

Description of Diocesan Positions

Diocesan Council

Elect one clergy, one lay, to serve as at-large representatives for three years; terms expire in 2015

The Council is similar to a parish vestry or bishop's committee, functioning in the place of Convention when Convention is in recess. Its responsibilities include administration of the budget and management of business and secular affairs. Council is also charged with activities that promote unification, development, and prosecution of missionary work, church extension, and Christian education. There are fifteen members, nine of them elected by the three convocations to represent those three constituencies, and six elected at-large to represent all the congregations. Council meets on the third Tuesday evening of the month, usually ten times a year, in Easton. It may also conduct other meetings as diocesan business requires, including a retreat, usually in the spring. Members need to be able to commit to regular attendance, and have a genuine interest in the ministry of the entire diocese. No member may also be a member of the Standing Committee. Some vestry and parish experience is desirable.

Standing Committee

Elect one clergy, one lay, to serve for three years; terms expire in 2015

The Standing Committee's principal ministry is to be a council of advice for the bishop. There are six members, all elected at-large at the annual Convention. In the event there is no bishop, the Standing Committee becomes the ecclesiastical authority. Among its other ministries is to assure a candidate for holy orders has fully met all the canonical requirements, to give or withhold approval for transfer of real property by congregations, and to consent or not to the elections of bishops in all other dioceses of The Episcopal Church. It usually meets on the third Monday afternoon of the month, or at the request of the bishop, in Easton. Some vestry and diocesan experience is valuable.

Board of Managers

Elect two lay to serve for three years, terms expire in 2015

The Board of Managers consists only of lay persons, except the bishop, who is chair ex-officio. Although not required by the diocesan Constitution, they traditionally are persons with strong backgrounds in investment practices. The Board's mission is to manage the invested funds of the diocese and of parishes whose portfolios are entrusted to the Board. It meets quarterly in Easton.