

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO SYNOD COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016
CHRIST CHURCH, CATARAQUI 6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Attendance: Don Davidson, Alex Pierson, Wayne Varley, Christine Downey, Anne Patterson, Haroldine Neil-Burchert, Audrey Doliszny, Brenda Hobbs, Doug Cowley, Al Danford, Doug Green, Michael Rice, Don Bailey, Nancy Beale, Voila David, Valerie Kelly, Charles Morris, Roy Conacher, Sharon Dunlop, Robin Jones, Viren Oogarah, John Secker

Regrets: Bishop Oulton, Heather Grimshaw

Chair: in the Bishop's absence Dean Don Davidson will chair.

Opening Devotions:

Al Danford

Advent reading from Isaiah 11:1-4 and Mark 1:3 - John the Baptist, *prepare the way of the way*.
A prayer for the meeting.

Since this is a newly formed Council, the Chair invited members to state their name.

Agenda Review and Adoption

Chair

MOTION:

MReid/HNeil-Burchert

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

Chair's Remarks and Bishop's Update

Chair

- On 20 November 2016 the service of Ordination & Installation of Canons was held. Rev. Trish Miller was ordained to Holy Orders; John Morrison was ordained to the Vocational Diaconate. Rev. Dr. Barbara Robinson was installed to the Canonry of St. Hilda; Rev. Peter Case was installed as a Canon to The Cathedral of St. George, to the Canonry of St. Francis of Assisi. The Rev. Michael Rice of Christ Church (Belleville) has been elected Regional Dean for Hastings Deanery.
- A Celebration of New Ministry was held for Rev (Canon) Rod BrantFrancis and Rev Lisa BrantFrancis on Sunday, November 13 at All Saints Parish in Tyendinaga.
- Diocesan Day of Prayer – Saturday, Nov. 26

Approval of Minutes of 20 October 2016 Regular Meeting**Chair****MOTION:****VKelly/ADoliszny****BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of 20 October 2016 be accepted.****CARRIED****Business Arising from the Minutes**

-nothing

Introduction/Overview of Synod Council Governance**Wayne Varley**

Wayne led Council in identifying their participation in the church as a means of making the connection between the governance of the church and the diocese. As a Diocese, we seek to serve with others; the Church governance is episcopal-led and synodically-governed.

Wayne identified Canon A6 – membership of Synod Council; duties & responsibilities. Canons are the mode by which to follow in carrying out synodical decisions of Synod. The existing Canons take precedent in any considerations as the revised Canons still need Synod approval.

Quorum is 10 voting members/non-ex-officio members; meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month (Jan-June & Sept-Nov).

Election of Vice Chair and Executive/Advisory Group**MOTION:****CMorris/APatterson****BE IT RESOLVED THAT Dean Don Davidson be elected as Vice-Chair.****CARRIED**

CANON 3 - EXECUTIVE BOARD - According to Canon 3 there shall be a standing committee of Diocesan Synod Council to be known as the Executive Board. The membership of the Board shall consist of: The Bishop, who shall be chair of the Board and who may designate another member of the Board to chair a meeting in the absence of the Bishop; two (2) voting members of Diocesan Synod Council elected by Diocesan Synod Council; and two (2) members appointed by the Bishop.

MOTION:**MRead/DCowley****BE IT RESOLVED THAT Don Bailey and Charles Morris are the two Synod Council representatives that become part of the Executive/Advisory Group.****CARRIED**

CANON 5 - TRUSTS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE – according to the Canon, “There shall be a standing committee of the Diocesan Synod Council to be known as the Trusts and Property Committee. Membership of the Committee shall consist of: The Chancellor or in the absence of the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor; The Diocesan Executive Officer. The Diocesan Financial Officer; up to six (6) members elected from Diocesan Synod Council. Two members of Synod Council, Charles Morris and Don Bailey, have agreed to join the Trusts & Property Committee

Synod 2016 – Discussion & Follow-up

Alex Pierson

Alex acknowledged the Minutes of Synod stating they captured the essence of Synod. He thanked Archdeacon Nancy MacLeod for her excellent Synod summary. An on-line survey for those in attendance at Synod will be available shortly. The Agenda Planning Committee will be having a “debriefing” to ensure smooth running of Synod 2018.

Alex reminded Synod Council of the Motion at Synod with regards to CMM and the Bishop’s recommendation that the Finance Committee start looking at CMM once again.

Governance & Canons Committee will continue its work with Robin Jones & Christine Downey joining the Committee.

