

Resolved, by the 227th Convention of the Diocese of Virginia, that the following Canon be added to the Canons of the Diocese, in order to confirm and clarify long standing practice and to assure accountability and transparency in making our decisions:

Open Meetings Canon

- (a) **Presumption of Open Meetings.** Unless closed pursuant to subsection (b), the meetings of vestries, regional councils, the Executive Board, and Diocesan Convention, shall be open to communicants of the member congregations. The meetings of Diocesan Convention shall also be open to the public and the press.
- (b) **Closed Meetings.** A meeting of a vestry, regional council, or the Executive Board may only be closed by vote of the body for the following discussions:
 - 1. Personnel matters;
 - 2. Discussing legal matters with counsel;
 - 3. Commercial negotiations.
- (c) **Standing Committee and Commission on Ministry.** In order to preserve confidentiality of personnel and finance matters, and in recognition of their advisory role to the Ecclesiastical Authority, attendance at the meetings of the Standing Committee and the Commission on Ministry shall be limited to members of those bodies and to those other persons invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell V. Randle
Lay Delegate, Christ Church, Alexandria
Chair, Virtual Governance Task Force on behalf of the Task Force