



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

115 CHURCH STREET, FREDERICTON NB E3B 4C8

(506) 459 1801 [o] (506) 460 0520 [f]

Approved 10 June 2006

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

15 March 2006

St. John's Church Hall

Parish of Oromocto

Pre-meeting circulation:

- Agenda
- 14 January 2006 Draft Minutes
- Committee Reports
- Notices of Motion

Meeting circulation:

- Report of Youth Committee
- Report of Parish Development and Support Team
(Including analysis of Parish 2005 Annual Reports)
- Draft Roles and Responsibilities - Nominations Committee

In attendance:

Stuart Allan, Murry Arnott, Elizabeth Belyea, Heather Carr, John Cathcart, Robyn Cuming, Patricia Drummond, Keith Dow, Charles Ferris, Peter Gillies, Vicars Hodge, Bonnie Hunt, Mohan Iype, Hazel MacKenzie, Richard McConnell, Claude Miller, Keith Osborne, Douglas Painter, Elizabeth Reid, Robert Salloum, Fred Scott, Donald Thompson, Cecil VanBuskirk, Walter Williams.

Guests:

Peter Irish, George Porter, Ana Watts, Phyllis Cathcart.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 The Meeting opened with a prayer led by the Bishop followed by a reading and commentary on Jonah. The Bishop reflected on his recent visit in the Deanery of Shediac, specifically a visits with the people of the Parish of Kent.
- 1.2 In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Fred Scott was named to that role.
- 1.3 Regrets: Geoffrey Hall, George Connor, Caryn Crowe, John Sharpe Keith Joyce, Leo Martin (Recording Secretary).
- 1.4 Resignation of the Archdeacon of Moncton

MOTION 1: C. VanBuskirk / S Allan: **That a letter of thanks be sent to Malcolm Berry for his years of service as a member of Council and as Archdeacon of Moncton.**

MOTION 1: Carried unanimously.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - 14 January 2006

2.1 Modification and Acceptance

MOTION 2: M. Arnott / E. Reid: **That the minutes of the 14 January 2006 meeting be adopted.**

MOTION 2: Carried unanimously.

2.2 Arising from minutes and unfinished items

2.2.1 Retiree's Extended Health Care (Human Resources Report)

2.2.2 Signing authority Canon change (Canons and Constitution Committee)

2.2.3 Diocesan Shared Ministry Plan (Report from editing team)

Items 2.2.1 and 2.2.3 arising from the minutes to be dealt with as they appear on the Agenda.

2.3 Agenda

The Bishop indicated an addition to the agenda as circulated.

MOTION 3: R. Salloum / J. Cathcart. **That the Agenda be approved as circulated with addition.**

MOTION 3: Carried.

3. Reports

3.1 Administration Team

MOTION 4: F Scott/M Arnott. **That the Administration Team Report be received.**

MOTION 4: Carried.

A draft of the Roles and Responsibilities of the Nominations Committee was circulated for comment. Response brought forth concerns by some that the role as described could place too much emphasis on the Committee. Specifically that it may be seen as an impediment to informal nominations (from the floor or otherwise); that the Committee will determine qualifications for nomination; that the Committee will "seek out" as opposed to receive nominations. There was consensus that the document should be sent back to the Administration Team for re-drafting.

3.1.1 Camps Campaign:

Peter Irish presented an Executive Summary of the Report circulated. There will be Bishops' Dinners in 2006. Caution was expressed as to the place of Camp Brookwood in the Campaign and in the Youth Ministry generally.

3.1.2 Finance Committee:

The Treasurer led Council on a review of the Financial results circulated. He summarized the results noting gross expenditures of \$1,803,860 (under budget by 3%) and Funding of \$1,751,678 (under budget by 5%), for an operating deficit of \$52,000 in 2005. He provided some graphics on recent levels of parish budget support along with projections for 2006. Also analyzed was the operating surplus/deficit result from years 2001 to 2006 (projected).

3.3.2.1 Human Resources Committee report focused on the results of the consultation with retired clergy on the topic of their extended health benefits plan.

3.3.2.2 Camp Medley Project: Council was provided with a view of the building plans for Camp Medley construction. Review and discussion ensued.

3.2 Episcopal Team

D. Painter, acting in the absence of the Team Chair, presented a verbal report touching on efforts in the areas of the Mary Jacob Trust, the Committee on the St. Michael's Report, issues in the Curacy Program, and our financial relationship with AST.

MOTION 5: D Painter / E. Reid. **That the verbal report be acknowledged.**

MOTION 5: Carried unanimously.

3.3 Mission Outreach Team

K. Osborne reviewed the report as circulated.

3.3.1 Diocesan Walk for AIDS in Africa

The Council viewed a brief video depicting the plight of AIDS sufferers in that part of God's world. Bishop Miller outlined his plans for a "walk" to raise funds for AIDS in Africa. His plan is for a "virtual" walk across the Diocese, from Edmundston to Westmorland, a distance of 525 kilometers. The goal is to raise \$50,000.

He described his vision for the effort, seeing it as a thank offering for 60 years of ministry among our young people at Camp Medley.

The Bishop has put together a team to assist in the planning for the event which will see the presentation of funds raised, as part of the provincial PWRDF regional meeting which will be held 13-14 October 2006 in our Diocese.

