



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 17 March 2018

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

27 January 2018

St. Luke's Hall, Parish of Portland

369 Main St., Saint John, NB

Pre-meeting circulation

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes (5 October 2017)
- Attendance Chart
- Team and Standing Committee Reports

Participants

Attending: Irene Adams, Kathy Asch, David Barrett, Roderick Black, Gilbert Carter, Sandra Craft, David Edwards, Brent Ham, Chris Hayes, Susan Jack, Rosemarie Kingston, Cathy Laskey, Siobhan Laskey, Coralie Losier, Rob Marsh, John Matheson, Keith Osborne, Christian Persaud, Ted Quann, Wandlyn Snelgrove, Thomas Stradwick, Robert Taylor and Cheryl Young.

Regrets: David Bell and Geoffrey Hall

Guests Attending: Shawn Branch, Lionel Hayter, Cheryl Jacobs, Mary Anne Langmaid, Gisele McKnight, Dylan Nicoll, William Ross and Joanna Saunders.

Guest Regrets: David Peer

Eucharist

The Bishop presided at the opening Eucharist. In his homily, the Bishop reflected on the Gospel reading from Mark 1:21-28.

Call to Order

Following a short break, Bishop David called the meeting to order at 1100 and received regrets. He welcomed new Archdeacons Roderick Black and Keith Osborne, new Parish Development Officer Shawn Branch, and Council members, and introduced new members and guests present.

Appointment of Recording Secretary

MOTION 1: Chris Hayes / Rob Marsh

That Cheryl Jacobs be appointed as Recording Secretary for today's meeting.

MOTION 1: Carried.

MOTION 2: Tom Stradwick / Teddy Quann

That David Peer be appointed as Recording Secretary of Diocesan Council.

MOTION 2: Carried.

Approval of the Agenda

The Bishop introduced the Agenda for the meeting. He noted that two motions, C and D, were to be removed from the Agenda, as Leanne Perrin resigned on the Thursday past.

MOTION 3: By acclamation

That the agenda be approved as circulated and revised.

Membership

The Bishop introduced three motions to fill vacant spots on the Diocesan Council.

MOTION 4: John Matheson / Keith Osborne

That Diocesan Council appoint Mary Anne Langmaid as the clergy representative from the Archdeaconry of St. Andrews, effective immediately.

MOTION 4: Carried.

MOTION 5: Christian Persaud / Sandra Craft

That Diocesan Council appoint Lionel Hayter, William Ross and Joanna Saunders members of Diocesan Council, effective immediately.

MOTION 5: Carried.

MOTION 6: Kathy Asch / Rob Marsh

That Diocesan Council appoint Dylan Nicoll a member of Diocesan Council, effective immediately.

MOTION 6: Carried.

The Bishop introduced the requirement for Diocesan Council to elect one of its lay members as **Lay Vice-Chair**. He noted there was one nomination, Sandra Craft, and called for further nominations. There being no further nominations, Sandra Craft was elected by acclamation.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Diocesan Council reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. It was suggested that the occurrence of presentations by Jason Smith (YIG) and Maren McLean (Camp) was omitted from the minutes. (Post meeting note: a note regarding these presentations was found in the draft minutes so no changes were required.)

MOTION 7: Gil Carter / Wandlyn Snelgrove

That the minutes of the 5 October 2017 Meeting of Diocesan Council be adopted.

MOTION 7: Carried

Business Arising

Archdeacon Cathy introduced the one item of business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting: section 11.2 regarding the Safe Church program where the Human Resources Committee was asked to discuss with the Chancellor whether the definition of "community" is inclusive enough, to consider whether the wording of Section 46 (page 131 of 187 of the package) with regard to inclusion of "such as snow tires" is too specific, and to report back to Council at the next meeting after Synod. Irene Adams indicated the Human Resources Committee responded to this in their report to this meeting. They concluded that the snow tires example was relevant and should remain. The Chancellor had reviewed the definition of community and also found it relevant, noting it referred to parishes, Cathedral, and camps, and was not to be confused with geographic community.

Correspondence

Archdeacon Cathy read letters received from the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs (a response to Bishop David's letter regarding Bill C-51) and the Minister of the Department of Justice and Public Safety (a response to Bishop David's letter calling for mediation support in NB family courts). She indicated that Council needed to decide if it feels that the response is sufficient and if not, decide what the next steps are. It was noted that there was only one response to the bishop's letter regarding C-51 though he wrote to three officials. Both Bishop David and Siobhan Laskey noted that the parts of the bill that were of concern have been covered by movement in the Senate and so this issue could be considered complete. Regarding the family court mediation, Siobhan suggested a letter back as to how to follow the progress and how parishes might contribute to the process. The bishop agreed to write such a letter and forward any suggestions to parishes.

