



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 23 March 2011

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

22 January 2011

St. John's Church, Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis

Pre-meeting circulation:

- Agenda 22 January 2011
- Attendance (10 November 2010)
- Unfinished Business Summary (18 January 2011)
- Draft Minutes (10 November 2010)
- Team and Standing Committee Reports

Attending: Anna Caines, William Chilton, Florence Joy Clement, David Edwards, Ann Fairweather, Joanne Fitzpatrick, Geoffrey Hall, Vicars Hodge, Martha Jo Hoyt, Emily Jacobs, Keith Joyce (a.m.), Robert LeBlanc, William MacMullin, Gerald McConaghy, Claude Miller, Fred Scott, Clyde Spinney, Walter Williams (p.m.).

Guests: Jim Morell (p.m.), Ana Watts.

Regrets: David Barrett, Patricia Drummond, Rick Haddad, Brian Hudson, John Matheson, Richard McConnell, Gregory McMullin, Leo Martin, Ted Quann, Richard Steeves, Gordon Thompson.

Guest Regrets: George Porter, Elizabeth Harding, Jack Walsworth.

Lunch was served by members of the Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis at about 12:10 p.m.. The Council paused at various times during the day to give thanks to God and pray for continuing guidance and support of various ministries of which good news was shared. These included:

- progress on the 2011 Shared Ministry Budget and the continuing ministry of the Finance Committee;
- the Stewardship Team and planning for the implementation of a resource person;
- efforts of response during the recent on the ground harsh weather crises especially during times of flooding;
- thanks for social ministries helping to provide food and shelter both in Saint John and Moncton;
- instances of sharing ministry in and between various parishes and;
- various examples of God guiding ministry taking place in our midst.

OPEN

1. Call to Order

Archbishop Miller welcomed members at about 10:12 a.m. and shared that A. Fairweather would be chairing the morning portion of the meeting. The Vice-Chair added words of introduction and noted regrets. Following a reading of Matthew 4:12-23, Archbishop Miller offered a reflection on ministry including illustrations from S. Chandler (fishing), M. Anders (job vs ministry) and comment on the challenges of managing our time and managing ministry.

2. The Agenda

MOTION 1: W. Chilton / R. LeBlanc

That the Agenda be accepted as circulated.

MOTION 1 was carried.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

MOTION 2: W. MacMullin / V. Hodge

That minutes of 10 November 2010 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION 2 was carried unanimously.

FINISHED AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

As reported:

Finished 1. Synod 2011 Planning initiated
2. Regulation 7-2 Clergy Travel, Remuneration and Housing / Schedules A and B updated

Unfinished 1. Evaluation of Diocesan "Structures"
2. Stewardship Education and Programming
3. Support of the Diocesan Budget
4. Church Planting
5. Rural and/or Struggling Parishes
6. Review of Retiree Benefits
7. Shared Ministry Budget
8. Diocesan Programming / Ministries Evaluation

REPORTS

Reports to the meeting were recognized:

Committees: Finance, Nominating, Human Resources and Nominating.

Teams: Administration, Episcopal Ministries, Mission / Outreach, Parish Support and Development, Spiritual Development, Stewardship and Financial Development, Youth Ministries

MOTION 3: D. Edwards / C. Spinney

That Diocesan Council team and standing committee reports be received as circulated.

MOTION 3: Carried.

Diocesan Resource Person

Presentation - Stewardship and Financial Development Team (MJ Hoyt)

Following the presentation, the motion as identified in the Team report, was put:

MOTION 4a: D. Edwards / V. Hodge

That Diocesan Council approve the hiring of a qualified resource person (either as one full-time or two half-time positions) to work with and support parishes in the areas of congregational development and stewardship.

On the discussion:

Several members of the Council made comments regarding the proposal. One member suggested that innovative stewardship will be needed beyond the customary "models" including

ways in which to leverage our current assets (property?) to meet need into the future. One attempt to propose an amendment to the motion was made and one friendly amendment was made by consensus. A motion regarding an alternative approach to the discussion was put.

