



SYNOD COUNCIL
Tuesday, 26 November 2024
St Mark's Barriefield and Online

Minutes

Present:

Dean Doug Michael, Chair, David Selzer, Alex Pierson, Tony Ashworth, Brad Beale, Barb Gilbert, Mary Haigh, Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Angela Kelman, Aveleigh Kyle, Susan Orgill, Anne Striker, Susan Withers, Margaret Johnston-Jones (Honorary Clerical Secretary), Jane Kilpatrick (Honorary Lay Secretary).

Regrets: Bishop William Cliff, Michael Read, Rebecca Michael, Wayne Varley, Noel Henry, Jeff O'Hare, Robert Porter, Cathy Seymour, Greg Best, Elizabeth Matthews

Guests:

The Ven. Bill Clarke, Susan Everett, Jann Van Vugt

1. Opening Devotions

Margaret Johnston-Jones

The Beatitudes as written in The Cotton Patch Gospel by Clarence Jordan.

2. Agenda Review and Adoption

Motion to approve:

Moved by: Anne Stricker

Seconded by: Susan Withers

CARRIED

3. Chair's Remarks and Bishop's Update

Bishop/Chair.

The Bishop is recovering well from his surgery, please continue to hold him in our prayers.

4. Approval of Minutes 22 October 2024 Meeting

Chair

Moved by: Tony Ashworth

Second by: Sue Orgill

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Survey from 22 October

DFO

Deferred to later in meeting.

5.2 SSJD Gift from Diocese - \$30,000

To date the Diocese has collected \$10,000+ with another \$4000 pledged towards our \$30,000 commitment made in 2023.

Asbestos has been found in the guesthouse which will increase their costs. Bill Clarke and Sylvia Dopking are continuing to raise funds for the guesthouse. Dec. 19 is the next wardens, treasurers, clergy meeting suitable for Bill to give a presentation. A package of information will be prepared, reminding /informing parishes of the Synod motion, what the project is about and the need to honour our commitment. Information was sent in July and September to clerical and lay synod delegates re: Synod 2023 pledge and will be followed up on in eNews.

6. Synod 2025

Barb Gilbert

Synod Planning Committee met last Thursday. Contract with Queens finalized and to be signed soon.

Synod Council received the following names:

6.1 Nominating Committee

Bill Clarke, Sylvia Dopking, Al Danford, The Rev John Lavelle, Susan Withers.

6.2 Canons Committee

Chancellor coordinating canons committee.

6.3 Resolutions Committee

Robert Stewart and Wayne Varley.

7. St George's Cathedral Property Development Susan Everett/Jann Van Vugt

A Summary of their presentation was submitted and is in the supporting documentation on file for this meeting. The purpose of this committee is to determine how to sustain St. George's as an inner city congregation. Susan and Jann outlined the consultations and congregational meetings to date. Currently, the Committee is looking at options to move forward given that the Cathedral footprint means there will be no new building on the property.

A first initiative will be the opening of a tearoom in January 2025, primarily for seniors in the congregation and community, the intent being to foster social contact.

8. Committee Updates:

8.1 Mission and Ministry

8.1.1 Reach and Stretch Grants

David Selzer

AD David Selzer reported on behalf of AD Wayne Varley

Reach Grants:

Christ Church Cataraqui – seeking a \$2500 grant to conduct a series of workshops on hospitality.

St. John's Madoc – seeking a \$5000 grant to help access grants make parish hall more accessibility. Looking for \$200,000 in grant funding and the reach grant will assist the parish in applying for this funding.

St. James Kemptville – seeking a \$2400 grant towards ongoing studies re: evangelism and lay reader training.

A 4th Reach grant request for funding to develop reconciliation guidelines was turned back with a request for more definition of their plans.

Next intake date – depends upon 2025 budget.

8.2 Property Update

DEO

8.2.1 Consideration of land rental and severance for Christ Church, Gananoque

Briefing report received from Christ Church, Gananoque, requesting authorization to proceed with severing a piece of land adjacent to neighbours. Letter is in meeting documentation.

Discussion:

It takes 2 years to sever land, so the CC Corporation wants to lease the land to the the neighbours until the process is completed at \$5000 per year. Points raised by Synod Council members:

Does removing a piece of the property affect the church property. Has there been a valuation of the land in question?

Would it be a better long-term solution for leasing only rather than selling?

Are the wardens caught in being made to sell to be a good neighbour?

Council recognizes situation and supports the wardens.

Should Chancellor give his opinion on this?

