



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 3 December 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

29 September 2022

Zoom

Pre-meeting circulation

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes (May 28, 2022)
- Diocesan Council Executive Minutes (June 21, 2022)
- Correspondence from the Anglican Foundation, the City of Moncton, and the General Secretary
- The Diocesan Council letter to the Rev Canon Tom Smith
- Chancellor's Report and Draft Regulation 6-3: Cemetery Management
- Finance Committee Report and Draft Policy A-4: Obtaining Financial Assistance
- Treasurer's Reports
 - August 31, 2022 Shared Ministry and Employment Assessment
 - August 31, 2022 Synod Financial Statements
 - December 31, 2022 Camp Medley Financial Statements
- Committee and Team Reports: HR, Spiritual Development

Members Attending

Kathy Asch, David Barrett, Ken Brien, Perry Cooper, David Edwards, Geoffrey Hall, Brent Ham, Heather Harris-Jones, Chris Hayes, Susan Jack, Mary Anne Langmaid, Cathy Laskey, Siobhan Laskey, Bob LeBlanc, Coralie Losier, Rob Marsh, Leo Martin, Michael O'Hara, David Peer, Matthew Pitman, Paul Ranson, Joni Richardson, Kevin Stockall, Cheryl Young.

Member Regrets

David Bell, Lionel Hayter, John Matheson,

Members Absent

Ted Quann, Jill Stewart, Robert Taylor.

Guests Attending

Shawn Branch (PDO), Cheryl Jacobs (Technical Host), Gisele McKnight (NB Anglican).

Worship

1. David Edwards welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting room at 6:30 pm and acknowledged the unceded and unsundered Wolastoquey, Mi'kmaq, and Peskotomuhkati peoples' territory on which the Diocese sits and thanked them for allowing us to gather.

2. David Edwards then led the council in Evening Prayer, with the help of Leo Martin, Mary Anne Langmaid, and Chris Hayes.

Call to Order

3. David Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:47 pm. He noted the regrets of David Bell, Lionel Hayter, and John Matheson. No further regrets were received.
4. David Edwards introduced the agenda for the meeting. The Secretary noted that the Chancellor, David Bell may not be able to join because he was having Internet and phone connectivity issues and the Secretary recommended tabling the motion to the next meeting. Members agreed with the proviso that it be tabled with comments to the Chancellor. Siobhan Laskey noted grammatical errors in paragraph 9 as an example.

MOTION 1: Ken Brien / Paul Ranson

That Diocesan Council accept the agenda as presented.

MOTION 1: Carried

5. Shawn Branch reviewed the meeting protocols for online voting.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

6. Diocesan Council reviewed the minutes of the last Diocesan Council meeting.

MOTION 2: Joni Richardson / Kathy Asch

That Diocesan Council approve the minutes of the last meeting May 28th, 2022.

MOTION 2: Carried

7. Diocesan Council reviewed the minutes of the Diocesan Council Executive meeting on June 21, 2022.

MOTION 3: David Barrett / Matthew Pitman

That Diocesan Council receive the minutes of the meeting the Diocesan Council Executive held on June 21, 2022.

MOTION 3: Carried

Correspondence

8. The Secretary brought forward three items of correspondence. A letter from the Anglican Foundation which will be discussed under item 5a. A recent blog post from the City of Moncton announcing that The Rev Canon Chris Van Buskirk was awarded the Order of Moncton. A letter from the General Secretary on the General Synod planned for 2023.
9. David Edwards asked that the Secretary to send a letter of recognition to Canon Van Buskirk from the Diocesan Council.
10. Siobhan Laskey also noted that the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick awarded the Venerable John Matheson the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee medal and suggested that recognition for this award was also appropriate. David Edwards

asked the Secretary to send a letter recognizing this award as well.

Business Arising

11. Geoffrey Hall noted that The Diocesan Council letter to the Rev Canon Tom Smith was at his bedside when he died.

12. David Edwards provided an update on the mobile medical clinic. It is off the dock, cleared customs, and parked at the Teaching Hospital in Ho. The hospital is building a garage and bringing together staff. It will be visiting villages in Ho soon. David Edwards asked the Secretary to ensure an update on the project was provided to Greater Chapters for their upcoming meetings.

13. David Peer provided a Synod planning update. The planning team has met twice and preparations are well underway for the meeting in the Cathedral. David Peer and Shawn Branch will be attending Greater Chapter Meetings to provide Greater Chapter members an update on Synod business and program topics. The Greater Chapters will be voting for a cleric and lay delegate to Council

New Business

14. **Anglican Foundation Say Yes to Kids Update.** Cathy Laskey provided a further update on the Say Yes to Kids Campaign. She thanked the Diocesan Council on behalf of the working group for diocesan council's support. She was able to announce that the Diocesan share of the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock's local campaign with a Synod top up to \$2000 was given to the youth transition house in Saint John for mental health services for young people in need.

