

Minutes of a Meeting of Diocesan Council
Thursday, 16 June 2005
1:00 to 5:00 PM
ADC, Binney Hall

002-01-09-05

Welcome: Bishop Hiltz welcomed all members of Council and particularly newly elected or appointed members and called the meeting to order.

Present:

Lay members: Sandy Evans, Roy Newcombe, Judith Beaver, Ken Turner, Patrick McWade, Elaine Young, Ruth Kingsbury, Karen Wood, Jonni Turner, Elizabeth Pooley, Donna Mosher, Barbara Trecartin, Reg Beaver, Kees Zwanenburg;

Clerical members: The Rev'ds Cathy Lee Cunningham, Stacey Renouf, Katie Tait, Mark Kingsbury, David Reid, Dianne Parker, Pam Bishop, Gloria McClure Fraser, Fred Rhymes, Tom Vaughan;

Lutheran Partner: The Rev'd Jim Slack

Ex officio members: Bishop Fred Hiltz, Bishop Susan Moxley, the Chancellor, John Arnold, the Executive Secretary, Fred Krieger, the Dean, Glen Burgomaster (present by times)

Staff: Executive Assistant to the Bishops, the Rev'd Canon Gordon Redden;

Guests: Allan Conrod, the Rev'ds Austin Munroe and Trevor Lightfoot;

Regrets:

Common Prayer: Led by the Rev'd Katie Tait

Minutes of the previous meeting (002-01-06-05). By motion (Bishop Moxley/Elaine Young) the minutes were approved as circulated.

Agenda of this meeting (001-01-06-05): The Agenda was considered. A report of the Episcopal Review Task Group was added.

Notices and business from the Executive Secretary of Synod:

Council remembered Mary Tanswell, wife of the Rev'd Duanne Tanswell, who died since the last meeting of Council

Additional handouts were circulated and noted

Attention was called to Canon 11, Diocesan Council

Membership of Council was reviewed, and estimated dates of membership on Council were given

Those elected at Synod 2004 will serve until the October 2006 Synod.

Those elected at Synod 2005 will serve until Synod 2008.

Those co-opted in June 2005 will serve until the October 2006 Synod

Lutheran Partner: indefinite term .

Report of the Episcopal Ministry Task Group was given by the Rev'd Mark Kingsbury.

Highlights:

Mandate of Task Group has changed.

Focus now: How role of bishops can be enhanced. Consult about structure of Episcopal ministry in the Diocese; Consult with other episcopal churches; explore role of episcopal ministry in the 21st century by looking at relevant documents.

Enhance pastoral and reduce administrative duties of our bishops.

We need two bishops.

There location in Halifax seems reasonable at this time.

New itinerary scheme has been well-received. More response to this will be solicited.

A discussion with Lutherans on bishops is planned.

Question (P. McWade): any consideration given to employing a lay CEO? Bishop Moxley said that this was considered.

[Written reported promised]

Report of the 2010 Anniversary Planning Committee (039-01-06-05) was presented by the Rev'd Austin Munroe.

Highlights of Report:

- General Synod will meet in Halifax in 2010.
- Parishes invited to update their histories.
- Dr. Brian Cuthbertson will revise '250 Years Young'.
- An Anniversary Prayer has been composed by Archbishop Peters.
- Committee proposes a Logo competition.
- Committee seeks Council's approval to develop a Diocesan Profile by Synod 2006.
- Budget proposals were suggested.
 - Estimated expenses: \$100,000 (does not include General Synod expenses).
 - :Propose \$20,000 in budget for the next five years.
- Membership of the Committee was given.

Highlights of discussion:

- Budget sub-committee wants to begin including Anniversary expenses in 2007 budget, not in 2006
- Can committee raise money for these celebrations?
- Any cost recovery mechanisms planned?
- Perhaps locate large events in Truro because of its centrality.
- Perhaps stage a cavalcade leading to the main Metro Centre event.
- Follow lead of Billy Graham crusades and have many preparatory events leading up to the main celebration.
- Prepare banners and t-shirts for the event.

Austin Munroe's response:

- Committee will need money in 2006.
- Have main event in Halifax, not Truro, but make use of buses to facilitate travel.
- Staggered events leading to the main event will be planned.

Orientation: the Wider Anglican Church. Bishop Moxley spoke about the wider Anglican Church and the National Anglican Church of Canada, using two booklets that had been circulated, 'service in God's world' and 'envision a church'.

