



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

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Adopted 17 January 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

05 November 2008

Saint Mary's Church, Parish of Chatham

Pre-meeting circulation (electronically):

- Agenda 04 November 2008
- Study: "Our worth comes from God"
- Draft Minutes (17 September 2008)
- Unfinished Items Summary
- Attendance (17 September 2008)
- Team Reports
- Shared Ministry Budget for 2009
- Recommended Stipend scale
- PWRDF Report
- Camp Brookwood Task Force

In Meeting circulation

- Money Talk

Attending: David Barrett, Judith Campbell, William Chilton, Patricia Drummond, David Edwards, Geoffrey Hall, Donald Hazen, Vicars Hodge, Martha Jo Hoyt, Robert LeBlanc, Jon Lownds, Hazel MacKenzie, Gerald McConaghy, Richard McConnell, Greg McMullin, Falen McNulty, Ted Quann, Fred Scott, Clyde Spinney, Gordon Thompson, Christopher Waldschutz.

Guests: Ted Curry, Elizabeth Harding, Robert Marsh, Leo Martin, George Porter, Ana Watts.

Regrets: Heather Carr, Greg Frazer, Keith Joyce, Claude Miller, Michael Tower, Keith Osborne, Douglas Painter.

Guest Regrets: Roger Castonguay.

1. Open

1.1 Welcome members and guests

The Vice-Chair, Christopher Waldschutz, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. G. Hall offered an opening prayer. The Vice-Chair indicated the Bishop was absent due to his recent surgery and a brief update was offered. Council members extended their best wishes to the Bishop and a card was signed by those present.

1.2 Regrets

Were conveyed as listed.

1.3 Study: Matthew 6:19-27

After reading the Scripture passage, Council members groups to answer three questions. The groups reconvened and were asked to share their number one answer to these questions.

Question A: Its ironic that we can't seem to talk about something we worry so much about. What are ... reasons we are reluctant to address the topic of money in the context of faith?

- Culture of secrecy
- All things come from God.....Do we really believe it?
- No connection is made between money and faith or between life and faith.
- Fear of offending; however, this is a spiritual issue.

Question B: Why did Jesus talk so much about money? Summarize ... Gospel teachings about money.

- The Church structure of the time is similar to today and seems to focus on the good of the few rather than the good of the masses.
- Wealth can easily become a false god.
- We tend to store up (hoard) our treasures
- Idolatry....the god of materialism

Question C: What are ... ways in which we might take positive steps to "break our of prison" and put money in our Christian conversation and preaching? (Bishop Edward Salmon says those not comfortable with money talk have been "jailed.")

- Need to focus on what we can do for God, rather than ourselves. Take risks.
- Need to give from the front end (abundance) rather than the back end (leftovers)
- Clergy should commit to a certain number of sermons on the topic...without apology
- A pulpit exchange with this topic as the focus.

Further comments:

- Speaking on money is a real issue which affects everyday life, it affects all aspects of life, including spirituality.
- Stewardship should be viewed as something we *need* to do, rather than an answer to a need.
- The leadership needs to lead by example.

1.4 Correspondence

None

1.5 Agenda Modifications

The agenda was accepted as circulated by consensus.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

2.1 Corrections and adoption - 17 September 2008

A brief discussion regarding Motion 4 (Resolution DC080917-04) resulted in a motion of clarification under business.

Motion 1: G. McConaghy/C. Spinney

That the minutes of the 17 September 2008 meeting of Diocesan Council be accepted.

Motion 1: Carried unanimously.

2.2 Completed items from past minutes (For information purposes)

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|---|--------------------|
| 2.2.1 Corrected and adopted Minutes of 27 August 2008 | posted |
| 2.2.2 Regulations under Canon Seven: Renumeration and Benefits | posted |
| 2.2.3 Policy A-1 Applications to the Anglican Foundation | posted |
| 2.2.4 Policy B-3 Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure | posted |
| 2.2.5 Diocesan Legislation reorganized | posted/in progress |
| 2.2.6 Council membership changes G. MacMullin added/J. Sharpe removed | |
| 2.2.7 Regulation 4-2 Diocesan Council Rules of Order and Procedure | posted |

2.3 Unfinished items from past minutes

- Code of pastoral conduct

Work is ongoing. The Review Group will not meet its target date for completion; however, a report will be made at the next meeting of Council.

