

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO
SYNOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY JUNE 28TH, 2022 @ 6 PM
VIA ONLINE**

Present: Bishop Michael Oulton, Alex Pierson, Wayne Varley, David Selzer, Robert Porter, Lynn Mitchell, Pauline Eskerod, James Young, Joseph Burnham, Aveleigh Kyle, Barb Gilbert, Bill Clarke, Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Trish Miller, Richard Hetke, Brianna Donnelly, Noel Henry, Jane Kirkpatrick, Lay Secretary

Regrets: Peter Cory, Garth Allen, Jeff O'Hare

Guests: Wayne Wilson, Judy Elms, Al Teale (St. George's Trenton)

1. Opening Devotions

Bishop Oulton

Bishop Oulton opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Agenda Review and Adoption

Chair

The agenda was adopted after moving the St. George's Trenton presentation to follow approval of the minutes.

3. Chair's Remarks and Bishop's Update

Bishop/Chair

The Bishop announced appointments: Dean Doug Michael begins at the Cathedral on Aug 15; his installation service is on Sept 11. The Rev. Canon Lynn Dillabough begins at Christ Church Cataraqui on Sept 1. Alex Pierson, Executive Officer, has been appointed Executive Officer to Provincial Synod; he will continue to serve as the Diocesan Financial Officer. Archdeacon David Selzer will assume the position of Diocesan Executive Officer Pro Tem on Sept. 1. Diocesan staff attended the Ontario Provincial Conference on Theological Education, led by Archbishop Colin Johnson and Susan Graham Walker. Planning is underway for a focused Vocational Conference in the fall. This will focus on a move away from cookie cutter model of education to a model of developing program around the individual.

4. Approval of the Minutes of May 2022

Chair

MOTION:

Lynn Mitchell/Bill Clarke

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF MAY 24th, 2022, BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Chair

There was no business arising.

6. St. George's Trenton – Ministry, Mission and Profile Team

L. Mitchell and

Lynn Mitchell introduced the Wardens of St. George's: Wayne Wilson, Judy Elms, Al Teale. They made a Power Point presentation on St. George's Trenton. Their presentation outlined how St. George's dealt with a financial situation discovered in 2018, then went on to highlight the parish's current mission and ministry programs.

They acknowledged Diocesan technology grants aiding their road back, as well as the Stewardship Program which allowed them to engage the services of M&M International Consulting. Their viability plan was interrupted by COVID but is resuming in the fall with 2 initiatives, "Giving our Thanks and Praise" + "I Intend..." This plan will be presented at the September meeting.

Lynn Mitchell left the meeting at 6:35 (to make a presentation at the Strawberry Social).

7. Covid 19 Pandemic Status

Chair, DEO, AMP

We are carrying on with Diocesan Green guidelines.

8. Finance Update and 2023 Budget Update

DFO

Alex Pierson walked through the distributed financial statement (January to May), available on the Council website. He feels that the Operating Fund is tracking slightly better than projected in the 2022 budget.

Reflecting the Diocese's desire to reduce its dependence on CMM income, that portion of the revenue budget is down about 10%.

2 real estate transactions will close in July: Flinton, and Lyndhurst

The Adolphustown Cemetery sale is still in negotiations.

Projections for 2023 were reviewed, noting an upcoming Diocesan Synod next year will add to expenses.

About 25 people attended the Priorities Consultation Session held on June 25th. Alex listed some of the suggestions and requirements from parishes. The meeting will be uploaded for viewing, and input will be welcome until the end of July.

9. Synod 23

Bishop

160th Provincial Synod will be held May 26 to 28 (Pentecost Sunday), 2023 at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour.

Bishop Susan Bell has been asked to spearhead the program with the theme "The Mission of the Church." Archbishop Anne Germond will be celebrant at the service on Sunday.

10. Ministry and Program Update

AMP

Wayne Varley reported that there is a student working for the summer, helping with DOORS and the Archives. 2 REACH grants have been approved: St. Thomas Belleville for Food Ministry, and St. Mary Magdalene Napanee for development of an arts and recreation centre.

11. Stewardship and Congregational Development Update

Trish Miller

We are sharing stewardship resources with parishes as requested. Job templates for putting together stewardship team are available. Many parishes are looking for the ideal fundraising project; there is therefore a big educational component needed on contemporary stewardship practice.

Bishop Oulton thanked the committee for the wellness survey.

12. Worship Committee

Lynn Mitchell

There was no report.

13. Consent Agenda

Chair

Nothing brought forward

- **Other Business**

Bishop

Bishop Oulton reviewed Synod Council membership, noting an immediate need for a new member, and that upcoming will be a need to replace members rotating off Council at the next Synod. He asked for suggestions of names he could approach.

The Bishop is delaying his vacation at this time, but still intends to attend the Lambeth Conference at the end of July/first of August.

14. Input for September Agenda

Bishop

Please submit to office.

15. Online Meeting Evaluations

Bishop

Please fill out the on line evaluation; comments are read and do influence the meeting construct.

16. Adjournment and Grace

The meeting adjourned on motion of James Young and ended with the Grace at 7:32pm

Date of Next Meeting: September 27th 2022 at 6 pm. (Hybrid format).

Bishop Michael Oulton, Chair

Jane Kirkpatrick, Lay Secretary

Date