Highlights:

- NSPEI is the first and oldest diocese of the Anglican Church of Canada.
- Located in the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.
 - Other Provinces; Ontario, Rupertsland, British Columbia.
 - Each has an archbishop and metropolitan, and the Primate is also an archbishop.
- General synod began in 1893.
- We send money and representatives to General Synod.
- We have companion relationships with other Dioceses.
- Council of General Synod (CoGS) is the executive of General Synod.
- The two booklets we have been asked to study deal with a five year plan for our Church and ways to finance the plan.
- Our national church uses monies from parishes to support partners and bodies such as the Council of the North.
- We in turn receive assistance from the National Church. We have been selected to serve as a diocese 'piloting' a stewardship project.
- We are part of the wider Anglican Communion of Churches.
 - Instruments of Unity: Archbishop of Canterbury, Lambeth Council of Bishops, Anglican Consultative Council, and the meeting of Primates.
 - Lambeth Conference of Bishops will meet again in 2008.
 - Anglican Consultative Council meets this June.
 - Anglican Church of Canada and Episcopal Church of US have been asked not to participate in this meeting because of blessing of same sex marriages (Canada) and the ordination of a practicing homosexual bishop (USA). Persons will be

sent to the Council to present the respective cases. Prayers vigils have been organized and prayers are requested.
The Anglican Consultative Council will also consider Millennium Project Goals and recommendations from the Peace and Justice Network regarding Israel and Palestine.

Question and response highlights:

We should not imagine that all African churches are against liberalizing views on sexuality. The 'global south' is not monolithic in outlook on these matters. Many understand that ministry happens at the local level.
No resolution on sexuality is before the Anglican Consultative Council.

Orientation: Structure and Staff of the Dioceses, presented by the Rev'd Canon Gordon Redden.

Highlights:

A chart of the administrative structure of the Diocese was circulated and commented on.
A list of Diocesan Staff positions and current occupants of these positions was circulated.
Some corrections and clarifications were given.

Question and response highlights:

Where does Growth in Ministry Fund fit?

Bishop Hiltz: It should report to Council.

Is there a timeline for committee restructuring?

Bishop Moxley: No. Program Planning has done some facilitating. The general practice is to let restructuring develop from directions in ministry. 'Begin ministry, let structure evolve.'

Orientation: Council Agenda Book, Mailings and Worship presented by the Rev'd Canon Fred Krieger

Highlights:

Council is 'the synod between synods'.
Anglican government is government by bishop and, in, with synod.
Dates and times of Council meetings.
Expense forms.
Council book.
Agenda Committee of Council: Bishop Hiltz, Canon Redden, Dianne Parker, Ken Turner, Canon Krieger.
Guidelines for Council worship.
Refreshments.

Orientation: Importance and responsibilities of membership on Council presented by Bishop Hiltz.

Highlights:

Read over Canon 11, on Diocesan Council.
Council implements resolutions of synod.
We receive reports for information, action and decision.
Program Planning Committee, and Committee of Chairs coordinate work of Committees.
Sometimes Council appoints Task Groups.
Responsibilities of Council members:.
C = Come – attend or send regrets
P = Participate
R = Report
To Council from your region and parish.
From Council back to region and parish.
Highlights of Council meetings are circulated on the Net News.

Report of Bishop Hiltz to Council (003-01-06-05). Bishop Hiltz added comments to his written report.

Highlights:

Review of Covenants between our Bishops and the Diocese has been completed.
It will be fine-tuned and re-signed at the September meeting of Council.

The St. John's Lunenburg rededication service was quite moving.
He and others visited our companion diocese of Mosonee.
He circulated his written report which gave of summary of what he had done since Council last met, and what he is scheduled to do by when Council meets again in September.
He admitted that there was perhaps not enough rest and recreation time indicated in the schedule.

Report of the Executive Assistant to the Bishop (026-01-06-05) given by the Rev'd Canon Gordon Redden.

Highlights:

2003 Audit complete.
Ongoing work of the Capital Campaign Financial Planning Task Group.
Ongoing discussions on parish amalgamation and 'Cooperating Congregations Event'.
Budget discussion regarding financing 2010 Celebrations in Budget Subcommittee.

Highlights of questions and responses:

We might keep in touch with Lutherans on resources for parish amalgamations.
Statements sent out from the Financial Officer were appreciated. Hope they keep up.
Discrepancies between the Financial Office's report and Parish records should be discussed with the Controller.

Capital Campaign Update (021-01-06-05), presented by the Rev'd Canon David Reid.

Highlights:

The Campaign has surpassed the half-way mark: total pledged: \$1,734,280.
Every member phase of Campaign begins in September 2005.
Kick off in October 2005. Event on 16 October.
Diocesan wide event in November 2005. Event on 20 November.
Area coordinators will meet. Parish coordinators will be sought.
New brochures circulated: one for parishes, one for individual members of parishes.