15. Shawn Branch explained that the Diocesan Synod, the Centre for Youth Care, Housing Alternatives, the Teen Resource Centre, and the Saint John Learning Exchange are collaborating on a project to provide youth transitional housing and emergency shelter at the Synod's 50 Broad Street building. The facility is now called Beacon Cove

16. **Committee, Team, and Representative Reports.** David Edwards asked for a motion to receive all reports

MOTION 4: Brent Ham / Cathy Laskey

Moved that Diocesan Council receive all committee reports as circulated.

MOTION 4: Carried

17. **Chancellor's Report.** The Chair deferred the Chancellors report to Other Business as the Chancellor had not been able to connect to the virtual meeting room.

18. **Finance Committee Report.** Susan Jack noted that the Finance Committee had only two full meetings since the last meeting of the Diocesan Council. The Committee finished a review and rewrite of Policy A-4. The goal was to have more consistent guidelines on the award of grants and the provision of shared ministry relief. The policy also needed updating to bring the guidelines more in line with the Anglican Foundation so that the grant process could be better aligned with the AFC

grant process. The proposed policy adds a requirement to report on grants at the end of a project and to return unused funds and for annual progress reports on multi year grants. The proposed policy also includes examples of applications to help parishes that want to apply. The Finance committee has reviewed and recommends the policy, and the Chancellor had a lot of input to the policy during its development.

MOTION 5: Susan Jack / David Peer

Moved that Diocesan Council approve the changes to policy A-4 on Obtaining Financial Assistance as circulated.

MOTION 5: Carried

The approved policy is appended to the minutes in a legislative appendix

19. **Treasurer's Report.** Heather Harris-Jones noted that the shared ministry and employment information for August is in the meeting package. Some parishes have asked to be removed from auto payment; parishes are taking the opportunity to have more control over payments. She discussed the transition of benefits to RBC and recognized the challenges that caused for some people. Siobhan Laskey noted that RBC was sending unsolicited email and upselling products. Heather will bring this up with RBC.

20. Heather spoke briefly about Synod investments and that they were down 9.6% in August. On the advice of RBC the Synod realized enough gains early in the year to keep the Synod on track for a 4.5% rate of return. RBC is hoping that the market will turn around before the end of next year. Heather is very grateful that investment income is now based on realized returns; it helps mitigate against wild swings in market valuations of assets affecting the Synod operating budget.

21. Heather shared the Synod financials for August 31, 2022, with council members and explained the income statement summary. There are no surprises; expenses are tracking as expected and the Synod is managing as well as it can. There were no questions on the statements from the diocesan council.

22. Camp Medley finances are on track for another good year. The budget was based on 400 campers. The actuals include 355 campers plus 113 other program participants. The revenue shortfall in the financials has already been covered by a government grant. And more revenue is expected to come in. Expenses reflect only 8 months and more expenses are anticipated. Heather expects Camp Medley will finish the year with an income of about \$10,000.

23. David Edwards thanked Heather and the Camp Medley Director, John Galbraith and others for stabilizing the funding at Camp Medley. There were no other comments or questions.

24. **HR Committee Report.** The HR committee brought two administrative matters to the Council. A revision of the Roles and Responsibilities to change the ex officio membership from the Treasurer to the Diocesan Personnel Officer and to add a new member to the committee. The Treasurer questioned whether the Roles and Responsibilities should indicate that the HR committee works with the Finance Committee when bringing items with financial implications to diocesan council. Cathy

Laskey suggested that the HR committee should be more representative and include younger clerics and clerics with children. She also asked if Archdeacons meant Territorial Archdeacons. David Edwards suggested that the HR committee take these comments under advisement and review their roles and responsibilities again.

MOTION 6: David Peer / Kathy Asch

Moved that Diocesan Council Approve the changes to the Human Resources Committee Roles and Responsibilities as presented.

MOTION 6: Carried

MOTION 7: David Peer / Kathy Asch

Moved that Diocesan Council appoint the Rev Canon Richard McConnell to the Human Resources Committee.

MOTION 7: Carried

Other Items

25. **Chancellor's Report.** The Secretary recommended with the inability of the Chancellor to attend and speak to his report and motion that Diocesan Council consider tabling the motion to approve the new regulation. Siobhan Laskey recommended that the Chancellor take the time to the next meeting to complete an editorial review of the wording and a wider consultation on the policy.

MOTION 8: Susan Jack / Siobhan Laskey

Moved that Diocesan Council table the motion to enact Regulation 6-3 to the next meeting and encourage an editorial review and wider discussion of the proposed regulation

MOTION 8: Carried

26. **Rolling Meeting Schedule.** Our next meeting is an in-person meeting of the new Council at the retreat planned for Friday December 2nd and Saturday December 3rd.

2022
Friday December 2 nd to Saturday December 3 rd
Thursday March 2 nd , 2023
Saturday May 27 th , 2023 (In-Person)
Thursday September 28 th , 2023 (Virtual)

Adjournment

27. David Edwards closed the meeting in prayer and with the Grace at 1948 and then asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION 9: Bob LeBlanc

That this meeting of Diocesan Council be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
The Most Rev David Edwards
Archbishop and Chair

The Rev David Peer
Secretary of Synod