

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO  
 SYNOD COUNCIL  
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015  
 CHRIST CHURCH, CATARAQUI  
 6:00 P.M.  
 MINUTES**

**Present:** Michael Oulton, Charles Morris, Eleanor Rogers, Haynes Hubbard, Ken Healey, Doug Green, Audrey Doliszny, Peter Bunn, Michael Rice, Al Danford, Wayne Varley, John Secker, Brenda Hobbs, Heather Grimshaw, Valerie Kelly, Sharon Dunlop, Voila David

**Regrets:** Christine Downey, Alex Pierson, Haroldine Neil-Burchert

**Opening Devotions:**

**Doug Green**

A reflection on peace, particularly in response to the recent Paris, France tragedy. A reading from Phil 4:4-7 with continued prayerful witness.

**Agenda Review and Adoption**

**Bishop**

**Chair's Remarks**

**Bishop**

- The Bishop announced two interim appointments effective immediately: Trinity Parish (Tamworth), The Rev. Dr. Ian Ritchie, effective; The Rev. Hal Graham, Priest-in-Charge, Tyendinaga, currently honorary assistant at St. Peter's, Collins Bay
- The Lay Readers AGM was held on Saturday, Nov 21; a change in the executive: Rev. Giuseppe Gagliano has replaced Archdeacon Nancy MacLeod as Warden with Rev. Nancy Beale assuming the responsibility as Deputy Warden
- Bishop emeritus George Bruce will be undergoing surgery in January and again in May 2016 for an aneurysm
- The Bishop offered condolences to Haynes Hubbard on the death of his father, Charles.
- Bishop Michael will be at the meeting of the Governing Board of the Canadian Council of Churches in Crieff Hills Retreat and Conference Centre in Puslinch, Ontario this week
- The Bishop has made 12 visits to parish councils within the Diocese.
- Bishop Michael will be on vacation next week and the following week; his commissary will be Archdeacon Bill Clarke; he extended thanks for the support and prayers for his Jeanie
- Current Refugee situation: MPP for Kingston & the Islands, Sophie Kiwali, organized a multi-faith candlelight vigil on Sunday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in response to the Paris attack and other areas currently experiencing terrorist attacks; the Bishop sent a letter to MP Kingston and the Islands, Mark Gerretson, acknowledging the work of DOORS (Diocese of Ontario Refugee Support) and highlighting that the Diocese is a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH). Most recently, the Bishop has signed six agreements. It is

important that the three levels of government work with the community partners. A discussion ensued as to the best Christian response to in-coming refugees.

### **Approval of Minutes October 27, 2015 Meeting**

#### **MOTION:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Minutes of October 27, 2015 be accepted as presented.**

**EROGERS/MRICE**

**CARRIED**

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

-nothing

#### **Canons and Governance Committee**

**Ken Healy**

- the Committee met Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, Ken provided a review of the notes from that meeting acknowledging the Minutes had not been approved. It was generally agreed that the Canons are in compliance but the Committee continues to assess gaps; a visual aid would illustrate how the Canons fit into the overall plan of the Diocese; document management needs improvement in order to better share information. Next meeting is scheduled for Dec 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Covenant Celebration Team Update**

**Doug Green**

- a draft for a website is underway, working with Mark Hauser; next meeting Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>; the new regional dean for Quinte Deanery, Bram Pearce, will be on the Team.

#### **Finance Committee**

**Wayne Varley**

- Update: Financial position as of end of October 2015

(Operations, Hyanto, Bookroom)

Outlook for Year End 2015

- Wayne spoke to results of the financial statements ending October 2015; the unaudited financial statements for indicate Camp Hyanto is trending toward another significant loss and wit the Church Bookromm there is likely to be a modest loss.
- The budget's year end is on track however bearing in mind the \$25,000 gift to General Synod cannot be certain until the year end for Camp Hyanto and the Church Bookroom is known.
- Clergy Benefits Recovery Transition Plan Finance Committee's draft letter for Parish leadership was presented. Each parish will receive their individual cost.

#### **MOTION:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Synod Council approve the Clergy Benefits Cost Recovery Transition Plan to be implemented January 1, 2016.**

**WVARLEY/EROGERS**

**CARRIED**

**Church Bookroom Study Update**

**Eleanor Rogers**

- Eleanor noted an interim report has been received. Eleanor extended thanks to those who participated in the focus groups. Preliminary input from the groups reveal a desire to maintain the Bookroom however it requires some major changes, namely by significantly reducing its inventory and reconfiguring the space within the Bookroom. A final report is expected early 2016 with a goal of the Bookroom not being in deficit.

**Diocesan Center Study Update**

**Wayne Varley**

- Finance Committee continues to review the needs of the Diocesan Centre; the Committee has met with real estate representatives, Queen’s School of Urban & Regional Planning (David Gordon), etc., and believe adequate collection of data has occurred. A report is expected in the first quarter of 2016 with recommendation for the future of the Diocesan Centre.

**Consent Agenda**

- No items

**Other Business**

- no other business

**Devotion Leaders for January, February and March Meetings**

**Bishop**

February – Voila David  
March – Wayne Varley

**Meeting Evaluation and Next Meeting Focus**

- the evaluation was circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting; Synod Council members were invited to return their evaluation to the DEO
- Focus for next next meeting: CMM – Michael Rice will be in contact with Alex Pierson

**Adjournment**

**CMorris/DGreen**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday January 26, 2016 6 pm**

**Christ Church, Cataraqui**

**Devotions: Rev. Sharon Dunlop**

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**Bishop**

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**Secretary**

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**Date**