- Marriage and sexuality
Discussions are ongoing at the wider levels of the Church. Conversations are also going on local levels of the Church and people need to be encouraged to have charity in their discussions. The Bishop's commitment to this is still as strong as ever.
- Clean water as sacred gift
Passed on to the PWRDF working group and this topic has been placed on the agenda of the 18 October workshop. This topic was also discussed at Lambeth with one member saying "we do not inherit the land from our ancestors, we borrow it from our grandchildren."
- Embryonic stem cell research
The Episcopal Team is working at putting a Task Force together. A long discussion ensued centering on the words of the motion in question (129-22) and the action required by Diocesan Council.
- Support of the diocesan budget
The Task Force is continuing its work
- Rural and/or struggling parishes
The Task Force is continuing its work
- Diocesan budgeting process
Completed
- Camp Brookwood task force
A sub committee of the Board is looking at a three year plan and that should be done soon. The Task Force work is completed and a written report will hopefully be presented at the next meeting of Council.
- Policy on applications to the Anglican Foundation
A proposal from the Finance Committee is on the agenda for this meeting
- Evaluation of diocesan services
No one was directed to look after this.
- Partnership with general synod
- Residential schools returned funding.
This item is completed.
- Primate's request for acc ministry/mission review
- Shared ministry plan tracking
- Costing of ministry areas
An update is found on page 17 of the pre-meeting circulation.
- Coordination of initiatives
- Regulation 4-1 regional governance

3. Reports

3.1 Team and Standing Committee Reports

ADMINISTRATION TEAM - C. Waldschutz

Additions:

...under item #2, Diocesan Synod would be held at the Hilton Conference Centre in Saint John.

...under item #4, the clarification was made that Archdeacon Allan would add membership to the sub-committee.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chair called on A. Watts to give a brief report. She reported the Committee is currently investigating a possible crisis communications plan; that Bill Turney is the new chair; and, that a communications survey is being executed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - G. McConaghy

Clarifications:

... item #1 refers to the list of "services" provided by the Diocese and can be found on pages 33-34 of the pre-meeting circulation.
...item #4 a new staff building is needed at Camp Medley.

F. Scott presented the section on the Proposed Budget 2009 (Item #2). He explained we need to help identify ways in which ministry is strengthened at the parish level. He further noted that in order to be funded, the budget needs to be supported by the parishes and that the request for 2009 is the same as it was in 2006. A chart was presented indicating the Allocation of Costs of Services and Ministries:

Communication	16% (103,700)	Governance	14% (235,500)
Training	14% (222,000)	Administration	10% (165,300)
Ministry Support	28% (448,400)	Programme	17% (279,400)
Episcopal	14% (235,500)		

There was full and lengthy discussion on the topic.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. for lunch and was reconvened at 12:30 p.m. H. MacKenzie asked the blessing.

ADMINISTRATION TEAM (continued)

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - T. Curry

The Vice-Chair invited Ted Curry to present this report. A question was raised regarding the proposed increase in stipends and why the stipends were not frozen at the 2008 level. The reply was made the increase was based on the 2.5% inflation rate and other inflationary numbers provided by the Government of Canada. This led to the following statements:

- ... that more than half of the clergy are on minimum stipend
- ... that parish expenses are increasing
- ... that some clergy are paid below stipend as part time clergy.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - G. Hall

Noted were needs for Synod committee chairs: Technical Support, Agenda and Nominating.

CONSTITUTION AND CANONS COMMITTEE - C. Spinney

EPISCOPAL TEAM - J. Lownds

Added the following comments:

- ...item #3: consideration was given to hosting the Clergy Conference at Camp Medley. No change at this time.
- ...item #7: the Clergy College is set for June 21-26, 2009; and for June 13-18, 2010.

MISSION AND OUTREACH TEAM

No member of the Team was present. However, it was noted that support for Coverdale has not changed since 2005.

PARISH SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM - H. MacKenzie

There are 63 registrants for the Wardens' Day.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM - G. Thompson

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Presented by G. Hall on behalf of Roger Castonguay who was not present.

YOUTH TEAM - G. Porter

3.2 Other reports

3.2.1 Camp Brookwood Task Force

G. Porter noted that Howlett Hall has been raised and now sits on a proper foundation and that a conversation is underway with Saint John Inner City in order to offer a week for to the children served by this group.

Two documents from the Task Force were noted as circulated. No recommendations have been reported.

Motion 2: F. McNulty/J. Lownds

That the reports of Council be accepted as presented.

Motion 2: Carried unanimously.

3.3 Items for Discussion

3.3.1 Terms of Diocesan governance positions concern (Nominating Committee)

4. Business

4.1 Diocesan Executive Committee Membership (Nominating Committee)

Call for nominations

P. Drummond nominated Vicars Hodge. No other nominations were received.

The Venerable Vicars Hodge was appointed to the Diocesan Executive by acclamation.

4.2 Roles and Responsibilities - Stewardship Team

Motion 4: G. Hall/F. McNulty

That the draft Roles and Responsibilities of the Diocesan Council Stewardship Team be adopted as presented in its 31 October 2008 Report.

Motion 4: Carried unanimously.

4.3 Biblical Standard of Giving

Motion 5: G. Hall/R. LeBlanc

That this Diocesan Council affirm the biblical tithe as the diocesan standard of Christian giving as per the (May 1986) Directive 8.2 The Priest in the Parish s. 1(a).

Motion 5: Carried unanimously.

This resolution will give the Stewardship Team some footing and a place to begin.

