

Minutes of a Meeting of Diocesan Council
Thursday, 21 April 2005
1:00 to 5:00 PM
ADC, Binney Hall

002-01-06-05

Welcome: Bishop Hiltz welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

Present:

Lay members: Mary Scott, Sandy Evans, Roy Newcombe, Judith Beaver, Marilyn Hamlin, Ken Turner, Peter Anthony, Selma Doucet, Patrick McWade, LeRoy Peach, Elaine Young;

Clerical members: The Rev'ds Randy Townsend, Cathy Lee Cunningham, Evelyn Knorr, Stacey Renouf, Valeria Rhymes, Irving Letto, Katie Tait Mark Kingsbury

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

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

Guests: The Rev'd Gloria McClure-Fraser, Ms. Tanya Moxley

Regrets: Peter Townsend, the Rev'ds Tory Byrne, Pamela Bishop, David Reid

Notices and business from the Executive Secretary of Synod:

Additional handouts: noted.

Notice and ratification of co-options to Synod: Those known to have accepted co-option: Carolyn Chenhall, Selma Doucet; Those unable to accept: Melissa Kane, Penny Lockhart; those with no known clear response: Peter McCreath, Ann Kilby.

New co-options:

It was moved and seconded (Fred Krieger/Glen Burgomaster)

“that Council ratify the co-option of Mr. Don Pulsifer to Synod.” Carried.

It was moved and seconded (Randy Townsend/Stacey Renouf)

“that Council ratify the co-option of Mr. Rushan Sinnaduray to Synod.” Carried

It was moved and seconded (Glen Burgomaster/Mary Scott)

“that Council ratify the co-option of Sharon MacCleod to Synod.” Carried

Regarding Co-options to Diocesan Council: Patrick McWade, a co-opted member of Diocesan Council urged the Bishop and Council when co-opting members to Diocesan Council to increase the period of the co-option from one year to two since it requires time to learn to exercise informed membership.

Notice of a Job Performance Review of Bishop Hiltz: Fred Krieger, acting as the Executive Secretary of Synod, circulated a document (005-02-04-05) announcing the completion of Bishop Hiltz's annual job performance evaluation and the terms by which he was evaluated.

Clarification of Council Membership: Members considered the Council Membership List (005-01-04-05) which especially noted retiring and continuing members of Council. The following clarifications were made: those now representing Regional Deans: the Rev'ds Cathy Lee Cunningham, Katie Tait and Mark Kingsbury. A fourth Regional Dean to serve on Council is anticipated.

Correspondence: Correspondence was received from

The Honourable Anne McLellan in response to our letter regarding the high administrative costs and slow pace of the Residential Schools Settlement Process.

The Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada inviting Council to consider two booklets produced by the National Church: 'Envision a Church' and 'Service in God's World'.

Mr. Ray Carter noting that expressions of interest would be solicited from developers for Phase II of Diocesan/Cathedral etc. Property.

Clarification of eligibility to be re-elected to Diocesan Council: The Executive Secretary reported and the Chancellor confirmed that elected members of Diocesan Council are elected for

two consecutive terms, a term being from one synod to the next synod, and that members, to be re-elected, must retire from Council for at least a year before standing for re-election.

Common Prayer: Led by Judith Beaver

Minutes of the previous meeting (002-01-04-05). By motion (Irving Letto/Judith Beaver) the minutes were approved as circulated.

Revised Agenda of this meeting(001-01-04-05): The Agenda was considered. There is no Anglican Foundation Application.

Report of Bishop Hiltz (003-01-04-05): Bishop Hiltz noted what he had done since Council last met and what he is scheduled to do until Council meets again. He highlighted the following items: -the revised visitation schedule has been well-received; -the clergy day with Tim Elliott was a good event; - he appreciated the job performance review, especially the consultative element which invited various persons to evaluate his performance; - he noted a retreat that he made in Lent, and another in the planning; -he attended a continuing education event in company with Gordon Redden led by Gil Rendle, which considered 'Holy Conversation'. Among other things, Rendle suggests that the church may suffer from 'terminal seriousness.'

Financial Provisions for the 2010 Celebrations: Preparation for the 2010 celebrations will begin to require funding. It was moved and seconded (Val Rhymes/Randy Townsend) that **"Council advise the Administration and Finance Committee that over the next five years (i.e. from 2006 to 2010) there be a line item in the budget entitled '2010 Preparations'."**

Question about Parish Education: Patrick McWade asked how we might keep education in our parishes in coordination with Diocesan trends and efforts. Bishop Hiltz recommended that parishes use the Diocesan Visioning Brochure. He noted also that there would be another consultation with Alice Mann planned for 28 May 2005, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at a location yet to be determined. Mary Scott also reminded members of our well-stocked Resource Centre.

Report from Bishop Moxley (003-02-04-05): Bishop Moxley spoke to her written report and emphasized the following items: -her participation in a church leader's trip to Mexico, their discussion of what they saw with government representatives in Ottawa and the current paralysis of our government; -she reported on a new budget format she and bishop Hiltz had prepared which expressed the budget in terms that make visible our commitment to healthy parishes and the Diocesan vision: the need for healthy parishioners, clergy and systems. Council members received a summary of this discussion in a document entitled **Healthy Congregations**, Budget Redirection, Draft 3. The initials 'UC' mean under consideration. This format allows some clear-sightedness about what should be added to the budget, what should continue and what should stop.

