Person appointed by President, House of Deputies

THE REPORT

The task of the Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements is to arrange for the meeting of the Convention and to propose an agenda of the General Convention for its adoption. The Committee also investigates future sites for the meeting of the Convention and reports its recommendations to the General Convention.

The full Committee met December 1 and 2, 1982, in Anaheim, Diocese of Los Angeles. The Bishop of West Texas, the Rt. Rev. Scott Field Bailey, was named by the Committee as its Chairperson, and Clare Fisher of the General Convention Office was named the Secretary. The planning and arrangements made for the meeting of the General Convention in New Orleans were reviewed in detail, as were the legislative process, the worship services at the Convention, and the extra events that surround the Convention. The facilities of the Anaheim Convention Center were inspected and preliminary assignments of available space were made for the meetings of the two Houses, the Triennial,

the exhibits, the committees, the open hearings, the press, the Chapel and the Convention offices. A second meeting of the Committee was also held in Anaheim, December 6 and 7, 1984, to finalize the arrangements and agenda for the meeting of the 1985 General Convention. In the interim between the two meetings, Ms. Lori Arnold assumed the responsibility of General Convention Coordinator.

Worship at the Convention

The Rules of Order of each of the Houses of the Convention provide for daily devotions which are under the direction of the presiding officer of each House.

A daily Eucharist for the Convention is scheduled at an early morning hour each day in the Convention Chapel. The Chapel will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the entire Convention for a time of quiet and prayer, with members of a religious order present. Special services may be scheduled through the Convention Coordinator and the local planning committee of the Diocese of Los Angeles.

There will be an Opening Eucharist for the Convention which will call together all segments of the membership and visitors. The preacher will be the Archbishop of Canterbury.

FUTURE SITES OF GENERAL CONVENTION

The Joint Committee on Planning and Arrangements will present in a supplemental report to the Convention (it will not be completed by the editorial deadline of the Convention's Blue Book) a cost analysis of a meeting in 1988 at four sites, including Anaheim and Detroit.

The supplemental report will also include studies of future sites for Convention in the triennials beyond 1988.

A SHARED TRAVEL FUND

The 67th General Convention meeting in New Orleans in 1982 adopted Resolution D-91A calling for a study to be made for "Establishment of a Shared Travel Expense Fund for General Convention."

A study was undertaken by the Planning and Arrangements Committee, and as a result, the Committee does not recommend the establishment of such a fund.

General comments concerning the intent of the study

It was thought that, inasmuch as the General Convention is limited to approximately a dozen or so cities and six campus sites in the United States, due to the number of persons who attend General Convention, it would be fairer for all dioceses concerned if a fixed travel cost figure could be established for all dioceses on a shared basis, regardless of where the diocese is located. The following comments are related to this required study.

Current practices

All aided dioceses—that is, 22 overseas dioceses and the 10 aided U.S. dioceses (Coalition 14)—are required to include in their operating budget on an annual basis one-third of the estimated General Convention expenses. This was done in order to avoid

having in the budget in the year of Convention a large lump sum figure. Therefore, since the aided dioceses are part of the Program Development Budget, all dioceses in the United States support to some degree the present funding for General Convention for these aided dioceses.

Setting aside on an annual basis the cost of General Convention seems to be a common practice in the majority of other U.S. dioceses.

In fact, with respect to a much larger expense, such as the Lambeth Conference every ten years, aided dioceses also make provision on an annual basis for this estimated cost. Therefore, the burden of meeting the General Convention expense can be planned well in advance of the actual year in which the Convention takes place, inasmuch as the location is announced far in advance and the budgetary procedures do permit, and most cases are presently providing for this expense on an annual basis.

Problems of developing criteria for a fund

To determine the number of bishops and deputies, and possibly two alternates from each diocese, who will go to a General Convention site is a simple matter. However, to determine the cost of travel for the entire United States for those who would be official representatives at General Convention is a much more complex problem. The number of bishops officially represented at Convention varies greatly from diocese to diocese.

