



**THE ANGLICAN SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of August 27, 2020 - Virtual meeting using Zoom.us platform

EX OFFICIO

Bishop	Vacant
Chancellor	Bob Gill
Vice Chancellor	Vacant
Dean and Diocesan Administrator	The Very Rev. M. Ansley Tucker
Registrar	Nathan Lampard
Lay Secretary	Canon Elaine Ellison
Clerical Secretary	The Rev. Paul Schumacher
Treasurer	Michael Murgatroyd

ELECTED BY SYNOD

The Venerable Dr. Dawna Wall	R	The Venerable Clara Plamondon
Don Wilson		Michael Wolff
Joan Hoffman		Penny Holt
Ashley Blair		Aleesha Barkemeier

ELECTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The Rev. Juli Mallet	Walter Stewart
The Rev. Patrick Sibley	Lynn Schumacher
The Rev. Aneeta Saroop	Denise Ropp
The Rev. Heather Cutten	Ed Norman

APPOINTED

The Rev. David Chillman
Boyd Shaw **R**

STAFF

The Ven. J. Barry Foster, executive officer
Gail Gauthier, finance officer
Catherine Pate, communications officer
Brendon Neilson, vision animator

GUESTS (with voice, no vote)

Sean Steele, Human Resources

Welcome

The diocesan administrator, Ansley Tucker, opened the meeting and welcomed the members of council. Ansley thanked the members of council for joining in this virtual meeting on the Zoom platform. Ansley then offered a prayer.

The Dean highlighted several issues:

- a) Diocesan council meets today in its role as nominating committee for the episcopal election, as per Canon 1.2f. Council's role is to look for any impediments to the candidate names being put forward to the delegates of synod for consideration in the election of our 14th diocesan bishop.
- b) The Dean noted that Aneeta Saroop, incumbent at St Mary, Metchosin, will be leaving the diocese on November 1st and moving to Vancouver.

The Dean asked if there were any changes to the agenda:

The items listed as part of the consent agenda were accepted by consensus approval.

- a) Regrets for Absence - The clerical secretary noted the regrets for absence from this council meeting. There were two voting members, plus one youth voting member of council absent. The 2/3 of council quorum requirement of Canon 1.2 g is met (20 of 22 voting members present).
- b) Appointment of Lay Secretary – Canon Elaine Ellison

MOVED BY: Paul Schumacher

SECONDED BY: Aneeta Saroop

That diocesan council approves the appointment of Canon Elaine Ellison as an officer of the diocese of Islands and Inlets (Diocese of British Columbia) to the position of lay secretary until the next regular synod.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

At this point in the meeting, Canon Ellison was admitted into the virtual meeting to join the proceedings of council. The members of council introduced themselves and noted which parish they were from and what was their part in council.

- c) Consent agenda approval:
 1. June 25, 2020 Diocesan Council minutes.
 2. Receiving of E-vote results – Threshold Housing Society Permanent Withdrawal from the Consolidated Trust Fund

MOVED BY: Bob Gill

SECONDED BY: Ed Norman

MOTION WAS CARRIED – AFFIRMATIVE: 16, OPPOSED: 1

3. Receiving of E-vote results – Trinity, Port Alberni approval to access \$10,000 from its All Saints CTF fund for replacement of two windows.

MOVED BY: Dawna Wall
SECONDED BY: Michael Wolff

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOVED BY: Lynn Schumacher
SECONDED BY: David Chillman

That the items listed as part of the consent agenda be approved.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Episcopal Election

Barry Foster indicated that all required documents have been received for each candidate and that all seven candidates are worthy of consideration.

The chancellor noted that each nomination has been confirmed as being nominated by a qualified member of the diocesan synod. He also noted that the House of Bishops will need to approve the election results at the appropriate juncture in the proceedings.

Sean Steele outlined the process employed in checking the references for each candidate. For each candidate, at least two referees were contacted by telephone. In one case, written summations of the candidate's references were provided to Sean. The report prepared for council was shared with council electronically; it was not circulated for council's review. Sean responded to many questions. None of the questions, nor Sean's responses, are recorded in these minutes.

Ansley Tucker thanked Sean Steele for his assistance in contacting the referees for each candidate.

MOVED BY: Bob Gill
SECONDED BY: Ed Norman

That diocesan council, sitting as the nominating committee, in accordance with Canon 1.2g, approves the seven candidates to move forward as nominees for bishop in the diocesan episcopal election, September 26, 2020.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Ansley Tucker indicated that, as diocesan administrator, she would contact each candidate regarding their approval as nominee for the election. Each candidate will have twenty-four hours to inform their immediate contacts. Canon Sue House, a retired priest of this diocese has been appointed chaplain to the nominees.

Electronic Election Process

Catherine Pate reviewed the electronic election process and spoke briefly about the need for all delegates and clergy to take part in a dress rehearsal of the voting procedure and platform. Details of the time and date of this opportunity to test the platform will be sent out to all delegates and active clergy in the next weeks.

Questions were raised regarding:

- 1) The backup plan in place should the electronic voting platform fail;
- 2) the need for returning and deputy returning officers being located at Christ Church Cathedral for the actual voting process;
- 3) the use of chat rooms by delegates between votes;
- 4) and, notification of the voting results on the livestream platform.

Ansley noted that questions regarding the voting process and the voting platform should be directed to Catherine Pate, communications officer.

Grant applications to the Anglican Foundation

St Mary, Nanoose Bay, roofing project letter of support.

MOVED BY: Walter Stewart

SECONDED BY: Clara Plamondon

That diocesan council provide a letter for St Mary, Nanoose Bay, in support of their application to the Anglican Foundation for funding to replace the building roof.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

St Christopher and St Aidan, Lake Cowichan, hall roof project letter of support,

MOVED BY: Walter Stewart

SECONDED BY: Clara Plamondon

That diocesan council provide a letter for St Christopher and St Aidan, Lake Cowichan, in support of their application to the Anglican Foundation for funding to replace the hall roof.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

The two letters of support were signed and forwarded to the Anglican Foundation on August 27, 2020 through the diocesan synod office.

Other Business

Next regular meeting of diocesan synod.

Bob Gill briefly spoke about the legal opinion provided with respect to holding a regular meeting of synod following the electoral synod (September 26, 2020).

The Canon states that with the resignation of the sitting bishop of the diocese the recorded time between synods is suspended until the installation of the next bishop. Since the resignation of the 13th Bishop of Columbia took effect in the 19th month of the current synod, there will be a period of up to 5 months left in the current diocesan council, until the next regular synod will be required. The present diocesan council members will remain as members of council until that time, as will the lay representatives for each of the five regions.

The chancellor commented that any vacancies on diocesan council may be filled by appointment, in the time leading up to the next regular synod.

Closing Reflection

The Dean thanked all in attendance for their commitment to the life of the diocese. Ansley again welcomed Elaine Ellison as lay secretary and as an officer of the diocese.

With no further business, the Dean offered a prayer for the candidates. She then asked Patrick Sibley to offer the dismissal.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Next Scheduled Diocesan Council meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 10:00 am by ZOOM Platform