

Minutes of a Meeting of Diocesan Council
Thursday, 25 November 2004
1:00 to 5:00 PM
ADC, Binney Hall

002-01-02-04

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

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

Clerical members: The Rev'ds Randy Townsend, Cathy Lee Cunningham (3:15 PM), Evelyn Knorr, Stephen Ashton, David Reid, Pam Bishop, Stacey Renouf, Valeria Rhymes;

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

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

Guests: The Rev'd Trevor Lightfoot, Don Pulsifer, Andy Carras, Adrienne Malloy, Sarah Townsend, the Rev'ds Michael Mitchell and Liz Earley.

Regrets: Bishop Susan Moxley, Karen Wood, and the Rev'ds Glen Burgomaster, Tory Byrne and Irving Letto

Common Prayer: Mary Scott, assisted by Patrick McWade, led Council in Common Prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting (002-01-11-04): Correction: p. 3, remove the comment in parentheses following mention of Policy 2.2.11. Approved as corrected.

Agenda of this meeting: Reviewed. Bishop Hiltz will speak about amalgamations. Add at the end of the agenda, Lutheran observer on Council (Bishop Hiltz) and Synod delegates from amalgamated parishes.

Notices and business from the Executive Secretary of Synod

Those who have died: Gordon Parker (husband of the Rev'd Dianne Parker), David Ian MaKinnon and Myrtle Howard.

Notices: Please note additional written reports submitted and circulated to Council, and mark reference numbers on agenda with asterisk.

An updated Index was circulated.

Correspondence: Regarding the request to donate \$500 towards support of a Diocesan Youth Worker: from the Parish of Lockeport-Barrington, fundraising is necessary to meet allotment, so the parish will not be making a donation.

From St. Andrews, Cole Harbour, will donate \$500. Want to involve youth in raising the money.

Letter from Mary Meisner, QC. St. John, Lunenburg Restoration awarded a \$5000 grant from the Anglican Foundation.

Bishops' Reports:

Bishop Moxley: A written report (003-02-11-04) advising Council of two major discussions or consultations since its last meeting: report on discussions regarding the Atlantic Ministry of the Deaf, and Clergy Wellness Commission and Consultation.

Bishop Hiltz: (003-01-11-04) List of major activities since last meeting of Council, and upcoming activities. Highlights: Development of Cathedral/Diocesan Centre property, Phase 1 and 2. The first floor of Chapter House has been rented by Curwin Medical for clinics and stores. A Bishop's Committee on Property Redevelopment is considering Phase 2 development. Conversations have begun about celebrations in the year 2010 (300th Anniversary of continuous Anglican Worship in Canada, Centennial of the Cathedral opening, conclusion of Capital Campaign). Perhaps General Synod would meet in Halifax in 2010. Perhaps a celebration in the Metro Centre. New Year's Levees will be held also in Sydney and Charlottetown. Bishop Hiltz circulated his statement on the Windsor Report and a news release entitled "Money Raised for Anglican Settlement Fund Earmarked for Survivors of Residential Schools".

It was moved by Peter Townsend, seconded by Mary Scott,

“that Council express its concern about the high administrative costs of the Federal Government’s residential schools claims process.” Carried.

Report of the Executive Assistant to the Bishops: (026-01-11-04) Gordon Redden circulated and spoke to his report. Under ‘Financial Administration’, on advice contained in the Report, *it was moved by Fred Krieger, seconded by Peter Anthony,*

“that Diocesan Council authorize the group named in Canon Redden’s Report (Peter Flemming, Allan Conrod, Trevor Lightfoot, Ted Johnson, Leslie Jeager, and Don Pulsifer) for the purpose named, to devise a plan for consideration by the Administration and Finance Committee.” Carried.

[The purpose of the group is to develop plans for integration of revenues from the Leap for Faith Capital Campaign into the work of the Diocese.] Council members agreed that the Chairs of Strategy Planning and Program Planning should be added to the group.

He is supporting amalgamation negotiations.

Correction: In his report, change ‘Mentoring the Newly-Ordained’ to ‘Continuing Education for the Newly-Ordained’.

He and others made a visitation to Christ Church, Windsor, to discuss the Parish’s finances and growing allotment arrears.

Report to Council by the Rev’d Liz Earley on Ecumenical and Interfaith Matters (050-01-11-04)

She submitted a detailed written report and spoke to it. The Report included notes on Church conferences and conventions, Commissions, and Councils, some definitions of importance, the why, where and how of religious dialogue, quotable quotes and a prayer. Bishop Hiltz presented her with a letter of appointment as the new Ecumenical Officer of the Diocese.

RBR, Report to Council: Adrienne Malloy of RBR gave a brief history of financial campaigns in the Diocese, discussed how difficult it is to start up a new campaign if the organization is dissolved and momentum is lost, and recommended that we consider making provisions for annual financial campaigns following the conclusion of the current capital campaign.

