

Proposed Amendments to Canon IV Regarding Persons to be Elected to the Board of Trustees

Rationale for proposed amendments: The present Canons say nothing to limit the influence that a single parish might have on the makeup of the Board of Trustees, or include any requirements that nominations for the elected positions on the Board of Trustees consider the richness and depth of diversity within the Diocese, including the size and location of parishes. Canonical provisions addressing those factors do, however, exist in the case of the Standing Committee (Article IX, Section 1, limiting the number of members from an individual parish to two) and Diocesan Council (Canon V, Section 3, requiring nominations for District representatives to consider the richness and depth of diversity within the Diocese, including size and location of parishes). The proposed amendments to Canon IV address the current deficiencies in Canon IV, while retaining sufficient flexibility so that the background, experience and expertise needed by the Board of Trustees at any given time can also be considered in the nomination process, as well as in the appointments by the Bishop.

Amend Canon IV, Of the Board of Trustees, Section 1, dealing with District Trustees, and Section 2, dealing with At-Large Trustees, by adding to the present text the following sentence as a new penultimate sentence:

Nominations shall be administered such that adequate and appropriate consideration is given to the richness and depth of diversity within the Diocese, including size and location of parishes, and the number of Trustees from a given parish already on the Board of Trustees.

Sections 1 and 2 of Canon IV would read as follows following the amendment, with the new text shown in underline format:

Section 1. District Trustees. Those persons who are to be elected to the Board of Trustees as District Trustees as provided in Article X of the Constitution shall be elected in the following manner. Whenever a vacancy shall occur or be about to occur in a position on the Board of Trustees being filled by a person from a particular District established pursuant to Canon XVIII hereof, the District Commission shall nominate at least two Lay persons who are canonically resident within such District. Nominations shall be administered such that adequate and appropriate consideration is given to the richness and depth of diversity within the Diocese, including size and location of parishes, and the number of Trustees from a given parish already on the Board of Trustees. From among those nominated, a successor shall be elected by the members of such District Commission at a meeting of the Commission held during the Convention.

Section 2. Those persons who are to be elected to the Board of Trustees as Trustees At-large as provided in Article X of the Constitution shall be elected in the following manner. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in a position on the Board of Trustees being filled by a person elected by the Convention, the Nominating Committee shall present nominations of one or more Lay persons to fill such vacancy. Nominations shall be administered such that adequate and appropriate consideration is given to the richness and depth of diversity within the Diocese, including size and location of parishes, and the number of Trustees from a given parish already on the Board of Trustees. From among those nominated, a successor shall be elected at the Diocesan Convention.