Vision & Strategy Committee will continue to help steer Synod Council.

Camp Hyanto Board is working on its Vision and Strategy; the next “Gate” to pass is at the January meeting.

Discussion on how to inform Synod members of clarification of procedural rules.

MOTION:

MReid/CMorris

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the co-chairs of the Synod Agenda Planning Committee, Nancy MacLeod & Andrew Chisholm, be acknowledged by letter of thanks.

CARRIED

Consideration be given to the boxed lunch [with lots of plastic wrap] at the Synod lunch following the Green Groups message of care of the Earth.

Doug Green spoke on behalf of the Mohawk Territory and the Parish of Tyendinaga: the Parish leadership took time on Sunday to share with the congregation the events of Synod, it was noted that the Parish of Tyendinaga was well represented and they were proud to be in attendance. Doug noted, in particular, the theme of Reconciliation and its importance to the Mohawks. On

behalf of the Mohawk Territory and the Parish of Tyendinaga, Doug extended very grateful thanks to be such a major part of Synod.

Question pertaining to the arranged seating for Synod at The Four Points. Alex clarified that with fire and exit regulations, when there are over 200 people in the room the set-up cannot occur in any other way.

Finance Committee

Alex Pierson

October Unaudited Financial Reports

There are no financial statements due to Synod and with the replacement of Ruth Caswell, Joyce Williams formerly of Collins Barrow, is still learning. Alex noted that as of September-end the Diocese is trending towards projecting a surplus. Bearing in mind the Operating loss for Camp Hyanto will be over \$100,000 at year's end; the voluntary proportional Gifting of parishes to the Camp is approximately \$35,000 leaving approximately an \$80,000 deficit the diocese is required to assume. It remains to be seen whether the gift to the National Church will be negatively impacted. As last year, information of parish/congregational financial health will to be shared in *Dialogue*.

2017 Remuneration Rates Clarification

John Secker

An error in the previous 2017 Remuneration Rates sent to Parishes was noted. The first 18,000 km is set at .61 cents; beyond 18,000 km the rate drops to .24 cents however it was listed at .41 cents.

MOTION:

MRice/CMorris

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2017 Remuneration Rates conform with previous practices.

CARRIED

Vision & Strategy Update

Vision & Strategy Team

Alex and members of the Committee shared the following: the Vision & Strategy members are on Synod Council: Nancy Beale, Wayne Varley, Doug Cowley, Michael Read and Alex Pierson. They met after Synod to review the form handed out at Synod entitled, "*What would you do?*" Forty responses were returned. Highlights: people want to get engaged and indicated what they want to do, some having more than one area of interest; good representation across the Diocese. The Committee is attempting to categorize the areas of interest. Those who responded will get a thank you e-mail. The information will then be sent to respective representatives. One main identified priority is to investment in technology. As well as much energy around regional councils. Regional deans will begin conversations to establish representation from Synod Council and the Regional Deans Committee recognizing the need for regional flexibility. The consultation process will occur over the next two years in regional councils. These regional

councils will provide a forum for discussion on items such as: the CMM structure; with the Bishop's Marriage Council. Clergy Days will resume. The new Human Resource policy is being worked through as well as up-grading the Employee Assistance Program. Where the T&D Committee can increase personal and professional development of clergy. The regional councils will also serve as a forum for the Bishop's discussions. Ideally, there would be quarterly meetings. Canons Committee needs to be included once the structure of the Regional Councils is created as Canons need to be established.

Covenant Celebration Team Update

Doug Green/Christine Downey

Thanks were extended to Audrey Doliszny and Michael Read who put together the Synod Social following the opening Eucharist. There are more parishes entering the covenant process; two more grant applications have been received. The Team continues to hearing back from grant recipients, i.e., St. John (Bath) is running a bereavement counseling program. Mark Hauser's videos were highlighted as very successful and well done. Thank you to Mark!

Consent Agenda (no items identified)

Other Business January Meeting – Agenda Items

-none

Meeting Evaluations – handed out

Agenda items:

- new Hyanto Board;
- Action Item Register for Synod Council to track action for monthly review as a governance practice;
- the Diocesan Office moving is the end of January;
- Archives Paul Banfield (Archivist) recommends closing Archives on Dec 15/16 and to re-open later.
- Farewell party 90 Johnson
- Annual levee?

Adjournment: Audrey Doliszny moved adjournment at 7:30pm

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 24 January 2017 6 p.m.
Location: Christ Church, Cataraqui
Devotions: Audrey Doliszny