

Highlights of Diocesan Council -Feb20-21, 2009-prepared by Janet Hatt

Friday- Feb.20, 2009

The meeting convened at 7pm, chaired by Bishop Sue. She welcomed the members of Diocesan Council and invited Carl Fraser to lead us in worship. He was assisted by Reid Moore.

Following worship, the agenda was presented for approval with some minor scheduling changes. (Moved by S. Doucet and seconded by M. Mitchell) that the agenda be accepted with changes.) Carried.

The minutes of the December 12-13th-2008 meeting were approved with changes (moved by A. Turner and seconded by V. Rhymes.)

The meeting continued with reports from the following: **P. Fleming (controller)** it was reported that:

- Income tax receipts have been mailed
- 2007 audit is in process and going well
- Discussion held on EFT(electronic funds transfer)
- Peter is working with Budget Sub-committee on preparing 2010 budget
- Report given on Diocesan Investments(9.4% decline)deemed to be reasonable given the downturn in the market

: Bishop Sue-spoke to her written report and some of the highlights were as follows:

- That she has been attending , participating and enjoying the Stewardship Workshops
- Involved in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. She had an opportunity to preach at St. Mary's Basilica and Archbishop Mancini preached at the Cathedral
- Attended several meetings with parochial committees throughout the Diocese
- **She presented a list of persons whom she would like to co-opt for Synod 2009.Asked (It was moved by V. Rhymes and seconded by S. Arbeau that the names presented be ratified and that permission be granted to seek replacements if necessary).Carried**

: **Bishop Ron**-Reported on his written report. Some of the highlights were as follows:

- Travelling through the Chebucto and Fort Sackville regions and visiting parishes
- Travelled to Des Moines, Iowa for Living Stones conference. Indicating that we are a founding Diocese. Each year the discussion focuses on various models of ministry and their implementations
- Discussion followed regarding models of ministry
- Implications for theological education
- Bishop Ron will submit a request to make a presentation at Synod

: **Gordon Redden (Diocesan Executive Director)** Written report was circulated and the following are highlights from his report:

- The bookroom is now closed and a Liturgy was held to give thanks for the ministries of the staff
- Several appointments have been made throughout the Diocese
- Two more parishes have signed the 5/3 covenant and a total of 12 were invited to participate in meetings.

: **Report from Archives was circulated.** The following are highlights from the report circulated:

- Still without a chair for the Committee
A letter was received from C. Chenhall Chair of the Appointments Committee with two new members presented for consideration for the Archives Committee. It was moved by M. Mitchell and seconded by S. Doucet that William Canning and Roger Demone be appointed as requested by the committee. Carried

Correspondence received:

1. St.Stephen's, Chester-concerns regarding allotment rate-forwarded to A. Turner, chair of A&F
2. Two applications were presented for consideration to the **Anglican Foundation:**

A. the Sacred Arts Trust for monies to support the preparation of liturgical dance for 2010 celebrations (**approved**);

B. application for monies to the Project Loans and Grants to support Justice Camp (**approved**)

S. Doucet brought forward a discussion regarding Parish memberships to Anglican Foundation and whether the Diocese should fund membership for all parishes. It is not possible at this time because the budget has been set. It was noted that membership in our diocese has more than doubled in the last 18 months. A special thanks to S. Doucet and the ACW's.

4. Letter from PWRDF-received a letter of congratulations and thank you for our support since the inception of the foundation (contributions from our diocese amount to more than 4.9 million dollars)

The National Board of PWRDF is meeting in Halifax on April 28, 29, and 30th The Diocese is hosting a dinner on the 29th to kick off the 50th anniversary. Tickets will be available from Jana at the planned giving office

Planned Giving Presentation: M. Mitchell and S. Doucet made a presentation on behalf of their committee. They displayed the most recent resources they have produced and shared with enthusiasm their own stories. They will also be making a presentation at Synod.

Regional Presentation: J. Hatt, Regional Dean of Chebucto- She gave a thumbnail sketch of the region of Chebucto which is found in Halifax and extends beyond the peninsula.

The region has recently been reconfigured and now consists of 13 parishes. The region is predominantly urban with some suburban parishes and none of the parishes are more than 20-25 minutes apart in driving distance.

The clericus meets monthly and Regional Council meets four times a year. It is a diverse region with nursing homes, senior's complexes, universities, hospitals, the Mission to Seafarer's, the Cathedral, and AST.