Travel costs on heavily traveled routes change constantly. This last year, air fares from New York to San Francisco and return were much cheaper than fares from the middle of the U.S. to either the East Coast or the West Coast, especially from areas without airline competition. The question arises as to how to determine what air fare to use in order to get an average cost per official participant at Convention in creating a pool. We could second-guess the first and second year of the triennium, coming in with a high estimate rather than a low estimate. However, how could we adjust it in the third year? This must be done and received in January of the year of Convention. We would probably have to determine the travel cost figure based on June of the prior year, inasmuch as the amount must be incorporated in each diocesan budget for the year in which the Convention is held. What it comes down to is that each diocese would provide, on an annual basis, some estimated cost figure, based on this averaging which mechanically is no different from what most dioceses are doing now anyway.

Some technicalities could be overcome as follows: If there were a surplus in the fund, we could credit this against the average cost for the next Convention, thus lowering the amount needed in the pool. If there were a shortage, then we could increase this amount when we averaged the cost for the next Convention, thus increasing the amount.

We could assume that the amount, based on the number of bishops, deputies, and perhaps two alternates, would be paid to each diocese August 1 of the General Convention year, so that they would have the necessary funds in time.

Some unknowns are:

1. If this arrangement were mandatory, and a diocese failed to participate, what means of enforcement do we have, and, if it is not paid, who pays for the additional cost?
2. Should there be some provision for retired bishops?
3. If bishops, deputies, and two alternates do not attend, for whatever reason, would the diocese still be entitled to the allowance for this group?
4. The greatest cost for attending General Convention is attributable to dioceses located outside the United States. At the present time, they are required to include the estimated cost in their budgets on an annual basis. If a pooled travel fund were

to be instituted, could we assume that this cost, currently paid for by the General Church Program Budget, would be reduced, inasmuch as the cost for overseas dioceses on an average basis would be reduced and absorbed by U.S. dioceses?

General Comments

We believe the proposal could very easily create an administrative nightmare with the national Church staff being the collecting agency and a payment agency, trying to determine an equitable average in travel cost for all dioceses (possibly including overseas dioceses). It might cost possibly one-fourth of a full-time employee's time to do this, including a portion of secretarial time to communicate, etc. In light of these various comments, we would recommend the following:

1. That we encourage each diocese to include in their annual budgets one-third of the estimated cost for attending General Convention.
2. That we not move towards a pooled travel fund at this time.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #A—130

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 1985 General Convention function through the following activities:

1. Formal legislative session of the two houses;
2. The several joint sessions;
3. Meetings of the legislative committees of the two houses; and
4. Open hearings to be conducted as needed by all legislative committees.

Resolution #A—131

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the schedule and daily timetable of the 68th General Convention held in Anaheim, California, 1985, be:

September 7, Saturday

7:00 a.m. -	Daily Convention Eucharist
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Deputy certification
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Opening legislative session
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Joint session to receive the reports of Executive Council and the Presiding Bishop
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Legislative session
8:00 p.m.	Legislative committees meet

September 8, Sunday

7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.	Deputy certification
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Legislative session
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Convention Eucharist—UTO Ingathering
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Legislative session
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Legislative committees meet

[N.B. Last day for deputies and bishops to introduce new resolutions]

September 9, Monday

7:00 a.m. -	Daily Convention Eucharist
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Deputy certification
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Legislative committees meet

THE BLUE BOOK

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Legislative session
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Legislative session
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Committee meetings and open hearings

September 10, Tuesday

7:00 a.m. - Daily Convention Eucharist
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Deputy certification
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Legislative committees meet
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Legislative session
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Legislative session
8:00 p.m. Committee meetings and open hearings

September 11, Wednesday

7:00 a.m. - Daily Convention Eucharist
7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Deputy certification
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Legislative committees meet
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Legislative session
2:00 p.m. - _____ p.m. Joint Session—Report of Committee to Nominate Presiding Bishop
_____ p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Legislative session
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Los Angeles Night