Reports and Resolutions from the Capital Campaign Financial Planning Task Group (029-02-06-05 and 029-03-06-05), presented by Mr. Allan Conrod.

Highlights (029-02-06-05), "Proposal to Diocesan Council Regarding Administration and Accounting Procedures for Leap for Faith Capital Campaign"

-the report makes proposals for income from designated and undesignated funds.

Designated funds

Primary purpose, Settlement Fund.

Secondary Purposes (listed).

Undesignated funds

An order of allocation is outlined.

Section 5 contains a proposal for an Annual Diocesan Appeal.

Highlights of discussion:

Bishop Moxley answered some questions about new matters in the Settlement Fund.
Atlantic School of Theology is included under monies allocated for leadership development.
The Chancellor raised a question about Section 4.

It was moved and seconded (Patrick McWade/Elizabeth Pooley)

"that Council refer the document 'Proposal to Diocesan Council Regarding Administration and Accounting Procedures for the Leap for Faith Campaign' to the Administration and Finance Committee with the request that they report their deliberations and recommendations to the September 15, 2005 meeting of Council." Carried.

Highlights (029-03-06-05), 'Recommendations to Diocesan Council in Response to Council's Motion of 21 April 2005' presented by Canon Gordon Redden:

Sets plans for priority in funding and borrowing.

First priority, full time youth officer (1 Jan 2006).

Full time person or consultant, congregational development (1 Jan 2006).
Stewardship officer, 1 Jan 2007).
Observations about reducing allotment.
Borrowing possibilities tied to monies pledged to campaign.

Recommendations:

- (1) That two new positions be included in 2006 budget.
- (2) That allotment rate for 2006 be set at 21%.
- (3) That Council resolve by a motion of intent to borrow up to \$200,000 from available unrestricted funds of Diocesan Synod.

These recommendations are subject to the borrowing agreement already in place and this requires that pledges of \$2,025,000 will have been received by the end of 2005.

Highlights of discussion:

Gifts already given for youth officer will be taken into account.
If campaign does not reach amount of 2,025,000 by target date, then amount of borrowing will be reduced.
Why approve an allotment rate now?

It was moved and seconded (Canon David Reid/Elizabeth Pooley)

“that we agree with the recommendations of 029-03-06-05, ‘Recommendations to Diocesan Council in Response to Council’s Motion of 21 April 2005’ omitting section 2 (about allotment rate) and recommendation (ii) (setting the allotment rate at 21% in 2006).” Carried

Report on a Consultation for Cooperating Parish, submitted by the Rev’d Dianne Parker..

A written report was submitted. Dianne Parker and Fred Rhymes will report to the September 15 meeting of Council.

Report of the Administration and Finance Committee (010-01-06-05), presented by the Rev’d Trevor Lightfoot.

Highlights:

Audited Financial Statements for 2003 completed and presented to Council.
2004 Audit is underway.
Appreciative of receiving financial statements for 2004 and year to date statements for 2005.
Advised Council that in response to Council’s request, A & F has recommended to the Budget Subcommittee that a line item be established for the 2006 – 2010 budgets and that the monies be placed in the Consolidated Trust Fund until needed. Any expenses will be drawn from the budgeted amount.
Personnel changes in the audit subcommittee.
A & F will hold an extended meeting in September to review its work and mandate.

Highlights of discussion:

Regarding the 2003 Audit: Questions raised about doubtful accounts, accounts payable to Diocesan Bookroom, and loss of interest on monies because of a computer crash in the Bookroom.

It was moved and seconded (Fred Krieger/Sandy Evans)

“that we accept the 2003 Draft Audited Statements.” Carried.

Report of the Suffragan Bishop (003-02-06-05). Bishop Moxley added comments to her written report.

Highlights:

The Rev’d Stacey Renouf is the new chair of the Youth Ministry Committee.
Interviews are underway for new hospital chaplain.
University chaplaincy position is under consideration.
Some applications have been received for the position of Formation Director.

Motion referred to Council by the May 2005 Synod regarding exploring the age of Eucharistic Ministers (005-07-06-05).

Synod asked that Diocesan Council explore lowering the age of eucharistic ministers.

It was moved and seconded (Fred Krieger/Judith Beaver)

“that this matter be referred to Bishop Hiltz and Bishop Moxley, who, in conjunction with the Chair of Doctrine and Worship Committee, will reach a decision that will be communicated to Diocesan Council at its meeting of 15 September 2005.” Carried.

Meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council. Bishop Moxley will be attending a meeting of the Council under unusual circumstances. Council wishes her well, and gave her a card signed by its members.

The meeting concluded at about 5:15 PM.

The Rev'd Canon Fred Krieger
Executive Secretary of Synod

Signed: _____

Date: _____