Faith Formation

Shawn Branch, new Parish Development Officer, gave a short presentation on leadership for the diocese becoming missional. He concluded by asking members to consider what it might look like if every parish, every committee and team, and Council, began with the following roadmap:

- Begins with prayer (for each aspect of our lives)
- Leads to us hearing our call as a people and as a diocese – we are all in this together
- Compels us to go into the culture to be a witness and make disciples
- Creates community of friendship and mission as we offer hospitality to a stranger
- Causes us to gather to worship and praise God

Parish of Portland Presentation

Bishop introduced Trevor Holder from the Parish of Portland and gave him the floor for a parish presentation. Trevor Holder introduced those from the parish with him: wardens Al Titus and Deborah McEachern, warden nominee Jeena Jacob and co-chair of the capital campaign Marilyn Craft. His presentation focused on how the parish, whose sustainability was in question, has turned this trend around, including reporting on the success of a capital campaign. Trevor ended with thanks to the Diocese. The bishop thanked those of the parish for their hard work.

Lunch

At 12:25, the Bishop offered a blessing for the meal prepared for Council members. After lunch, Rob Marsh thanked the members of the Y's Men's Club who prepared the lunch. Trevor Holder conducted a tour of the building.

The Bishop reconvened Council at 1:25. He spoke about the church growth situation and traditions in India after speaking with Jeena Jacob of the parish.

Committee and Team Reports

The Council received the committee and team reports that were circulated before the meeting.

MOTION 8: Susan Jack / Tom Stradwick

That the Reports from Council Committees and Teams be received as submitted.

MOTION 8: Carried.

Finance:

- 19.1 On behalf of the Finance Committee, Chair Gil Carter presented Finance Committee Live – a brief overview of the work of the committee. Gil referred to the sources which give the committee its authority and mandate (e.g., Constitution and Canon Four) as well as responsibilities related to various diocesan policies. He noted the committee meets every month and always with much work as one needs only refer to the Council report to see.

Two questions followed. One was with respect to the receipt of the remainder of the Wilkes Fund, with the response that this was to be addressed in the budget discussion. The second was with respect to the Parish of Shediac getting compliant with the diocesan land transaction protocol; to which the bishop indicated progress is being made, provided a brief overview of bishop and synod office involvement to ensure clear title on transactions, and noted that Archbishop Miller sits on their land committee as the bishop's representative.

- 19.2 Irene presented the shared ministry narrative budget. She noted as good news that parish support for 2017 was at 102% with some late payments and there are no issues with the employment and pension bonus payments. She indicated that the budget is broken into three streams – self-supporting, supported through funds, and operating budget. The Finance Committee has reviewed the specific numbers and is comfortable with the deficit. Summary: significant increase in cost of retiree benefits, increase in youth ministry leadership costs, administration (including pre-retirement conference for clergy), \$10,000 more for professional fees, \$6,000 pilot project under stewardship, \$10,000 for archives record digitization support.

Discussion: There was a request that members be provided the actual budgets with numbers and it was agreed that this would be posted on the protective members page. The bishop noted that passing the budget is not automatically providing approval to an administrative restructure. There was a question about how accumulated deficit is dealt with; the answer being surpluses and capital gains become retained earnings, a deficit one year may not be a long term deficit. It was

clarified that grants and contributions may come out of the shared ministry pot or other funds.

MOTION 9: Gilbert Carter / Rob Marsh

Moved that Diocesan Council approve the 2018 Diocesan Shared Ministry Budget as presented.

MOTION 9: Carried, one against.

- 19.3 The Finance committee recommended that Council approve the application to the Anglican Foundation for the construction of the Jonathan Young Memorial Amphitheatre at Camp Medley. It was made clear that all funding for the project is required to be confirmed before construction begins. The bishop gave a background introduction to the Anglican Foundation and application process. Irene noted that the bishop signed the original application form but the form was redone for the package because of legibility issues.

MOTION 10: Irene Adams / Robert Taylor

Moved that Diocesan Council approve the application to the Anglican Foundation for a \$15,000 grant to support the construction of the Jonathan Young Memorial Amphitheatre at Camp Medley.