September 12, Thursday

7:00 a.m. - Daily Convention Eucharist
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Deputy certification
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Legislative committees meet
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Legislative session
2:00 p.m. Joint Session—Report of PB&F
_____ p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Legislative session

[N.B. Last day for committee reports, except PB&F]

September 13, Friday

7:00 a.m. - Daily Convention Eucharist
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Deputy certification
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. PB&F open hearings
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Legislative session

[N.B. Deadline to consider PB&F report]

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Legislative session

September 14, Saturday

7:00 a.m. - Daily Convention Eucharist
7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Deputy certification
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Legislative session
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Legislative session
6:00 p.m. Adjourn *sine die*

The Joint Nominating Committee for a Presiding Bishop having submitted its report presenting the names of not fewer than three members of the House of Bishops for the consideration of the two Houses in the choice of a Presiding Bishop, pursuant to Title I, Canon 2, Sec. 1, the Committees on Dispatch of Business of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies propose the adoption of the following resolution.

Resolution #A—132

Resolved, That the following procedures be adopted in the nomination of persons for the office of Presiding Bishop, pursuant to Title I, Canon 2, Sec. 1(d):

1. That the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies set a special order of business for a joint session at 2:00 P.M. on September 11, 1985, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Joint Nominating Committee for Election of a Presiding Bishop. The names of persons nominated by the Joint Nominating Committee shall then be deemed to have been placed in nomination and the biographical sketches

printed on pages 72 through 79 of the Blue Book shall be deemed to be the equivalent of nominating speeches, and no member of either House at the Joint Session shall be recognized to speak further on behalf of such nomination.

2. That the Secretary of the General Convention prepare a form for nomination for Presiding Bishop which shall contain blanks for the inclusion of:

- (a) Name of nominee;
- (b) Diocese;
- (c) Space for a biographical sketch of the nominee, not longer than 150 words;
- (d) Certification that the nominee consents to being placed in nomination;
- (e) Signature of nominator, order, and diocese.

3. Additional nominations may be made from the floor by name and diocese only, accompanied by a written nomination form to be submitted to the Secretary of the General Convention at the time of nomination.

4. The Secretary of the General Convention shall publish the biographical sketches, as filed in nominations from the floor, of all such nominees, arranged in alphabetical order, to be distributed to the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies not later than 5:00 P.M. on September 11, 1985. Publication by the Secretary of General Convention shall be deemed to be the equivalent of nominating speeches, and no member of the House of Bishops or the House of Deputies shall be recognized to speak further on behalf of such nomination.

5. Discussion of the report of the Joint Nominating Committee shall be limited to its consideration of the Office of Presiding Bishop, in the light of the requirements of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, defining his responsibilities, the profile developed for the office of Presiding Bishop in the light of its historical development and present position, the qualifications, background experience, education, and unique gifts required of the bishop selected to fill the office of Presiding Bishop, as charged by Resolution A-140 of the 1982 General Convention (*Journal*, pp. C-72-73).

6. That the House of Bishops set a special order of business at 8:00 A.M. on September 12, 1985, for the purpose of electing a Presiding Bishop, and remain in session until it shall elect a Presiding Bishop or find itself unable to elect from among the persons nominated.

7. If the House of Bishops elects a Presiding Bishop, that the House of Deputies set a special order of business immediately upon notice of the election to vote to confirm or not to confirm such choice of Presiding Bishop.

8. If the House of Bishops finds itself unable to elect a Presiding Bishop from among the nominees, the joint session shall be resumed immediately, at which time additional nominations may be received.

9. Upon confirmation of a House of Bishops choice of Presiding Bishop by the House of Deputies, that the House of Deputies set a special order of business, to which the members of Triennial shall be invited, to receive the Presiding Bishop and acknowledge his election.

10. That the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies each adopt their own procedures for election and confirmation, respectively.

Resolution #A—133

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That neither house modify the foregoing schedule without due notice to the other.

FINANCE

Resolution #A—134

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That there be appropriated from the Assessment Budget of the General Convention the sum of \$26,700 for the expenses of the Joint Committee on Planning and Arrangements.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Field Bailey,
Chair