

Diocesan Council Highlights

prepared by J. Hatt- Executive Secretary of Synod

June 18th & 19th, 2010

Friday June 18th

Diocesan Council was called to order by Bishop Ron Cutler at 7pm at which time all were welcomed and newcomers were introduced.

Worship was led by E. Siteman.

The first item of business was to welcome **Rev. M. Sponagle and Representatives from the Parish of Wilmot** to make a presentation to the Council regarding their proposal to construct a new church building. The Parish was making an application under Canon 38 Section 1.

Following the approval of the agenda and the minutes of the last meeting, **A. Turner** reported on behalf A&F. A motion was moved and carried “**stating that the investment payout be 4% for 2011.**”

A.Carras presented the draft budget from **Budget Sub Committee**. The following items were noted:

- The draft budget goes to A&F in the fall and will come to Diocesan Council in October
- Projected deficit is \$130,000
- Each 1% drop in allotment costs about \$100,000. The budget was prepared on the basis of 19.25%
- suggesting a 2% raise for staff and clergy
- deep cuts need to be made in order to prevent a deficit

P. Flemming gave his report. The office is continuing to explore new ways of delivering funds and information to the parishes as quickly as possible. Only 30% of parishes are taking part in direct deposit.

S. Naylor reported on her activities over the last couple of months. She commented that being with the youth at General Synod was rewarding.

Saturday-June 19th

The Council reconvened at 9am. E. Siteman led worship. Correspondence was heard and dealt with.

Next item of business was discussion on the application from the **Parish of Wilmot** to construct a new church building. Following discussion it was moved and seconded “**that permission be granted to the Parish of Wilmot to proceed with its new church construction. Carried**”

Back to Church Sunday Event, Sept.26th - Materials will be ready in July for distribution.

Property Redevelopment-

- The development plans are in process and moving forward.
- The Diocesan Office moves on July 2nd.

NSOM

Bishop Ron reported on this item. A task group is being put together and should be finalized shortly. It is a mix of clergy and lay and will be led by an outside facilitator: Dr. Eileen Scully (National Church).

Report from Janet Marshall on the restructuring of the Diocese

She reviewed the process from it's inception until the present time.

Also our attention was drawn to the Vision and Strategy Document (work in Progress), the proposed Diocesan Organizational Chart-draft 6.19.10 and the document, "Fulfilling our Mission".

She invited questions from Diocesan Council.

A motion was carried to approve the direction that is being taken by "the Diocesan Organizational Chart: draft 6.19.10 to be forwarded to the Canons and Guideline Review Committee as a basis for its continued work."

Bishop Sue's report-Bishop Sue is seeking permission to appoint trustees for a period of 3 months for the Parish of Strait Chedabucto. Permission was granted.

Budget Discussion- Following last evenings presentation, the Diocesan Council has been charged with discussing and making decisions regarding Budget 2011.After a lengthily process and discussion the following motions were **carried**:

- **The allotment rate for 2011 be 19.50%**
- **Unless a cogent case can be made, no increase above what was actually spent in 2009 will be budgeted.**
- **To immediately begin a review of the 3 top positions funded under the Episcopal Ministry line with a review of reducing costs.**
- **That the \$ 25,000 contingency fund line item be zero**
- **That the frequency of Regional Deans and Archdeacons face-to-face meetings be reduced to three per annum.**
- **That we reduce our contribution to Provincial Synod by \$5000.**
- **That all Diocesan meetings, including Diocesan Council, move to reduce costs by 25% by 2011.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm