



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

115 CHURCH STREET, FREDERICTON NB E3B 4C8

(506) 459 1801 [o] (506) 460 0520 [f]

Adopted 31 May 2008

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

12 March 2008

St Luke's Church Hall, Saint John

[Secretary's note: the minutes are not chronological. Lunch was served by the ladies of St. Luke's at 12:30 p.m. with the meeting reconvening at 1:15 p.m. and adjournment at 3:52 p.m.]

Text in red indicates action required.]

Pre-meeting circulation:

- § Agenda 12 March 2008
- § Unfinished Business Summary (05 March 2008)
- § Draft Minutes (07 November 2007)
- § Attendance (28 November 2008)
- § Shared Ministry Plan Status (October 2007)
- § Team Reports: Administration; Episcopal; Mission/Outreach: Parish Support; Spiritual Development; Youth;
- § Standing Committee Reports: Finance; Human Resources; Nominating
- § Draft Roles and Responsibilities (Episcopal)

Meeting Circulation

- § Archbishop D. Hambidge's 'A New Perspective' Bible Study with questions
- § Camp Campaign Financial Summary

Attending: Stuart Allan, David Barrett, William Chilton, Patricia Drummond, David Edwards, Geoffrey Hall, Donald Hazen, Vicars Hodge, Martha Jo Hoyt, Keith Joyce, Robert LeBlanc (afternoon), Hazel MacKenzie, Richard McConnell, Keith Osborne, Ted Quann, Fred Scott, John Sharpe, Clyde Spinney, Gordon Thompson, Christopher Waldschutz, Walter Williams.

Guests: George Porter, Elizabeth Harding, Robert Marsh, Charles O'Neil, Judith Campbell, Ana Watts, Leo Martin, Peter Irish.

Regrets: Greg Frazer, Claude Miller, Jon Lownds, Douglas Painter, Falen McNulty, Joan Randall, Heather Carr, Robert LeBlanc (morning session), Michael Tower.

Guest Regrets: Maureen Vail, Phyllis Cathcart.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Welcome

In the absence of the Bishop and Chair, C. Waldschutz, Vice-chair opened the meeting with welcome and called on Dean Joyce to offer an opening prayer.

1.2 Regrets. As recorded.

1.3 Opening comments

The Vice-Chair indicated he did not have any opening comments; however, he did draw the attention of all members of Council to a poster on the wall which read "Getting along with God and others."

1.4 Correspondence

No correspondence.

1.5 The Agenda: modification requests

No modifications were requested.

Guest Presentation: Mr. Charles O'Neil (Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island)

See Appendix 1 for summary.

The Chair offered warm thanks to Mr. O'Neil for the wealth of information in his presentation which was interesting and well received.

2. Minutes of Last Meetings:

2.1 Diocesan Council last meeting.

MOTION 1: V. Hodge / W. Williams. - **That the minutes of the 07 November 2007 meeting of Diocesan Council be adopted as circulated.**

MOTION 1: Carried unanimously.

2.2 The Chair drew members' attention to completed items and then called on the Secretary of Synod to give a brief overview of unfinished business items beginning on page 4 of the pre-meeting package.

Meditation - pending

Clergy Code of Pastoral Conduct - Dean Joyce offered his thanks to all the committee members which includes clergy with a wide representation of theological outlook. It is hoped the document will be ready for the end of 2008 when the Bishop and Dean will present a final draft to Diocesan Council. The current draft has been okayed by the Bishop. It will now go to the Chancellor for his perusal; then to the clergy in August for their input. Finally regional deaneries' input will be sought in September and October and as mentioned above, to Council for final approval.

Shared Ministry Plan work is pending. The vice chair of Council assumes responsibility for tracking pertinent information and hopes to have a report at the next meeting of Council. A follow up with Geoff Jackson of the national church is forthcoming.

Marriage and sexuality - ongoing

Clean water - referred to PWRDF

Stem cell - Administration Team Report

Budget - in Administration Team Report

Rural and Struggling Parishes - Archdeaconary consultations by Task Force

Communications - Membership has been set and meeting has been called

Budgeting Process - Comments will be made at the Administration Team report

Memorial St James, SJ - awaiting final draft for execution

Camp Brookwood - referred to the Archdeacon of Woodstock. Meetings were held and reports should be available at next meeting