MOTION 4b: V. Hodge / D. Edwards

That the Council move into a committee of the whole to facilitate free discussion of the topic. (11:47 a.m.)

The more informal discussion began and included the following important points:

- the options would seem to be to for the Council to make a decision to move forward direction already given by the Synod OR return to the Synod for further decision. There seemed to be consensus that a decision is needed, however some flexibility is necessary as details are determined
- a lengthy discussion on the nature and appropriateness of consultation. Reference to the misuse of the term "consultation." Significant consultation preceded the current circumstance and the direction of the Synod in 2009.
- The role and need of the clergy in the process was highlighted
- Archbishop Miller shared several thoughts including support for the motion, and an affirmation to the Council that its leadership is required. We are considering a resource for change (transformation?) Which is the current will of the Synod. The Archbishop also shared his recent decision to buy a residence in Fredericton and his intention to move out of Bishop's Court within the next few months. There is need to reassess our office needs and the potential and place of such approaches and concepts as teleworking, thinking differently about what we have and what we do with it.

At about 1:12 p.m.,

MOTION 4c: V. Hodge / C. Spinney

That the Council rise from the committee of the whole. (1:12 p.m.)

The question on Motion 4a was called.

MOTION 4a carried unanimously.

MOTION 4d: V. Hodge / R. LeBlanc

Regarding the position of a resource person, that the Diocesan Council create an "implementation and communication group" to work out details to move this forward. The group will consist of a representative from each of: Stewardship and Financial Development Team; Human Resources Committee; parish Support and Development Team; Administration Team; Episcopal Team or representative of the Bishop. Martha Jo Hoyt to chair meetings of the group.

MOTION 4d was carried. Thanksgiving and prayer followed.

2011 Shared Ministry Budget

G. McConaghy made comment on the report of the Finance Committee and F. Scott lead a presentation on the preparation process of the second budget draft.

Discussion points included reference to the need to engage parishes within the Greater Chapter context in a two-way conversation in budget preparation. Members of Council represent the Synod and Council in the Greater Chapters. The Finance Committee is keenly aware of the disconnect between the diocesan agenda and that understood in most parishes. The challenge remains to be how to close the gap. "10-10-10" is either one the most innovative risk taking approaches being attempted in our church or it is a colossal failure.

MOTION 6: G. McConaghy / D. Edwards

That the second draft of the 2011 Diocesan Shared Ministry Budget be approved as submitted, showing total expenditures of \$1,664,544 and income of \$1,664,544 (including parish support of \$1,403,900).

MOTION 6: Carried. Prayer followed.

Spiritual Development Team Roles and Responsibilities

MOTION 7: W. Chilton / C. Spinney

That the 18 January 2011 draft Roles and Responsibilities of the Spiritual Development Team be adopted.

MOTION 7 carried unanimously.

May 2011 Diocesan Council Meeting

The conflict identified in the report of the Youth Ministries Team was discussed.

MOTION 8: D. Edwards / W. MacMullin

That the scheduled May 2011 meeting of the Diocesan Council be changed from 14 May to Saturday 07 May.

MOTION 8: Carried.

Thanks to the Archdeaconry of St. Andrews

V. Hodge offered a brief update on the situation created by flooding within the Archdeaconry. He pointed out that there has been generosity expressed from throughout the diocese in response to an appeal. The clergy and people have done their best to coordinate these efforts.

MOTION 9: G. McConaghy / C. Spinney

That the Diocesan Council express its thanks and recognition to the Archdeaconry of St. Andrews for leadership and co-ordination of efforts of relief within the Archdeaconry.

MOTION 9 was carried and followed by prayer.

Team and Standing Committee Reporting Template

MOTION 10: G. Hall / C. Spinney

That a request / invitation for updates to the on-going Diocesan Council Unfinished Business Summary be added to the Team and Standing Committee Report Template for use in the future.

MOTION 10: Carried.

Future Meetings

MOTION 11: D. Edwards / W. MacMullin

That future meetings of the Diocesan Council be scheduled on Saturday, 24 September and Saturday, 19 November 2011.

MOTION 11 was carried.

REVIEW OF REMAINING REPORTS

Various anecdotal reports were added to those received.

- Companion Diocese: mission from the Parish of Hampton in March; success with the grain grinder initiative with two grinders delivered and required funds now available.

- Foundation for Life success and applicants informed of grants
- "Power of Everyone" used in the Nerepis and St. John with success. Materials intended to follow for diocesan use
- Note of the need for wider acceptance of what will be required for 10-10-10 to become a reality
- Lenten Study 2011 (Five Marks of Mission) anticipated method of delivery (video) has been changed. Information will follow
- Responses to flooding in the southern NB and Keswick Ridge area
- Response of the Parish of Coldbrook and St. Mary following a family losing their home to fire
- Inner City Youth Ministry - continuing food and shelter ministries and new initiatives including those addressing homeless youth being coordinated by Paul Ranson. Work toward a youth residence option utilizing the former St. James, SJ. Investment in ministry to the inner city SJ over 20 years might be in the area of \$500,000
- Support of Harvest House ministry in Moncton is significant
- Administration Team considering both the request for programme evaluation and the on-going support of parish and archdeaconry plans
- Preparations for Synod 2011 have begun and a chair of Synod Planning appointed.

KEY MESSAGES

Facilitated by A. Fairweather:

- Appreciated the reflection and discussion led by Bishop Miller on viewing our Diocesan Council and parish responsibilities in terms of being "work" versus "a ministry."
- Acknowledged the efforts by those involved in preparing the meeting agenda to do some planning in advance for a more efficient meeting.
- Demonstrated leadership by acting on the direction set by Synod 2009 in the unanimous approval of the hiring of a qualified individual to assist parishes in the areas of congregational development and stewardship.
- Recognized that an implementation plan is needed as a next step in proceeding with the new position and passed a motion to establish a working group with representatives from Council teams: Stewardship and Financial Development, Administration, Communications and Parish Support and Development. Communication and consultation with various interest groups, including the clergy, will be critical as we finalize details and the job description.
- Unanimously approved the second draft of the 2011 Shared Ministry Budget of \$1,664,544 in expenditures and income.
- Were encouraged by the acknowledgment by Council teams that building a strategy for implementing the 10/10/10 financial model was a shared responsibility.
- Responded to the learnings from November's reflection on "Creating Breadlike Boards" by way of expressing thanks and offering up prayers for members of the Stewardship & Financial Development Team, Finance Committee and members of Council. Much effort and good work by many people culminated in the approval of these significant motions in the life of our Diocese. It was fitting that our day was wrapped in prayer and thanksgiving.
- Shared examples of the Holy Spirit at work within Anglicans across the Diocese by supporting our brothers and sisters in their time of need – Charlotte County Flood Relief, Corn Grinders Project, A Foundation for Life and the Saint John South End Ministry.
- Will look forward to its March meeting for an update on the plan to hire the new resource person and to provide guidance to the Human Resources Team in the prioritization of their many initiatives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Archbishop Miller noted that about 15 individuals are in discernment leading toward ordination to the (vocational) diaconate and that three individuals have recently been granted postulant status towards priesthood - 2 in distance MDiv. studies and one preparing for military chaplaincy.

2. Future Meetings
 - Wednesday, 23 March 2010 (Grand Bay-Westfield)
 - Saturday, 07 May 2010 (location TBA)
 - Saturday, 24 September 2011 (location TBA)
 - Saturday, 19 November 2011 (location TBA)

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 15: G. Hall

That the meeting be adjourned at 3:03 p.m..

The Archbishop closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

The Most Rev'd Claude W. Miller
Chair

Mrs. Ann Fairweather
Vice-Chair

The Ven. Geoffrey Hall
Secretary of Synod

25 January 2011
GMH