



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted December 3, 2014

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

04 October 2014

Trinity Church Hall, Parish of Sussex

Pre-meeting circulation:

- Agenda 04 October 2014
- Draft Minutes (31 May 2014, 19 June 2014)
- Attendance
- Team and Standing Committee Reports

Meeting circulation

- Report of the Director of Youth and Intergenerational Ministries
- Friends of Farraline Dinner and Auction poster
- Progress on Implementation of Archdeaconry Commission Reports (September 2014)
- ACW Report
- Letter from Kevin Richardson re Anglican House

Attending: Donald Adams, Irene Adams, Stuart Allan, David Barrett, Gilbert Carter, Sandra Craft, Patricia Drummond, David Edwards, Rick Haddad, Geoffrey Hall, Eileen Irish, Jim Knight (VC), James McKenna, Christopher McMullen, Falen McNulty, Douglas Painter, Edward Quann, Richard Steeves, Allen Tapley, Anne Walling, Walter Williams, Cheryl Young.

Guests: David Bell, Cheryl Jacobs, Colin McDonald, Jim Morell, Brian Spence, Ana Watts.

Regrets: Rachel Barrett, Rosemarie Kingston.

Holy Eucharist in the church beginning at 10:00 a.m., the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Lunch was served at Noon by members of the Parish of Sussex. Our bishop expressed sincere appreciation.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Bishop at about 10:37 a.m. with a brief discussion of the question: "How can we facilitate peace (shalom) in our contexts?"

- have we lost the quiet and unlocked church?
- need peace within to show peace to the outside
- we represent the Church when we go outside
- when we see the Church, do we see the institution instead of Jesus?

Professor David Bell, recently appointed Chancellor, was welcomed.

Thanks to Clyde Spinney and Brent Theriault was requested to be noted in the minutes.

Regrets from members R. Barrett and R. Kingston and guest Leo Martin were noted.

Meeting Agenda

MOTION 1: C. McMullen / D. Painter

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION 1: Carried.

Reports

MOTION 2: G. Carter / E. Irish

That reports circulated be accepted.

MOTION 2: Carried.

Minutes of last Meetings

MOTION 3: W. Williams / F. McNulty

That the minutes of 31 May 2014 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION 2: Carried.

MOTION 4: A. Tapley / E. Quann

That the minutes of 19 June 2014 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION 4: Carried.

Team and Committee Reports

Parish Support and Development

A Foundation for Life information and will be included in the November NB Anglican.

Reference to the report on Progress from Archdeaconry Commissions.

Stewardship and Financial Development

"Creative care - Rethinking the sacred" workshop on 18 October will Randall Goodfellow.

Special invitations for a round table discussion on Friday evening, 17 October.

Finance Committee

Unrealized gain on investments was healthy in 2013 resulting in 2013 being a good financial year.

MOTION 5: I. Adams / G. Carter

That the Financial Statements as of December 31, 2013 be approved as presented.

MOTION 5: Carried.

MOTION 6: I. Adams / G. Carter

That Geoffrey Hall be designated as an additional signing authority on diocesan accounts.

MOTION 6: Carried.

Human Resources

MOTION 7: I. Adams / W. Williams

That effective January 1, 2015, the Diocese discontinue subsidization of individual Blue Cross Prescription Drug Plans to eligible retired clergy/widows/widowers; and FURTHER that the premiums for that Manulife Retired Clergy Benefit Plan be adjusted to 75% Diocese and 25% Plan Members, effective the same date.

MOTION 7: Carried.

MOTION 8: W. Williams / S. Craft

That Diocesan Council adopt Regulation 4-4 "Diocesan Safe Church," to promote the mission of the church by providing a safe and effective working, learning and spiritual environment.

Discussion:

- A question regarding the definition of "assault." The definition is from provincial legislation and a result of legal counsel sought.

- A question about the definition of a "child." The definition is provincially determined.

When the question on Motion 8 was called,
MOTION 8: Carried unanimously.

MOTION 9: W. Williams / J. McKenna

That Diocesan Council rescind the current diocesan Policy B-3 Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure and adopt the "Diocesan Misconduct Policy" as circulated and presented, to protect all members of the church community and, in particular, children, youth and vulnerable adults from misconduct in a church setting.

