



THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

115 CHURCH STREET, FREDERICTON NB E3B 4C8

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

Adopted 23 May 2020

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DIOCESAN COUNCIL

22 Feb 2020

St Mark's Church

Parish of St George

St George, NB

Pre-meeting circulation

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes (Nov 30, 2019)
- Letter from the Primate
- Documents pertaining to the Dissolution of the Parish of East Saint John
- Greater Chapter Missional Action Reports
- Standing Committee Reports: Finance, and Human Resources
- Team Reports: Mission and Outreach, Spiritual Development, Stewardship and Financial Development, and Youth and Intergenerational Ministry
- December 2019 Draft Financial Statements
- December 2019 Camp Medley Draft Financial Statements
- December 2019 Shared Ministry and Pension and Bonus Assessments
- Reports from Camp Medley Director, Parish Development Officer, and YIG Director

Members Attending

David Barrett, Eric Beek, Perry Cooper, David Edwards, Geoffrey Hall, Brent Ham, Susan Jack, Chris Hayes, Lionel Hayter, Mary Anne Langmaid, Siobhan Laskey, Bob LeBlanc, Coralie Losier, Rob Marsh, John Matheson, Michael O'Hara, Keith Osborne, David Peer, Matt Pitman, Ted Quann, Paul Ranson, Joni Richardson, William Ross, Cheryl Young.

Member Regrets

Kathy Asch, David Bell, Roderick Black, Ken Brien, Linda Fury, Heather Harris-Jones, Cathy Laskey, Robert Taylor.

Guests

Shawn Branch, Robbie Griffin, Cheryl Jacobs, Rosemarie Kingston.

Eucharist

1. The Bishop celebrated the opening Eucharist. In his reflection on Matthew 17:1-9, the Bishop noted that this reading is one of two where God identifies Jesus as the Son with whom he is well pleased and is significant because it echoes the coronation symbols in Psalm 2 and marks Jesus as the fulfilment of the Law and Prophets.

Call to Order

2. Bishop Edwards called the meeting to order at 10:56 and welcomed Council members. He acknowledged that the land on which the Council gathered is the traditional unceded territory of the Passamaquoddy, the Abenaki, and the Wabanaki Confederacy people. He noted the regrets of council members.
3. The Bishop introduced the Agenda for the meeting and asked if the live report from the Companion Diocese team could be moved earlier to complete before lunch.

MOTION 1: Susan Jack / Rob Marsh

That the agenda be approved as circulated and amended.

MOTION 1: Carried.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

4. Diocesan Council reviewed the minutes of the last Diocesan Council meeting.

MOTION 2: Joni Richardson / Bob LeBlanc

That the minutes of the Nov 30, 2019 Meeting of Diocesan Council be adopted as presented.

MOTION 2: Carried

Business Arising

5. **New Members.** The Bishop welcomed new members appointed at our last meeting to Council and also Susan Jack, who joins council as Chair of the Finance Committee.
6. **Revised Meeting Dates.** The Bishop highlighted the change in date for the last Council meeting in 2020. The Villa Madonna was not available. He also noted that Secretary will a rolling list of proposed meeting dates out one year.

Correspondence

7. The Secretary of Synod reported that he had received a letter from the Primate thanking the Synod for the Synod's letter outlining its work in November.

New Business

8. **Election of the Lay Vice Chair of Council.** After the Synod the position of Vice Chair became vacant. DC elects a vice Chair from the Lay membership of council.

MOTION 3: David Peer / Rob Marsh

That Diocesan Council appoint Susan Jack as Lay Vice Chair of Diocesan Council.

MOTION 3 Carried

9. **Executive Committee.** After each Regular Synod, Canon Four 17(1) requires the Diocesan Council to appoint an Executive Committee. We currently have the requisite minimum of 12 members equally divided lay and clergy. The Lay Vice Chair (who is also Chair of the Finance Committee) should be on the Executive Committee. To add the Lay Vice Chair and keep the balance between clergy and lay we need also to appoint a cleric

MOTION 4: David Peer / Rob Marsh

Moved that Diocesan Council appoint the following members of Council to the Executive Committee: Lay member – Susan Jack and Clergy member – the Ven. Perry Cooper

MOTION 4 Carried

10. **Parish of East Saint John - Dissolution.** This is the first voluntary dissolution of a parish under the revised **Anglican Church Act**, The Bishop informed the Council that as the Act requires, this is at the request of the parish corporation after having consulted parishioners. the Diocesan Council may order that the parish corporation be dissolved, and that the property held by the parish corporation vest in the Synod or as the Diocesan Council orders and subject to any trust that the Diocesan Council may declare.

MOTION 5: David Peer / Keith Osborne

That the Corporation of the Anglican Parish of East Saint John be dissolved and that, pursuant to s. 7(15) of the Anglican Church Act 2003, the Bishop issue a Memorial of Dissolution accordingly.

MOTION 5 Carried

MOTION 6: David Peer / Keith Osborne

That, on dissolution of the Anglican Parish of East Saint John, all assets of the parish corporation vest in the Diocesan Synod for use as the Bishop shall direct.

MOTION 6 Carried

Companion Diocese Team Reports

11. Robbie Griffin, Chair of the Companion Diocese Team, accompanied by Cheryl Jacobs, a member of the team, presented an update on a project to purchase a Mobile Medical Unit for the rural region on the Diocese of Ho. The project is a joint effort between the Diocese or Fredericton, the Diocese of Ho, the Ho Teaching Hospital, the Grand Manan Rotary Club, and Rotary International. It is an exciting project to address a high priority concern of the region. Partnering with Rotary will significantly increase the financial resources available for the project and ensure that the project is self-sustaining. Robbie briefed council on activities during the recent companion diocese visit in January and other efforts to build the partnership with Rotary and establish project requirements and milestones. Robbie requested that Diocesan Council commit the Diocese to support the project by endorsing and coordinating a fund-raising campaign to raise the \$40,000 needed from the Diocese to complete the project.