MOTION 10: Carried.

- 19.4 The Finance Committee recommended that Council approve a land sale agreement protocol for the Parish of St. Andrews. Members from the Parish of St. Andrews were asked to leave the meeting room during the discussion and vote. There was discussion regarding the length each appraisal would be valid leading to an amendment to the motion. There was also a friendly amendment to remove the limit that land could not sell for more than 100% of its appraised value.

MOTION 11: Irene Adams / Gil Carter

Moved that Diocesan Council approve the Land Sale Agreement protocol allowing the Parish of St. Andrews to forgo Finance and Property Committee approval on land sales of at least 90% of appraised value as presented. (Said appraisal to be no more than three years old.)

AMENDMENT: Siobhan Laskey / Ted Quann

That the motion explicitly state that appraisal be no more than 3 years old.

AMENDMENT: Carried, one against.

MOTION 11: Carried.

Nominating:

- 19.5 The Nominating Committee recommended that Council approve the report of committee, team and other role/group membership appointments; amended to replace all instances of Leanne Perrin with Irene Adams (until her retirement) and to remove the duplicate Kathy Asch on the Executive Committee. In response to some questions, Archdeacon Cathy provided a background on how the nominating

process was undertaken given the requests collected at the retreat. Specific questions should be referred to the Nominating Committee.

MOTION 12: Christian Persaud / Robert Taylor

Moved that Diocesan Council make the committee, team and group membership appointments as presented in the Nominating Committee report.

MOTION 12: Carried, one against.

Administration:

- 19.6 The Administration Team recommended that a business meeting of Diocesan Synod be held in the fall of 2018. The bishop noted that the preference indicated in the survey done at the last Synod was for an annual synod; but that, not necessarily related to this, the prime reason for this synod is that the Council of General Synod has asked that each diocese will have some sort of response to the change in the marriage canon (21) from its Synod by the end of November 2018. The motion to change the canon had a first reading at the 2016 General Synod and it is expected there will be a second reading at the 2019 General Synod. When asked, the bishop indicated he did not know if there would be any other business at the Diocesan Synod.

MOTION 13: David Barrett / John Matheson

Moved that a business meeting of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton be held on Saturday, November 3, 2018, at Christ Church (Parish) Church, Fredericton.

MOTION 13: Carried.

Bishop opened the floor for discussion on the other reports. There was none.

Other Items

Safe Church

- 19.7 Archdeacon Cathy provided an overview of the Safe Church implementation. Group trainings are being organized for February and March. Training and criminal record checks are valid for three years. Members of Council are to complete the training and record check requirements as ambassadors for the policy. Record checks are to be sent to Nicole Chouinard in the coming weeks. If a letter requesting the check is required, please contact Nicole. Those with questions themselves or on behalf of their parishes should contact Ben Bourque. A sample safe church questionnaire to assist the parish corporations in identify progress and address any gaps which is recommended to be completed by the end of March. Shortly after this, all parishes will be required to complete and submit the questionnaire for insurance purposes. Ben Bourque will communicate further information once available from Ecclesiastical.

Bishop's Charge 2017

- 19.8 Archdeacon Cathy encouraged that everyone read and mark the bishop's charge from the 2017 Diocesan Synod which is available on the bishop's and the synod

sessions page. Siobhan Laskey requested that Lionel Hayter's response also be published.

Report from Archdeaconry of Saint John Ministry to Seniors

19.9 Keith Osborned reported that this ministry is meeting a crucial need. He is covering seven facilities, both assisted living and total care, in the Archdeaconry and has seen 70 people, even those in throes of Alzheimer's. He is also working on a training course to train lay people from four different parishes to provide this care. He hopes the ministry can be expanded to include special care homes. He thanked the Council for the support and noted his is a three year term.

Meeting Schedule

The proposed schedule of upcoming meetings was presented. Locations to be announced.

2018: Saturday, March 17	2019: Saturday, February 23
Saturday, May 26	Saturday, June 1
Saturday, September 22	Saturday, September 21
Saturday, December 1	Saturday, November 30

Adjournment

MOTION 14: Rob Marsh

Moved that this meeting of Diocesan Council be adjourned.

The Bishop closed the meeting with prayer at 3:10 and Council said "The Grace" together.

Respectfully submitted,

The Right Rev'd David Edwards
Bishop and Chair

The Ven. Cathy Laskey
Secretary of Synod

Cheryl Jacobs
Interim Recording Secretary