Canon FIVE re Parish Financials - referred to Synod 2009

3. Reports

3.1 Council Team reports:

- 3.1.1 Administration. C. Waldschutz.
Additional comments: The correction was made that the recent draft of Red Book policies remains with the Human Resources Committee.
- 3.1.2 Episcopal Team. G. Hall
- 3.1.3 Mission/Outreach. K. Osbourne.
Additional comments: A note of sadness was expressed over the fact that Seafarers' Mission chaplaincy now works under an interfaith basis. This leaves little room, if any, for evangelism.
- 3.1.4 Parish Support and Development. H. MacKenzie.
- 3.1.5 Spiritual Development. G. Thompson.
- 3.1.6 Stewardship and Financial Development. D. Barrett.
Comments: Due to the lack of membership on this team, a request has been sent to all archdeaconeries to name two members.
- 3.1.7 Youth Ministries. G. Porter and E. Harding
A question was raised regarding Sunday School and Elizabeth responded that she visits parishes at their invitation, continues with the Spiritual Spa and Christian Education Conferences

3.2 Standing Committees

3.2.1 Finance Committee. F. Scott.

The Budget Task Force is giving early attention to the '10-10-10 Diocese of South Carolina Plan

Mr. Peter Irish gave an overview of the Camps Capital Campaign

On Insurance matters, the committee is consultation with Jarvis deCondé to see where changes may be instituted so the policy does not become punitive to some parishes.

There are some concerns regarding the nature of the projects at Camp Brookwood. It was reported meetings are underway and a letter was sent to the Chair of the Board requesting no spending take place until approval.

3.2.2 Human Resources. F. Scott

Additional Comments: While our medical/dental plan looks good, Manulife is proposing a 4.8% increase which the committee felt was not acceptable. The number of people on the plan has gone down to 66 people (6 of these on Long Term Disability). This is down from 84 in 2003 or a 20% drop in our total workforce. Definitely a symptom we need to look at.

3.2.3 Nominating. G. Hall.

3.2.4 Constitution and Canons. C. Spinney

A meeting will be called in the near future. Communications are ongoing through emails.

3.3 Items for Discussion

3.3.1 Stewardship and Financial Development

Comments: We need to move from talk to action

The program needs to be done in a spiritual concept. It cannot be just about dollars and cents, it needs to be focused on the Gospel.

We should start small and allow ourselves to grow.

We need to find those who are passionate about stewardship

4. Business

4.1 Diocesan Council membership

MOTION 2: G. Hall/W. Williams

That following the resignation of Carolyn Dixon, this Diocesan Council accept the election of the Greater Chapter and appoint Mrs. Judith Campbell as lay representative from the Archdeaconry of Woodstock. [see Constitution 11 s.5]

MOTION 2: Carried unanimously.

4.2 Application to Anglican Foundation

MOTION 3: W. Williams/V. Hodge

That the application from the Parish of Richmond to the Anglican Foundation be approved.

MOTION 3: Carried unanimously

MOTION 4: V. Hodge/D. Edwards

That the Finance Committee draft a policy regarding the process to follow when making applications to the Anglican Foundation.

Rationale: Applications come from the Diocese and not individual parishes. The Diocese is allowed up to three applications per year.

MOTION 4: Carried unanimously

4.3 NB Anglican Cursillo (Spiritual Development Team)

MOTION 5: G. Thompson/T. Quann

In the spirit of intent of this committee we encourage the revitalization of the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Fredericton.

MOTION 5: Carried unanimously

4.4 Communication with groups (Spiritual Development team)

MOTION 6: G. Thompson/R. McConnell

Given that the Diocese recognizes the existence of groups other than those whose relationship to the Bishop and the Diocese are already defined and recognizing that these groups are composed of Anglicans and address issues of importance, we encourage and promote communication with the following groups: Essentials NB, Zacchaeus Fellowship, and Integrity Fredericton.

MOTION 6: Carried unanimously.

4.5 Human Resources Committee member (Human Resources Committee)

MOTION 7: F. Scott/S. Allan

That the Rev'd Canon Neville Cheeseman (retired) be appointed to the Human Resources Committee.

MOTION 7: Carried unanimously

4.6 **Episcopal Team Roles and Responsibilities** (Episcopal Team)

MOTION 8: J. Sharpe/R. LeBlanc

That Diocesan Council adopt the Roles and Responsibilities for the Episcopal Team as presented.

MOTION 8: carried unanimously.

4.7 **Mediation** - DC 04 November 2006 - 11 (Episcopal Team)

MOTION 9: G. Hall/S. Allan

That Diocesan Council revisit the motion referring "the mediation of fractured relationships" to the Episcopal Team as this issue is being dealt with in other ways, and the question of mediation needs to be set aside for the present time.

AMENDMENT 9a: P. Drummond/H. Mackenzie

That the words "for the present time" be replaced with "until September 2008" so that the new motion would read:

That Diocesan Council revisit the motion referring "the mediation of fractured relationships" to the Episcopal Team as this issue is being dealt with in other ways, and the question of mediation needs to be set aside until September 2008.

