

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO
SYNOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2023 @ 6 PM
VIA HYBRID**

Present:

Bishop Michael Oulton, Alex Pierson, Wayne Varley, David Selzer, Pauline Eskerod, Barb Gilbert, Douglas Michael, Lynn Mitchell, Noel Henry, Bill Clarke, Aveleigh Kyle, Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Peter Cory, Russ Grant, Richard Hetke, Joseph Burnham, Maureen Butler, Robert Porter, Jane Kirkpatrick, Lay Secretary

Regrets: James Young, Jeff O'Hare

Guests: Canon Peter Case, Colleen Lowrie, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Mike Lindsay, Michael Read

Opening Devotion

Dean Douglas Michael

Nowruz Mobarak – Farsi (Bless this new day): celebrated a good news story from his former parish. Story about bringing a family to Collingwood, and how other churches and organizations joined to make it happen. 6 families arrived, and 6 other Kurdish families came from other communities. Last week, this little Kurdish community was able to celebrate its new year. Reading from John 4 To do the will of Him who sent me. Planting a seed, reaping its harvest, planting anew.

Agenda Review and Adoption

Chair

No additions

Chair's Remarks and Bishop's Update

Bishop

It has been a sad time for many, received notifications of several deaths: Rev. John Uttley, Canon Jim Scanlon, Marjory McGrory (mother of Lynn Dillabough). There has also been good news: Bishop Peter Mason celebrated 55 years as ordained priest on Sunday, Wayne Varley celebrated 35 years yesterday, Rogerio de Assisi will be appointed a priest associate at St. Lawrence Brockville. Rt. Rev. Francisco da Silva (Brazil) begins a sabbatical with us on May 1. If there are opportunities within your parish, please invite Francisco. Please continue to pray for the diocese and the nominees for the upcoming episcopal election.

Approval of the Minutes of 28 February 2023

Chair

MOTION:

Doug Michael/Bill Clarke

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of 28 February 2023, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Business Arising

Chair

None

Sisters of St. John the Divine Appeal**Archbishop Fred Hiltz**

The Archbishop made a presentation on the work of the Sisters of St. John the Divine. He noted their ministry of hospitality, providing a guest house (only one left from those across the country) for those who study, meditate, take retreats. The Home for the Heart Appeal is to refurbish its primary guest house. 2.7m goal; 1.4m raised so far. Reaching out to Ontario dioceses and 700+ associates over Easter. Bp Michael suggested that consideration be made of the request and that it be placed on the April agenda. Doug Michael and Lynn Mitchell to work on a draft motion for Synod.

Audit Report**Canon Peter Case/Colleen Lawrie**

Colleen Lawrie reviewed the audit report (housed on Synod Council Meeting Documents site). Questions were posed and answered.

Peter Case reported on the activities of the Audit Committee, leading to the recommendation that the audit be presented to Council.

Management letter has been issued regarding improving controls of year end cut offs.

MOTION:**Bill Clarke/Noel Henry**

Be it resolved that the Synod Council receives the Audit Committee Report and approves the 2022 Consolidated Financial Statement as presented by the Auditor.

CARRIED**Anglican Foundation Grants:****1. St. James Anglican Church, Kingston****Mike Lindsay**

Application and information in premeeting package.

MOTION:**Lynn Mitchell/Russ Grant**

Be it resolved that Synod Council approves the application of St. James, Kingston for its foundation project.

CARRIED

Letters from the Bishop and Synod Council Secretaries will be forwarded to the Anglican Foundation of Canada.

MOTION:**Russ Grant/Joe Burnham**

Be it resolved that Synod Council provides St. James, Kingston permission to approach their lending institution to borrow up to \$335,000.

CARRIED.**2. St. Lawrence Anglican Church, Brockville****Michael Read**

Application and information in premeeting package.

MOTION:**Lynn Mitchell/Doug Michael**

Be it resolved that Synod Council provides St. Lawrence, Brockville permission to approach their lending institution to borrow up to \$195,000 for Phase One of the project.

CARRIED**MOTION:****Trish Miller/Doug Michael**

Be it resolved that Synod Council supports the application for St. Lawrence, Brockville for its accessibility project.

CARRIED

Letters from the Bishop and Synod Council Secretaries will be forwarded to the Anglican Foundation of Canada.

COVID 19 Pandemic Update**Bishop**

No updates, we are in the green stage of our plan. We recognize that COVID is still at large.

Property Update**DFO**

There are a couple of offers on the table for a number of properties: Flinton has been re-listed, Ompagh is available for sale, Waupoos listing is in process, Frankville hall awaiting offer with possible listing in April.

Tamworth to be deconsecrated, there is community interest in using the facility however options limited as the church surrounded by graves.

Agreement with BAO and municipality on Adolphustown. Proceeding to mediation with PEC (St. Andrew's, Wellington). Awaiting transfer of title on 3 Adelaide.

Insurance: awaiting documentation from AON.

Ministry and Program Update**Wayne Varley**

The Green Group is hoping to be at next meeting. They will provide seedlings at Synod.

Reach Grant: approved \$5000 grant to Christ Church Cataraqui for food/music project.

Wayne expressed gratitude for the work of the Worship Committee.

Stewardship & Congregational Development Update**Trish Miller/Russ Grant**

Stewardship Committee will have a table at the Synod; please submit requests for information and the Committee will have them present.

Worship Committee Update**Lynn Mitchell**

Renewal of Vows service is set for March 31.

Lynn commended the work of Hilary Rice who is creating a frontal and appendium for the Synod service. The Electoral Service is almost ready, high approval from

Archbishop Anne. Prayers being prepared for worship during Clergy Retreat.

Worship at Synod with emphasis on Pentecost including readings in multiple languages.

Finance Update**DFO**

3-year financial framework underway, consultation sessions. Thursday first consultation session, re: priorities. Second session in April; pre-synod meeting early May. All sessions will be recorded and available. Three areas: income (CCM), spend (churches, shared ministry, beyond our borders), creation and innovation.

St. Paul Administrator Report**David Selzer**

Report included with premeeting package.

Consent Agenda

There were no items.

Other Business**Bishop**

None

Input for April Agenda**Bishop**

SSJD Appeal

Green Group

Please submit agenda items for next month's agenda to the DEO.

Online Meeting Evaluation

Bishop

Please fill out the online meeting evaluation forms.

Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 25 April 2023 @ 6 pm online

Devotions: Alex Pierson

The last meeting of this Council will be in May, the Bishop would like it to be in person, with a reception.

Motion to Adjourn

Doug Michael

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with the Grace.

Bishop Michael Oulton, Chair

Margaret Johnston-Jones,
Clerical Secretary