4.4 Trust for (vocational) Diaconate Training

Motion 6: J. Lownds/F. McNulty

That Diocesan Council establish the "Mary Jacob Trust" for the purpose of supporting the (vocational) Diaconate.

Some questions were raised as to the parameters and definition of the proposed trust/fund.

Motion 7 To Table: G. McConaghy/G. McMullin

That Motion 6 be tabled awaiting further information.

Motion 7: Carried unanimously.

4.5 Terms of Council Membership

Motion 8: G. Hall/V. Hodge

That the concern of the Nominating Committee regarding Constitution and Canons requirements, specifically the short 2 year term of Diocesan Council membership, and its impact on the effectiveness of diocesan leadership be recorded by this Council and referred for consideration as appropriate.

Motion 8: Carried unanimously.

Speaking on behalf of the Constitution and Canons Committee, the Chancellor indicated the members of the Committee do not feel this can be completed before Diocesan Synod but it remains on their agenda.

4.6 Clarification

Motion 9: C. Spinney/P. Drummond

For purposes of clarification, that we amend DC080917 by adding "The intent is not to edit the reports in any way."

Motion 9: Carried unanimously.

4.7 Primate's Request for Ministry/Mission Review

Motion 10: G. Hall/C. Spinney

That this Council charge a working group for the purpose of responding to the Primate's 25 April request for review, analysis and discussion regarding our ministry and mission in the Anglican Church of Canada: 1) convened by the Secretary of Synod and, 2) composed by invitations to: The Bishop, Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor, retired chancellors, a retired bishop, an archdeacon and the Vice-Chair of Diocesan Council. (Response expected by 31 December 2008)

Motion 10: Carried unanimously.

4.8 2009 Remuneration and Reimbursement Scales

4.8.1 Minimum Stipend Scale 2009

Motion 11: G. McConaghy/D. Hazen

That each of the 11 steps in the scale of Minimum Stipend under Canon Seven in Regulation 7-2 Schedule A be increased by 3% for 2009.

Motion 11: Carried 17 yeas, 4 nays

4.8.2 Basic Travel Allowance 2009

Motion 12: G. McConaghy/V. Hodge

That the Basic Travel Allowance under Canon Seven in Regulation 7-2, note 5 under Schedule A, be increased by \$400 to \$4600, for 2009.

Motion 12: Carried unanimously

4.8.3 Car Replacement Allowance 2009

Motion 13: G. McConaghy/G. Thompson

That the Car Replacement Allowance under Schedule A remain at \$4200 for 2009.

Motion 13: Carried unanimously.

4.8.4 Travel Reimbursement

Motion 14: G. McConaghy/G. Thompson

That in Regulation 7-2 Schedule B, the rates per km be increased for 2009 as follows:

Category A to rise by 4 cents, from 17 to 21 cents

Category B to rise by 3 cents, from 38 to 41 cents

Category C to rise by 4 cents from 27 to 31 cents

Motion 14: Carried unanimously.

4.9 Shared Ministry Budget 2009

Motion 15: G. McConaghy/D. Edwards

That the Diocesan Council approve the proposed Shared Ministry Budget for 2009 with expenditures of \$1,633,550 with required funding from parish mission and support of \$1,405,640.

Motion 15: Carried with 16 in favour, 2 opposed, 2 abstentions

4.10 Embryonic Stem Cell Research

Motion 16: J. Lownds/F. McNulty

That the issue of embryonic stem cell research as raised by the resolution of Diocesan Synod in 2007 be referred back to Diocesan Council for its consideration.

Motion 16: Carried unanimously

Discussion followed regarding how to deal with this issue. Informed by that discussion, V. Hodge agreed to draft a motion for the next meeting.

4.11 Next Meetings

Motion 17:H. Mackenzie/T. Quann

That the 24 June 2009 meeting of Diocesan Council be rescheduled to 23 June 2009, 2:00 p.m.

Motion 17: Carried unanimously

Future meeting schedule:

Saturday, 17 January 2009 Parish of Fredericton, Fredericton

Wednesday, 18 March 2009 Parish of the Nerepis and St. John, Grand Bay-Westfield

Saturday, 16 May 2009 Parish of Shediac, Shediac

Tuesday 23 June 2009 (2:00 p.m.) . . ?,Fredericton

4.12 Announcements

The Budget Support Task Force and the Rural and Struggling Parishes Task Force requested the Diocese approach Bishop Salmon with the idea of creating a lenten bible study. At the request of our Bishop, P. Drummond contacted Bishop Salmon and he indicated that he is interested in doing so. The style of the study will be determined later.

V. Hodge offered closing prayer and intercessory prayer for a member of the Council by request.

The Vice-Chair thanked members of Council and bid everyone a safe return home.

5. Adjournment

Motion 18:F. Scott

The meeting of Diocesan Council be adjourned.

Motion 18: Carried unanimously at 2:30 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Leo Martin
Recording Secretary

The Venerable Geoffrey Hall
Secretary of Synod

Mr. Christopher Waldshutz
Vice-Chair

28 November 2008