



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 25 January 2014

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

27 November 2013

Cathedral Hall, Fredericton

Pre-meeting circulation:

- Agenda 27 November 2013
- Draft Minutes (14 September 2013)
- Team and Standing Committee Reports
- Elections and Appointments
- Diocesan Council Self-Evaluation

Meeting Circulation:

- Diocesan Issues and Challenges
- Roles and Responsibilities: Teams and Vice-Chair
- Shared Ministry Budget Support 2014
- The Election of Bishops - Questions and Answers

Attending: Donald Adams, Irene Adams, Stuart Allan, Patricia Drummond, David Edwards, Rick Haddad, Geoffrey Hall, Eileen Irish, Keith Joyce, Jim Knight, Richard McConnell, James McKenna, Christopher McMullen, Claude Miller (Chair), Douglas Painter, Edward Quann, Clyde Spinney, Richard Steeves, Allen Tapley, Walter Williams, Cheryl Young.

Guests: Cheryl Jacobs, Leo Martin, Jim Morell, Jack Walsworth, Ana Watts.

Regrets: David Barrett, Glenna Geer, Bonnie LeBlanc, Falen McNulty, Shirley Noseworthy, Anne Walling.

Guest: Gil Carter.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:10 am with the singing of *Holy, Holy, Holy* followed by prayers.

Opening Remarks

The Archbishop offered a welcome to everyone gathered, especially to the new members of Council. He thanked everyone for their willingness to serve on this body. He also extended his gratitude to all those involved with the planning and execution of the recent Diocesan Synod. He indicated the feedback received had been most complimentary and supportive.

Meeting Agenda

MOTION 1: D. Adams / W. Williams

That the agenda be approved as circulated prior to the meeting.

MOTION 1: Carried.

Archbishop's Reflections

The Archbishop focused his reflection on our relationship with Christ, both individually and corporately. He stated there is much work to do until June, when the Diocese will face a new change in leadership. The Church is in a period of 'in between times', caught between a time when it was established in Christendom and a time when it now faces an unclear future. This is a time of redefinition when we can reflect on stories, history, polity and governance. The Archdeaconry Commissions offer a starting point where we try and discuss God's will for the future. In the midst of change, we sometimes encounter power struggles, plotted strategies, discord as personal agendas become reasons for a tug-of-war.

The Archbishop then shared a story from the book, "Discerning God's Will Together" by D. Morris and C. Olsen to illustrate his point.

His prayer is that as we face changes in our individual and corporate lives we learn to dance together rather than submit to tugs-of-war.

Minutes of Last Meeting - 14 September 2013

It was noted it was the Archbishop who presented the General Secretary with a cheque and not Irene Adams. (Page 4 of the minutes, 2nd paragraph)

MOTION 2: A. Tapley / C. McMullen

That the minutes of the 14 September 2013 meeting of Diocesan Council be accepted as corrected.

MOTION 2: Carried.

Issues and Challenges

A handout called 'Diocesan Issues & Challenges' was circulated. The Chair called on J. Morell to review it.

Mr. Morell indicated the work was done as a result of various motions at the 2011 Diocesan Synod, the Bishop's knowledge and background, and reflections from Council members' discussion groups. This led to 16 items which were tackled by the different council teams who reported to the Administration Team. The latter has now reached the conclusion 8 of these items should move forward, 5 should be dropped and 3 kept on the list for monitoring rather than action. The question now sits with the new Council as to what does it wants to do, collectively, in the next two years.

Comments on the list were invited.

While #6 (Review of Clergy Stipends), #13 (Synod and Cathedral Properties), #16 (Bishop's Advisory Committees and Parish Profile Process) were mentioned as areas of concern and the request that 'Safe Church' be added to the list, the discussion centered mostly on #3 (Governance, Structures and Processes, incl Archdeaconry Commissions).

- there is concern about leaving the response to the reports at the Archdeaconry level as it may not be acted upon. We need synergy between the Council and the Archdeaconry. The implementation needs Diocesan involvement and leadership.
- Some Archdeaconry are disappointed at the reluctance to accept change in favour of the status quo. They need encouragement to keep the discussion going.
- Each Archdeaconry is different. We cannot have a template to fit all of them.
- Suggestion of a Task Force to oversee and encourage the Archdeacons to keep working and moving forward.
- Leadership at the local level is getting low on energy
- Greater Chapters need to be more proactive - perhaps led by the Executive of the group (Archdeacon and members of council)
- Trust is an issue. How do we enable stakeholders to build trust amongst each other. However, trust begins with our trust in Christ that the path we are on is the one he is leading us to follow.
- What about the succession plan in our church, in other words youth
- Asking Greater Chapters for a progress report
- Caution that Archdeaconry Commission Reports do not become the only map, it needs flexibility.
- Needs to be clearly articulated that the Chaplaincy model cannot continue, things have to change.