AMENDMENT 9a: Defeated (4 in favour; 8 opposed; 8 abstentions)

AMENDMENT 9b: C. Spinney/V. Hodge

That Diocesan Council rescinds the November 2006 motion referring to the mediation of fractured relationships.

Discussion: Will this affect our Shared Ministry Plan pillar which deals with this topic?

The Chancellor indicated it simply removes the specific conditions (immediacy and outside facilitator) of the 2006 motion. Work on this is being completed at different levels.

AMENDMENT 9b: Carried with 4 opposed.

AMENDED MOTION 9: Carried with 2 opposed and 2 abstentions.

Comment following the vote: In light of the tenuous situation which the Anglican Church of Canada and the Anglican Church worldwide now finds itself, we are reminded to search for peace and charity within our souls and start working on reconciliation in a positive way. Rescinding the motion does not mean we deny there is a problem, it simply removes the awkwardness of the 2006 motion.

4.8 **Next Meetings**

Saturday 31 May 2008 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Woodstock

Wednesday 27 August 2008 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. at RNS, Rothesay

Saturday 27 September 2008 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Shediac

Wednesday 05 November 2008 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Sussex

4.9 **Announcements**

4.9.1 PRISM workshops are scheduled for April 19 in Sussex and Woodstock AND for September 20 in St George and Bathurst.

5. **Adjournment**

Moved by Martha Jo Hoyt

The Ven. Stuart Allan closed the meeting with The Grace.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Leo Martin
Recording Secretary

The Venerable Geoffrey Hall
Secretary of Synod

Mr. Christopher Waldshutz
Vice-chair

02 April 2008

Appendix 1

Notes from a Presentation to Diocesan Council by Mr. Charles O'Neil

G. Hall briefly introduced Mr. Charles O'Neil. Charles has been involved in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in the area of Financial Development, Planned Giving and Stewardship for many years. He was invited to make this presentation to Council by the Bishop.

After a brief introduction, Mr. O'Neil asked members to break into small groups to discuss the Bible Study on the parable of the talents as presented by Abp D. Hambidge's "A New Perspective".

Following the study, the following comments were made:

- We focus too much on finances. We neglect evangelism and the doctrine of the faith. Until we get back to basics, nothing will happen.
- We know that everything we have belongs to God. The way to get connected to Stewardship is through increased stronger faith, not programs.

The Power Point Presentation provided the following information:

What is Planned Giving?

- "people doing what they want to do with their assets and gift planners helping them do it."

- transfer of assets
- has significant tax consequences
- results in current and deferred gifts.
- involves professional advisers
- family should be involved
- charity does not have to be consulted
- Is it a new concept? No, Winchester Cathedral has a plaque which dates to 1321 which speaks of this concept.

Current Philanthropic Environment

4 factors:

- reduced social spending
- demand for increased accountability
- income tax changes
- wealth transfer

and also factoring an increase in our senior aged population

Taxation

Spoke on a number of taxation issues and benefits

Ways to make gifts:

- Cash...popular, one time or multi times
- In kind ... real estate, art, policies
- Securities ... transferred directly to church, without cashing them in
- Life Insurance ... existing policy or a new policy naming the church as beneficiary
- Registered plans ... RRSP/RRIF again naming church as beneficiary
- Others ... annuities, trusts, residual interest, etc...

Where do we start?

- There is a need for effective planning since we have an aging population
- The most common way is through wills which remain changeable until our death
- We need to get informed regarding wills and intestate situations
- Also gather information on Power of Attorney, Life Insurance, Trusts, Health Care

Directives

- Bequests: flexible, easy, ability to leave larger gift later
- Endowments are God given and makes the donor a Stewardship partner. Only the income on the fund is ever spent. It focuses on long term needs and ministry. The vision of the parish needs to be articulated well so people know exactly what their money will be used for.

Structure of Program

1. Administration

- Define your policy
- Professional Advisor Network
- Oversee campaign endowment fund
- Advise consultant

2. Promotion

- Print materials
- Newsletters
- Seminars in parish
- Talking your story booklet
- NB Anglican ads

What has not worked

- parish reps
- on and off education
- lack of seminary stewardship education
- lack of parish vision

Questions/Comments

- Who do we get to start this? How do we start?
....Good way to start is with bequests
- If bequests are large amounts, does it translate into parishioners getting an attitude of 'they don't need my offering'?
... Education is the key. Parishioners need to realize that endowments are for ministry and offerings for operational budget.

Planned Giving should be viewed as spiritual fund raising, not selling policies.