Highlights of Discussion on this report:

Present this format to parishes? Not at this time. The normal budgeting process should be followed. But parishes should get a chance to speak to it.

A good narrative budget that focuses on ministry.

Health care is essential.

In NAFTA there are guarantees for profit. There are human rights violations in Mexico. We should keep pressure on governments to stop this. We need continuous, repetitive action with our governments.

Discussion with the Chair of Program Planning: The Rev'd Gloria McClure-Fraser reported to Council on a consultation with Alice Mann held last December (report appended to master copy of the minutes). Committees are asking for clearer direction. There is a sensed interest in listening to new ideas, thinking positively and commitment to change. Another consultation is scheduled for 4 June 2005.

Highlights of discussion of this report:

Consultation addressed major difficulties.

Good mini-consultation on NSOM.

Program Planning now has only four members. It deals with short term vision.
Strategy Planning addresses long term vision.
Some committees need to die; others, to continue.

Report on Diocesan Communications Systems: Program Planning has been asked to investigate communications systems and techniques for the Diocese. Tanya Moxley reported on progress to date. What other Dioceses are doing has been considered. Some cobble together a system with existing bits and pieces; others by a whole new single system. Most cannot yet log into up-to-date financial statements. Most want to use standard software. They are looking particularly at the systems in several dioceses. The persons working on this matter have no conclusions or recommendations to bring to Council now. They are looking for additional members. They have been asked to report to a Fall meeting of Council.

Highlights of discussion of this report:

The curse of possessive web-masters!

Develop a system on the basis of stated needs.

Sometimes we need things we cannot specify.

There is materials from the Barnes consultation.

Parishes need a focal point an office where things can be sent. Not all have this.

Perhaps we can purchase parish computers by tender, or through suppliers to non-profit users, or buy used equipment.

Lots of people who live in rural areas are on-line.

Diocesan IP: Netnation

Diocesan Computer Supplier and Service: Shoreline Computer

Report of the Controller: Mr. Peter Flemming reported that the 2003 audit has been completed. The next parish mailing will include statements of accounts on allotment, pension and payroll, and invite 2004 audit figure confirmation. Trust Fund interest cheques are coming soon. Work has begun on the 2006 budget. The new model will be that suggested by our Bishops.

Question of the Controller: Mr. Roy Newcombe said that his parish had received an additional bill for LTD insurance of \$3000, both surprising and unexpected. He was advised that there was to be a trade-off between reduced pension contributions and increased LTD contributions and that the total owing by parishes would be more or less the same.

Report of the Executive Assistant to the Bishops (026-01-04-05): Gordon Redden spoke to his written report, noting ongoing parish amalgamation discussions, the addition of a half-time administrative assistant (program/formation/discernment), the Capital Campaign and the Campaign Financial Planning Task Group. Mr. Allan Conrod was not present to give his report on that task group.

Report on the Capital Campaign (029-01-04-05): Selma Doucet spoke to the written report submitted Capital Campaign. The campaign is still in its quiet phase. Donations by the Bishop's men have now reached \$800,000. The clergy goal has almost been reached. It was moved and seconded (Selma Doucet/Val Thymes) that

"that Diocesan Council extend the contract with RBR to December 31, 2005." Carried.

Note: the particulars of and rationale for this motion can be found in the Report of the Executive Assistant to the Bishops, 026-01-04-05)

Use of Unrestricted funds in the Consolidated Trust Fund as Bridge Funding for Programs to be Funded by the Capital Campaign:

It was moved and seconded (Selma Doucet/Fred Krieger) that

"Diocesan Council approves the interim funding of the initiatives of the Leap for Faith Campaign in the period 2005 to 2010 by using available unrestricted funds of Diocesan Synod that are invested in the Diocesan Consolidated Trust Fund. Monies drawn from the fund for this purpose, which are not to exceed the total pledged to the Campaign, less those monies drawn pursuant to the May 6, 2003

Memorandum of Understanding between the Diocesan Synod and the Capital Campaign Task Group regarding use of unrestricted Diocesan Trust Funds, will be reinvested with interest once the

capital campaign funds are received. The terms for repayment to the Fund will be those outlined in the May 6, 2003 Memorandum of Understanding.”

Highlights of discussion:

Chancellor explained the Memorandum of Understanding.

Capital campaign monies as they come in would be repaid to the Consolidated Trust Fund with interest.

Some persons might become discouraged by delays in implementing programs if we can't use funds from the Trust Fund.

Can new initiatives be staggered so that we don't make heavy demands on the Trust Fund all at once?

Chancellor: We might review our current line of credit at the bank (\$50,000) in case we need to use it also.

We need to clarify the amount of unrestricted funds available.

Do we need to vote on this today?

Perhaps we should set priorities of borrowing in the motion.

Bishop Hiltz: We need more information. Send our concerns to the Task Group.

Financial Management Task Group has not yet discussed this.

It was moved and seconded (Randy Townsend/Katie Tait) that

“We refer this motion to the Capital Campaign Financial Planning Task Group for further consideration, taking into account what has been said about the motion at Council, and asking that the Task Group to report its recommendations to the June 2005 meeting of Council.” Carried.

The Rev'd Canon Fred Krieger
Executive Secretary of Synod

Signed: _____

Date: _____