MOTION 7: Susan Jack / Paul Ranson

Moved that the Diocesan Synod support the Companion Diocese mobile medical clinic project for the Ho/Volta Region, including Synod coordinating publicity and collection and receipting of funds, to raise approx. \$40,000 CDN, with the assumption that the project is approved for Rotary funds multiplication.

MOTION 7 Carried

Lunch Break

12. The Bishop adjourned the meeting for lunch at 1200 and offered grace for the meal. The Bishop called the meeting back to order at 1300 with prayer and then thanked the team from the Parish of St George for providing the meal and refreshments.

Faith Formation

13. Shawn Branch provided a reflection on what it means to have a missional lifestyle. Shawn reminded us that we are called to be a people of HOPE in a world desperate for HOPE. When we put our trust in Jesus and let Jesus lead us we can bless our neighbours. Shawn closed by calling all of us to pray for guidance on how Jesus might be leading us to bless our neighbours and bring HOPE to the world.

Reports to Council

14. The Bishop asked for a motion to receive the Greater Chapter Missional Action reports, the Committee and Team Reports and the Representative Reports.

MOTION 8: Mary Anne Langmaid / Rob Marsh

That the Diocesan Council receive all reports.

MOTION 8: Carried

15. The Bishop asked if anyone had any questions on the reports, there being none he called on Susan Jack, chair of the finance committee to provide a financial update to council. The Treasurer is out on sick leave and her report to council is unavailable.
16. Susan noted that the financial reports in the pre-meeting circulation were the most recent available and that she anticipated that the Treasurer would provide updated reports to council at the next meeting. Synod Financial staff briefed the Finance Committee on financial transactions in January and February and no concerns were identified. Shared ministry support was at 87% and employment & pension bonus assessments were at 100%. Financial staff anticipates the shared ministry numbers should improve now that shared ministry amounts have been finalized. Susan also noted that the year-end financial statements included in the package received by Diocesan Council were not yet final as there are still a few outstanding entries to be made.

Synod Office Move Update

17. The Secretary of Synod briefed council on the latest status on the initiative to find new office space for the Synod. The potential of finding office space in Christ Church Parish Church has been reviewed and rejected because the option provides no cost savings and limited flexibility for the future. The Synod office is now exploring the potential of a joint project with the Cathedral on Synod property. The project is in very early stages. The Secretary of Synod intends to follow the same processes as parishes for real property transactions. At the highest level the project is proceeding with the assumption that it should not increase the cost of Synod office space nor require Synod to expend funds not already allocated in the budget or available from the sale of current property. Project solutions that require additional funding will be brought to Diocesan Council for approval.

Finance Committee Roles and Responsibility Summary

18. The Secretary of Synod briefed council on the proposed changes. The Chancellor drafted the document and the Finance Committee approved the revised Roles and Responsibility Summary at their Sep. 2019 meeting with the intent of informing Diocesan Council at this meeting. The roles and responsibilities document does not have a statutory origin, however, it reflects the current mandate being exercised by the Finance Committee, which includes extra functions for Diocesan Business expressly permitted by Canon Four, s. 18(1). Acceptance of the summary document by the Diocesan Council authorizes the Finance Committee to perform functions beyond the committee's canonical mandate as expressed in Canon Five – Diocesan Business. The summary does not change what the Finance Committee is doing; it puts it on firmer footing. The Chancellor's proposed changes reduce the repetition in the previous version, making it more concise. The meeting package contains both the existing and the proposed text.

MOTION 9: David Peer / David Barrett

That Diocesan Council approve the Roles and Responsibilities document from Finance Committee.

MOTION 9: Carried with two objections (Joni Richardson and Siobhan Laskey)

Diocesan Representative to the Board of Governors of AST

19. Canon four, s.21 on Educational Functions gives Diocesan Council the responsibility to establish and affirm the relationship with AST. The Diocese of Fredericton is a Founding Party of the school and appoints two representatives to the Board. We appoint two governors; this appointment is for the second position, which is currently vacant after the death of Rev Jim Appleton, and is up for renewal this year.

MOTION 10: David Peer / Geoffrey Hall

That Thomas Nisbett be appointed to the ministry of diocesan representative on the Atlantic School of Theology Board of Governors for the term July 1st, 2020 to June 30th, 2023.

MOTION 10: Carried

Lenten Retreat

20. The Bishop asked Cheryl Jacobs to remind council members of the Lenten Retreat at the Villa Madonna. The Bishop will lead two 24-hour sessions: Friday-Saturday 6-7 March and Sunday-Monday 8-9 March. Registration is now open online. Spaces are available for both sessions, but more spaces are available for the second session.

Next Meeting

21. The next Diocesan Council meeting will occur Saturday, May 23rd, 2020. The Secretary will arrange a location and notify Council before the meeting. The location will be in the Fredericton area to coordinate with the Bishop's pilgrimage route, once it is determined.

22. The meeting schedule for the next year is below

2020	2021
Saturday May 23 Saturday Sept 26 Friday Dec 4 to Saturday Dec 5	Saturday Feb 20

Adjournment

23. The Bishop asked for a motion to Adjourn.

MOTION 15: Bob LeBlanc

Moved that this meeting of Diocesan Council be adjourned.

24. The Bishop closed the meeting at 1337 with prayer and all members said the Grace together.

Respectfully submitted,

The Right Rev David Edwards
Bishop and Chair

The Rev David Peer
Secretary of Synod