It was moved by the Rev’d Valeria Rhymes, seconded by the Rev’d Randy Townsend,

“that Council supports in principle that the Capital Campaign Task Group and their advisors investigate an annual campaign upon completion of the capital campaign.” Carried.

Report on the Capital Campaign, the Rev’d David Reid: Clergy visitations to the 240 clergy in the Diocese have begun. 28 Clergy are visiting. The Diocese is divided into areas. The visits have been wonderful.

Break, 2:47 PM

**Report of the Administration and Finance Committee, the Rev’d Trevor Lightfoot
Proposed 2005 Budget**

Trevor invited the Diocesan Controller, Peter Flemming, to present the Proposed 2005 Budget. He outlined the budgeting process and fielded questions. The allotment rate has moved from 22% to 21.75%, a small reduction. The compliance rate of 87.5% may be optimistic. Not all details are complete regarding allotment in amalgamated parishes. There is an appeal process for assessments.

Discussion highlights: Do parishes know what is involved in the Diocesan Budget? Some parishes do not take allotment seriously. A rough guide to compliance: 25% of parishes are current and up-to-date with allotment payments; 15% pay at the end of the year; 60% are in arrears for varying amounts. Parishes generally want to pay their allotment. We work with them to help them realize this goal. The visioning process will introduce changes that may affect allotment or revise spending. There is no provision in the 2005 budget for a youth worker. It will be in the 2006 budget, funded through monies collected in the capital campaign. Can committee chairs get better feedback about the state of committee budgets

throughout the year? The Diocese is all of us. The Diocese has listened to its ‘constituency.’ Items have been cut from the budget. The trip to Zimbabwe has been delayed, for example. There is a profound resolve to negotiate new fiscal restraints in the 2006 budget. We need to relate our renewed vision and our Diocesan structures. Look at our committees and their meeting schedules. Can we afford to have synod every year? We need a conversation about stewardship in the Diocese.

It was moved by the Rev’d David Reid, seconded by Peter Townsend,

“that Council accept the Budget for 2005 as presented.” Carried.

Clergy Stipend Scale: Presented by the Rev’d Trevor Lightfoot. It had been circulated to members at a previous meeting, but circulated again at this meeting (010-02-11-04). Trevor summarized the results of regional consultations on the proposed scale. An in-depth summary of the consultations will follow.
It was moved by the Rev’d Randy Townsend, seconded by Marilyn Hamlin,

“that Council accept the Proposed 2005 Clergy Stipend Scale.” Carried.

Report on Youth Conference: Stacey Renouf invited Sarah Townsend, Chair of the Youth Ministry Subcommittee, to report on the Youth Conference. Sarah circulated and spoke to a document entitled ‘Diocesan Youth Conference 2004 Report’. Highlights: Conference was held at AST. There is a good chance that AST will host the conference next year. 110 participants. 40 leaders. There was bible study, keynote addresses, visits to social and community agencies, workshops, and worship. The report contained criticisms of Diocesan provision for and ministry to youth and concluded with the hope that “in the upcoming year the Diocesan message given to the youth is more positive than was the case this year.”

The report evoked dissatisfaction from some about ‘tongue-lashing’ from the Youth Ministry Subcommittee, and lack of balance in assessing what the Diocese does for and with youth.

Diocesan Travel Policy: The Rev’d Trevor Lightfoot presented again a revised Diocesan Travel Policy 2.1.2, (document 010-04-11-04). He asked Council to consider sections 3 and 4.
It was moved by LeRoy Peach, seconded by Cathy Lee Cunningham,

“that Council adopt the whole policy as revised.” Defeated.

The Diocesan Travel Policy currently in effect remains.

Proposals for Dealing with Parishes in Breach of Canon: The Chancellor, John Arnold, advised Council that based on his experience at a recent parish visit regarding parish finances and allotment arrears, it is now his view that the amendments to Canon 35 that he drafted and that the Chair of Constitution and Canons, Arthur Fordham, revised and refined may cause more harm than good.

Members of Council expressed their agreement with the Chancellor’s view that we not proceed at this time with amendments to Canon 35 to deal with parishes in breach of canon.

Parish Amalgamations Update: Bishop Hiltz gave Council information about the following parish amalgamations: The Parishes of Emmanuel Church, Dartmouth, and Holy Trinity Church, Dartmouth; the Parishes of Rosette and Annapolis/Granville – please note that this amalgamation does not include the parish in Bridgetown; the Sydney area parishes. Proposed resolutions are being developed. 1 January 2005 is the projected effective date of amalgamations in the Sydney area.

Lutheran Observer at Diocesan Council: This will be considered at the February meeting of Council.

Synod Delegates in Amalgamated Parishes: The Rev’d Valeria Rhymes raised questions about the number of Synod delegates from amalgamated or associated parishes. Council concurred with the view that such questions be referred to the Chancellor and the Rev’d Canon Gordon Redden who, following consultation, will make an appropriate response.

The meeting concluded at about 5:00 PM

The Rev'd Canon Fred Krieger
Executive Secretary of Synod

Signed: _____

Date: _____