

DIOCESAN COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Prepared by Fred Krieger

At its meeting of December 6, 2007, Diocesan Council

- was chaired by Bishop Moxley and during her absence, by Canon Gordon Redden
- was led in worship by the Rev'd Heather Hamilin Gravells
- received a report from Bishop Moxley that spoke of the Bishop of Manicaland's visit to our Diocese, her service of installation and her call to celebrate what is right with the world, what you do well, to build on what you can do and to affirm what is good
- heard a report on the recent meeting of the Council of General Synod given by Peter Townsend, a representative from our Diocese on that Council. Mr. Townsend was elected by the Council of General Synod as a representative to the Canadian Council of Churches. He summarized actions regarding the two bishops who have relinquished Anglican Church of Canada licenses and become bishops in the Province of the Southern Cone. Bishop Moxley commented that both bishops had given long and good service in our church that should be remembered when we speak of them
- established a date and place for the election of a suffragan bishop (Friday, May 23 – that is, the first day of our regular synod in May – in the McInnes Room, Student Union Building, Dalhousie University) and established an Episcopal Search Committee
- received the final report of the Allotment Task Group presented by Gretchen McCurdy and adopted it for implementation, changing the dates of projected allotment reductions to begin in 2009 rather than 2008. Highlights: keep allotment and appeals system; keep basic deduction; exempt maintenance; reduce dramatically the Diocesan budget, and thus allotment percentage
- received a copy of a document prepared by Elizabeth Pooley, 'Allotment Task Force – Minority/Supplementary Report'
- engaged in a discussion of strategies to deal with the few parishes that refuse to pay allotment
- heard, received and supported a report by Michael Janz on Diocesan Youth Ministry. He brought forward a new plan for youth ministry: reduce Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator to 2/3rds time and with 1/3rd funds left, hire three part-time regional coordinators. Review these changes in a year. This proposal will go to staff for a decision
- heard additional information about the Report of the Organizational Effectiveness Task Group from Kees Zwanenburg. One of its major impacts is to strengthen the voices and responsibilities of the Regions. New provisions for governance are proposed
- heard an update on the Phase Two Property Development from a group chaired by Harold Irving. They are now hoping to plan a facility with about 16,700 square feet of space, including a large gathering room (perhaps with dividers)
- heard an outline of terms to be included in a 'letter of intent' with the proposed builder and agreed that Bishop Moxley might sign it on behalf of synod
- received a written report on planned activities for the 2010 Celebrations
- heard Christine Newcomb speak on behalf of the 2010 Committee to the proposed budget (with assumptions) for 2010 Celebrations. The budget is slightly over the \$100,000 originally budgeted

- approved changes to Major and Planned Gifts Policy presented by Charles O'Neil
- heard a report by the Diocesan Executive Director, the Rev'd Canon Gordon Redden on his work
- heard a report by the Diocesan Controller, Peter Flemming. 'We are on budget'; Review of Bookroom should be completed in mid-January
- on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, agreed that Deloitte would be our Auditor for 2007
- heard a report on the Anglican Foundation by Selma Doucet (a board member) with a plea for all to become members of the Foundation
- received an update from the Leap for Faith Campaign. Commitments to date: \$2,834,282
- received a report from the Chair of Synod Arrangements, the Rev'd Randy Townsend
- NOTE: Council meets next on Thursday, February 21, 2008