Discussion:

- Might we expect to see increased use of the protocols with the increase in scope? Unknown at this time but it will be monitored.
- Is it appropriate for the Diocesan Council to appoint the "misconduct officer?" Is in accordance with other "officers" of the Synod and removes the Bishop from being personally responsible for the work of the misconduct officer.
- Is there some indication of who the misconduct officer might be? Not at this time. The "Sexual Misconduct Officer" has most recently been the Secretary of Synod.
- Is the title "misconduct officer" the best one? "Conduct officer?" "Safe church officer?" The term is used in regulations of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada. This officer will be specifically handling "mis" conduct. Human Resource Committee is requested to give further consideration to the title.

When the question was called,
MOTION 9 was carried unanimously.

MOTION 8: T. Fetter / G. Hall

That Regulation 4-4 section 3(1) be modified to include the Corporation of Christ Church Cathedral and its members.

Discussion:

- The motion is a matter of consistency as parishes and Christ Church Cathedral are routinely named as unique corporate entities in diocesan legislation, beginning with the Anglican Church Act, 2003.
- Would there not be a more comprehensive way to deal with the reality that our cathedral is not identified as a parish in diocesan legal terms. Possibly, but beyond the scope of the today's meeting. We might refer the matter to the Chancellor and Constitution and Canons for consideration.

The question being called,
MOTION 8: was carried unanimously.

PWRDF

Diocesan co-ordinator Anne Walling provided an extensive update on the involvement of PWRDF with the current Ebola virus crisis and encouraged donations to PWRDF designated for this purpose.

Synod/Cathedral Joint Committee

Chair J. Knight offered a concise overview of current status and offers the several motions to follow to move the Project to its next stages.

MOTION 9: J. Knight / J. McKenna

That Diocesan Council approve the engagement of Murdock – Boyd Architects to complete the development of Construction Drawings for the renovation of Cathedral Memorial Hall (as the next step in fulfilling the direction of Council from the June 19, 2014 meeting).

MOTION 9: Carried.

MOTION 10: J. Knight / G. Carter

That Diocesan Council directs the Joint Committee to develop a detailed Financial Plan for the completion of the renovations for presentation to the Finance Committee, through the Diocesan Property Subcommittee, at their next meeting.

Discussion:

- Does funding to be realized from Anglican House enter into this planning. No decisions have been made in that regard.

MOTION 10: Carried.

MOTION 11: J. Knight / G. Carter

That Diocesan Council directs the Joint Committee to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will govern the construction period and the ongoing operations of the renovated Hall for presentation to the Finance Committee, through the Diocesan Property Subcommittee, at their next meeting.

Discussion:

- Should the Diocesan Council expect reports as to the outcome of the financial plan and the MOU process? Yes.
- a detailing of operational savings will also be part of the financial planning and for clear communication purposes.

MOTION 11: Carried.

MOTION 12: J. Knight / A. Walling

That Diocesan Council directs that the Joint Committee proceed with the development of additional parking in the area of the Cathedral and the Hall as part of this project.

MOTION 12: Carried.

Administration Team

Chair Jim Morell referenced the inclusion of the "Issues and Challenges" report noting that the last update was prior to the last meeting of the Council. With more information now available, the intention will be to revise the status on the various items keeping the report current.

Director of Youth and Intergenerational Ministries

Director Colin McDonald referred to a written report he circulated accompanied by an extensive verbal report outlining many positive aspects of current work and some challenges. The Council was inspired by the information and the presentation.

Staffing Updates

1. Administrative and Financial Assistant in place.
2. Bishop's Secretary Cheryl Jacobs on a six-month contract beginning 01 September.
3. Communications Officer will begin 14 October 2014. Ana Watts has graciously covered the transition.
4. Parish Development Officer to be considered.
5. Announcement of the Executive Assistant to the Bishop scheduled for Sunday, 05 October.
6. Archdeacons being appointed: the Rev'd Brent Ham, Moncton; the Ven. Pat Drummond interim Woodstock
7. Installation of the Dean on Sunday, 05 October.

Announcements

Refer to additional circulated items:

- Anglican House letter
- Friends of Farraline
- Creative care – Rethinking the sacred - 18 October
- November NB Anglican for A Foundation for Life material
- F. McNulty expressed thanks to the Diocese for financial support of theological students

Next Meeting - Wednesday, 03 December 2014 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m..

Parish of Riverview by invitation.

Adjournment

Motion 13: D. Painter

That the meeting be adjourned at 1:50 p.m..

The meeting closed with the Bishop leading the Grace.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt. Rev'd David Edwards
Bishop and Chair

The Ven. Geoffrey Hall
Secretary of Synod

06 October 2014