3.4 Parish Development and Support Team

The report was circulated at the meeting and reviewed by the Team Chair, C. VanBuskirk. Review highlighted the Wardens' Day set for April 22nd, the continuing progress at Anglican House, and plans to develop visitation teams to assist parishes in becoming healthy, mission-focused, welcoming and growing.

3.4.1 Parish Annual Reports

C. VanBuskirk led Council through his report detailing the results of his review of 54 Parish Annual Reports for 2004.

3.5 Spiritual Formation Team:

The Chair, J. Cathcart presented a verbal report touching on efforts at contacting all reporting groups, update re Clergy College, and the Companion Spiritual Formation retreat at Villa Madonna. He also

spoke on the efforts to organize seven regional layreader days and on the upcoming (May 27th) layreaders' day with the Bishop.

3.6 Stewardship and Financial Development Team

D. Thompson highlighted the dates of March 25th (Riverview) and May 13th (New Maryland) for the next Revitalizing the Parish workshops.

3.7 Youth Ministry Team

Report was circulated to the members and reviewed briefly.

MOTION 6: P. Gillies / V. Hodge. **That the Youth Team Report be received.**

MOTION 6: Carried.

The Youth Action Director, George Porter offered some insight into the ministry and upcoming events.

3.8 Other Reports

3.8.1 2006 Camp Medley Board Elections.

4. Business

4.1 Retiree Medical Plan

MOTION 7: K. Dow / M. Arnott. **That Diocesan Council accept the report of the consultation with retired clergy and widows and concur with the recommendation of the Human Resources Committee that further consideration and consultation be done before a change in the current plan be undertaken, facilitating the following:**

- 1. A need for consistency between the "active" and "retired" plans.**
- 2. A policy on eligibility for participation and enrolment .**
- 3. A cost sharing methodology that ensures the plan can be sustained and which addresses the needs of those already in the plan as well as those who will retire in the future.**
- 4. Ensure that the coverages are designed to meet the basic needs of the group as a whole**

MOTION 7: Carried unanimously.

4.2 Camp Medley Construction Project

MOTION 8: M. Arnott / M. Iype. **That the Diocesan Council accept recommendations of the Finance Committee:**

- 1. That authority be given to affixing the necessary signatures of the Diocese on a contract with Chapelstone Design Inc. For conceptual designs and architects and engineering drawings for the construction of a kitchen, dining, and washroom building at Camp Medley.**
- 2. That the Medley Project Committee and the Finance Committee continue to work towards the establishment of an appropriate contract for the construction of said building.**
- 3. That the appropriate Committees work towards negotiation of the most favourable banking terms available for the debt related to the construction project.**

4. That work on this construction project be slated to begin, immediately following the 2006 camping season, beginning with site work, obtaining approval for a septic system, and the construction of foundation walls, with a view to completing the project in time for the 2007 camping season.

MOTION 8a: AMENDMENT: J. Cathcart / D. Painter. **That item 4 be amended to read: "That work on this construction project begin by April 1st with a view to completing the Project in time for the 2006 camping season."** When put to the vote,
MOTION 8a: Defeated.

When put to the vote,
MOTION 8: Carried unanimously.

4.3 AIDS Walk

MOTION 9: C. VanBuskirk / K. Dow. **That the Bishop be commended and that we pledge our active support for his AIDS walk initiative.**

MOTION 9: Carried.

4.4 Camp Medley 2006 Board of Directors

It was noted that the Ven Vicars Hodge was nominated to the Board, but his name was inadvertently omitted from the list.

MOTION 10: C. Ferris /J. Cathcart. **That the list of proposed membership on the Board of Camp Medley be approved.**

**Mr. Bev Harrison, (Chair)
Ms. Rachel Tapley (Vice Chair)
Ms. Laura Perry, (Secretary)
Mr. Jim Dysart, (Finance)
The Rev'd Canon George Porter (HR)
Mr. Clarence Box (Property)
The Ven. Vicars Hodge**

**The Rev'd Peter Mills (Spiritual Dev.)
Mrs. Ann Pinnell (Registrar)
Ms. Mary Gatien (Safety)
Mrs. Pam Iype (Public Relations)
Mr. Paul Mills (Property)
Mr. Andrew Perry (Alumni)**

MOTION 10: Carried unanimously.

4.5 Strategic Plan - Shared Ministry Plan

The work of the editing team was reviewed favourably and discussion centered around the form and process for Archdiaconal gatherings for review of the Ministry Plan. There were expressions of the need to have the meetings as much as possible within the time frame established. Also expressed was the need for a consistent message at all meetings, and for clear expectations of feedback from the meeting participants.

MOTION 11: C. VanBuskirk / R. Salloum. **That the Diocesan Council approve the work and report of the editing Team for the Shared Ministry Plan.**

MOTION 11: Carried.

MOTION 12: R. Salloum / C. VanBuskirk. **That the Secretary of Synod and the members of the Council Parish Support Team prepare and execute the presentations to meetings of Archdeaconry Greater Chapters.**

MOTION 12: Carried unanimously.

5. Meeting Schedule

Next meetings of Council are set for June 10th in Woodstock, September 20th in Rothesay, and November 4th in Fredericton.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

L. Fred Scott (Canon)
Recording Secretary, pro tem

Geoffrey Hall (The Ven.)
Secretary of Synod

Claude W. Miller (The Rt. Rev. Dr.)
Chair
24 March 2006