Council members asked the Administration Team chair to gather this information and put a proposal together. It is important to remember this needs immediate attention in order to keep the momentum going.

Next Meeting

A brief discussion was held on whether to have meetings on Wednesdays or Saturdays.

MOTION 3: G. Hall / C. Spinney

That the next two meetings of Diocesan Council be held on Saturday, 25 January 2014 and Wednesday, 19 March 2014 respectively, AND that we recognize feast days when they fall on meeting days.

MOTION 3: Carried

MOTION 4: P. Drummond / C. McMullen

That 29 January 2014 be marked as a snow date for the January meeting.

MOTION 4: Carried

MOTION 5: E. Quann / R. Steeves

That the next meeting of Diocesan Council (25 January 2014) be held at St Paul's Church in Bushville (Parish of Chatham).

MOTION 5: Carried

Report of the Finance Committee

The Diocesan Treasurer gave a brief overview of the report included in the pre-meeting package. She reported all financial reporting is now up to date and that a new payroll system will take effect in January 2014.

The Treasurer also reported that all parishes had now completed financial returns 2009-2012 and that work would now begin on the statistical side of the Parish Returns.

The Parish Support of the Shared Ministry Budget is now at 78% of the amount requested. The net income of \$621,091 includes capital gains. And a change in the Balance Sheet was indicated as the Trust and Designated Funds are now listed at current market value.

Shared Ministry Budget Support 2014

With a slide presentation (and handout), the Diocesan Treasurer gave an overview of the steps followed in order to arrive at the 2014 proposed parish support amounts.

MOTION 6: I. Adams / G. Hall

That Diocesan Council:

- a) approve the recommended approach to parish support of the shared ministry as presented, and;
- b) direct that implementation be effective January 1, 2014 and;
- c) strongly encourage all parishes to make a commitment to the Diocese.

A discussion took place on how to encourage parishes to meet commitments and to understand we are in shared ministry together as a Diocesan family.

MOTION 7: C. Spinney / D. Adams

That this motion be tabled until after lunch.

MOTION 7: Carried

Break for lunch

The Venerable Richard McConnell offered a blessing for the meal. Time 12:15 pm

Council members reconvened at 1:00 pm

MOTION 8: J. Knight / D. Painter

That motion 6 be lifted from the table and reopened for discussion and debate.

MOTION 8: Carried

Discussion continued and the following changed was proposed. That the words 'the Diocese' be replaced with the words 'our shared mission' be added. This changed was accepted by the mover and seconder. The new wording of the motion is as follows:

MOTION 6: I. Adams / G. Hall

That Diocesan Council:

- a) approve the recommended approach to parish support of the shared ministry as presented, and;**
- b) direct that implementation be effective January 1, 2014 and;**
- c) strongly encourage all parishes to make a commitment to our shared mission.**

MOTION 6: Carried

Thanks was expressed to the Treasurer by applause. She indicated the thanks goes to all the people who worked on this, including Martha Jo Hoyt, Geoffrey Hall, Gil Carter and herself.

Report of the Administration Team

MOTION 9: D. Adams / D. Edwards

That the Administration Team Report be accepted as circulated.

MOTION 9: Carried

Report of the Nominating Committee

At Large Diocesan Council

Gilbert Carter
Sandra Craft
Tom Fetter

Youth Diocesan Council

Rachel Barrett

Diocesan Council Executive Committee

Lay: Irene Adams
Clyde Spinney
Jim Knight
Finance Committee Chair
Don Adams
Rick Haddad

Clergy: Geoffrey Hall
Keith Joyce
Walter Williams
Pat Drummond
Douglas Painter
Eileen Irish

Finance Committee

Gil Carter	Rick Haddad
Sandra Craft	Ashley Sobey
Lloyd Foote	Michael Briggs

Human Resources Committee

Walter Williams	Norman McLeod
Shara Golden	Jack Walworth
Dick Black	Roger Castonguay
Arnold Godsoe	Chris McMullen
Cathy Laskey	

Constitution and Canons Committee

Ross Hebb	Ann Whiteway-Brown
Barry Craig	Terry Hutchinson
David Bell	Kelly VanBuskirk
Charles Ferris	Deidre Wade
Fred Nicholson	Geoffrey Hall