Presently the Regional Council is focusing on 2010 and scheduling an event "Amazing G'race".

Also there are several ACW's' and Mother's Union groups in the region.

The Parishes in the area support and contribute to various social outreach agencies.

Saturday-Feb 21, 2009

The meeting reconvened at 9am, with Bishop Sue in the chair.

The morning began with worship **led by R. Moore and C. Fraser**

Under continuing business:

1. Vision Strategy Document- J. Marshall presented the document and its contextual background. The document is a statement of living out of the vision. "It gives us a starting point and a check point for assessing where to go from here"

The Council was given the task to work in table groups and review the document for the following: First Reactions; Issues; Strengths and what is missing.

Key items identified:

- PR & Communications
- Attitudinal & Generational Changes in parishes
- Best practices and Successes...We are moving ahead
- Implications for budget, allocation of funds and changes in approach

2. Discussion on CANON 11-Bishop Sue-Proposed changes are being put forward to Synod which will impact on the membership of Diocesan Council. These changes will reflect regional representation on the council.

3. Davina Davis and Glen Kent with news of 2010.Updates include:

- 2010 now on face book
- Doug Wiseman is Music Coordinator
- Parishes will be receiving musical setting in near future
- Diocesan profile-to tell the world who we are <http://www.nspeidiocese.ca/profile>
- Regional events are being planned

4. Sustainability of Synod- J. Slack reported on this task force work.

5. Privacy Legislation: A. Chapman presented a Diocesan Personal Information Policy. More information is required so it was tabled until next Diocesan Council Meeting

6. Property Development-Information was conveyed that the discussion is ongoing and proceeding

7. A&F Task Group- A. Turner indicated that this task is now being undertaken by Budget Sub committee

8. Annual Appeal: Bishop Sue reported that Synod overwhelmingly supports an Annual Appeal but that “ The Leap for Faith Campaign” will wind down first. It is now proposed that the Annual Appeal will begin in October-Thanksgiving-2009

The Council was invited to speak to the materials presented regarding the allocation of funds that would be raised from the Annual Appeal. Several suggestions and comments were offered.

9. Synod goes paperless-A. Chapman reported on the changes necessary to the constitution to accommodate the request of Synod arrangements to go paperless. Discussion was held and suggestions were recorded for action.

10. Leap for Faith-M. Mitchell reported that Synod 2009 marks the “official end” of the campaign and that recognition will be made at the Synod Service.

11. Data Update-Bishop Sue & Gordon Redden reported on the existing data bases at the Diocesan Office. It was noted that the diocese uses a number of products and that research is being done to secure a data base that would meet the Diocese needs.

New Business:

- 1. Closure of TDC-(Tangier Deanery Camp)-Bishop Sue** reported that Tangier Deanery Camp is closed. The camp has had a significant impact on the lives of many people in the Diocese. In the 1980's it was a going concern but in these the last years, it has seen diminishing enrollment and significant deterioration in its facilities. The keys were turned over last fall to the Bishop and the camp has ceased operation. There will be a closing celebration in the future.
- 2. AST Founding Parties Relationship-Bishop Sue** reported on the history of AST and its founding parties. The founding parties included R.C., Diocese of N.S. / PEI, Diocese of Fredericton plus King's College. There has been a funding agreement in place with all parties. Of concern is the funding from King's-The Forrester Foundation. (This fund pays for the NS./ PEI portion.) Because of the current market situation the income may be less than required and the Diocese may have to find additional monies for AST.

Standing Committee Reports

- 1. Committee on Ministry-C. Fraser** reported on behalf of the committee. Highlights included:
 - Ministry Sunday 2009,
 - Godly Play Workshop to be held-April 24-25,2009,
 - budget 2010
 - Christian Formation Event.
- 2. National & World Mission-R. Moore** spoke to the written report highlighting that PWRDF is hoping to sponsor 50 Refugee families in Celebration of PWRDF 50th anniversary and the PWRDF Dinner.

3. Administration & Finance

A. Turner reported the following:

- January meeting snowed out,
- Preliminary work on Budget for 2010,
- allotment reductions,
- human relations committee is working on a handbook,
- Budget Sub Committee is reforming and getting up to speed
- Insurance Renewal.

The meeting adjourned at 2:17pm.