Nominating Committee

Jack Walsworth	Walter Williams
Shara Golden	Jim McKenna
Peter Gillies	

Archives Committee

David Barrett	Lorna Williams
Charles Ferris	Joan Gunter
Arnold Godsoe	Ross Hebb
Mary Robinson	

Sexual Misconduct Committee

Fred Nicholson	Barbara Richards
Walter Williams	Bonita LeBlanc

Ecclesiastical Court Pool

Lay: David Bell
Ann Whiteway-Brown

Clergy: Rod Black
Barry Craig

Anna Caines
Charles Ferris
Martha Jo Hoyt
Clyde Spinney
Barbara Richards
Kelly Van Buskirk
Deidre Wade
Jack Walsworth

Peter Gillies
Ross Hebb
Elaine Hamilton
William Morton
Eric Phinney
Joyce Perry
Robert Salloum
Allen Tapley

MOTION 10: D. Edwards / K. Joyce

That the appointments of the Nominating Committee be accepted as presented.

MOTION 10: Carried.

Election of Vice Chair

After asking for nominations three times, the following motion was made:

MOTION 11: G. Hall / W. Williams

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chair cease.

MOTION 11: Carried

Mr Jim Knight was declared acclaimed to the position of Diocesan Council Vice Chair.

Report of the Human Resources Committee

Two motions came out of this report:

MOTION 12: W. Williams/ G. Hall

That Diocesan Council approve an increase to the clergy travel reimbursement rate for those in receipt of care replacement allowance to \$0.25 per kilometer.

Regulation 7.2 Schedule B.

MOTION 12: Carried

MOTION 13: G. Hall / W. Williams

That the Minimum Stipend Scale remain unchanged for the year 2014.

MOTION 13: Carried

Regulation 4-1 Regional Governance

MOTION 14: G. Hall / D. Edwards

That the Parish of Prince William, Dumfries, Queensbury and Southampton be transferred to the Deanery of Fredericton.

MOTION 14: Carried

Diocesan Council Teams

As it is a requirement that every member of Council sit on at least one Council Team, members were asked to list their preferences and pass the information to the Chair of the Administration Team. That team, in turn, will try and balance the different teams with gender and clergy/lay membership. Archdeacons will be appointed at the Bishop's Counsel.

Review of Self Evaluation

J Morell gave a brief review and indicated this was included for the purpose of informing new members and drawing attention to the section "things to be improved."

MOTION 15: C. Spinney / K. Joyce

That this information be referred to the Administration Team for review and possible inclusion in their January 2014 report.

MOTION 15: Carried

Questions and Answers on the Election of Bishops

An information sheet prepared by the Chancellor was handed out to all members. Discussion centered on whether nominees were required to provide a background security and vulnerable persons check.

MOTION 16: C. Spinney / G. Hall

That the matter of police background check and vulnerable persons check for people being nominated for the office of Bishop be brought to the Canons and Constitution Committee for review.

MOTION 16: Carried.

Orientation of new members

The Archbishop reiterated his thanks to the new members of Council for allowing their names to be brought forward to serve in this way. He indicated Council is a place of dialogue and work as teams share in the ministry of the Diocese.

As Orientation goes beyond new members, and since it helps to build relationships, some thought will be given to the issue of orientation in the near future.

Council members were also reminded they represent the Council to their respective archdeaconries and parishes.

Final Questions/Comments

A question was raised regarding Camp Brookwood's need for financial assistance in their maintenance (motion 6, September 14th meeting of Council). The Diocese took care of emergencies with the proviso they take care of what needs to be done. There has been no reply from the Camp. There needs to be clarity as to where the Camp Brookwood fits in the Diocese, its budgets and ministry.

A question was asked regarding the appropriate time and place to request an increase in the Diocesan budget amount in support of the Cathedral and that we might reconsider the title "fabric grant." The Chapter should make a request to Council.

Safe Harbour, the former St James (Broad Street), is now undergoing demolition. The stones facade are being reserved and will be rebuild into the new structure. The hope is to have the opening in June 2014.

A Safe Church Policy was adopted by the Provincial Council and it recommended its implementation in every Diocese. The Archbishop anticipates this topic will be on the agenda on one of the next two meetings.

Prayer and music

The meeting concluded with *To God Be The Glory* and prayers led by the Archbishop.

Time: 2:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

The Most Rev'd Claude W. Miller
Archbishop and Chair

The Ven. Geoffrey Hall
Secretary of Synod

The Rev'd Canon Leo Martin
Recording Secretary

02 December 2013