Council needs more information – what does the parish feel, value of church, what will be on the piece of property, property rights – entanglement with neighbour might put off a sale of both properties.

MOTION: to defer this matter to the January Synod Council meeting.

Made by: Angela Kelman

Seconded by: Anne Striker

CARRIED

8.2.2 Consideration of sale of land to Habitat for Humanity (Marmora)

Habitat for Humanity has written asking the Diocese to exercise the Memorandum of Agreement previously signed. The Bishop feels we have a moral obligation to fulfill the MOU. However, there are some questions about the description of the lot in question, the land designation, required rezoning. Habitat for Humanity's letter refers to the property as 8 Bursthall (former rectory); it is in fact 4 Bursthall.

currently "Community" Letter from Habitat for Humanity refers to land being 8 Bursthall (which was the former rectory). The lot in question is 4 Bursthall.

MOTION: that this Council executes the MOU, noting that the property lot is #4 Bursthall.

Made by: Susan Orgill
Seconded by: Angela Kelman

CARRIED, 1 Abstention

8.2.3 Adelaide Street

3 Adelaide St. Kingston lease (Providence) expires at the end of November: We are looking for a new tenant, while the current tenant is in the final stages of moving out. Congregation (Good Shepherd) continues to use on Sundays. Looking for a new tenant, preferably in the community service or mission space. Recent issues raise security and potential safety concerns, copper piping stolen, fence broken, building damaged. Neighbours cooperative in keeping an eye on the building. The Diocese is bearing the costs for the building.

8.2.4 2025 Budget Compensation

According to CPI for Ontario:

Stipend grid increase	2.0%
Salary grid increase including shelter	3.0%
Housing allowance based on shelter	4.4%

Milage CRA rate for 2024:

\$0.68 to \$0.70 for first 5000 km

\$0.62 to \$0.64 for after 5000

Motion 1: Be it resolved that Synod Council approves the 2025 stipend and salary grids (2.0% and 3.0% increase for COLA).

Moved: Tony Ashworth

Seconded: Susan Withers

CARRIED

Motion 2: Be it resolved that Synod Council approves 2025 housing allowance guidelines (4.4% increase). The baseline will now be \$31,315 (up from \$29,995 in 2024)

Moved by: Tony Ashworth

Seconded by: Angela Kelman

CARRIED

Motion 3: Be it resolved that Synod Council approves 2025 mileage reimbursement rate be moved to 70 for the first 5K and 64 there after

Moved; Tony Ashworth

Seconded: Angela Kelman

CARRIED

Motion 4: Be it resolved that 2025 Sunday Supply Clergy Rates reflect a 3% increase and be set at:

\$92 for the first service no sermon

\$185 for first service with sermon

\$48 for each additional service on the same day

\$34 per hour for Pastoral and Administrative work (Interim PIC)

Mileage Rate for Supply ministry is set at \$.64/km.

Interim Priests receive the same rate as Incumbents for mileage

Moved: Tony Ashworth

Seconded: Angela Kelman

CARRIED

8.2.5 Budget Considerations

DFO

If we stay on the path we are on we can anticipate a \$200,000 deficit

Potential actions as per the survey distributed last month:

Increase synod delegate fee to cover full cost

Importance of balanced budget

New revenue and new fees to offset operating costs

Reduce cathedral grant

Charge legal and HR to churches

Reduce funding to DOORS

Alex reviewed how we can reduce the deficit to \$45,000 by leveraging our current operations.

Potential fees	\$90,000	
Payroll	45,000	1%
PAG	12,000	1%
Synod delegate fee	11,739	
Doors Holding fee	5,000	
Increased archives fees	6,000	
Algoma payroll fee	10,000	1%
Total	89,739	

CMM is 20% assessable income.

Council supported Alex proceeding with development of the 2025 budget following the options he put forward.

8.2.6 Anglican Foundation

DEO

The Foundation, which has provided significant grants to the Diocese, has requested that the Diocese make an annual membership commitment to the AFC at the Benefactor Level (\$500 to \$999)

Motion: Be it resolved that the Diocese give \$1000 annually to the Anglican Foundation.

Moved: Tony Ashworth

Seconded: Susan Orgill

CARRIED

9 Consent Agenda (no items identified)

10 Other Business

Chair

Question re: insurance

DFO Alex had a meeting with Ecclesiastical, replacement cost coverage has increased by 5%; premium rate not yet decided on. As of now HUB is our broker; this move will save us about \$24,000.

11 Online meeting evaluation

Chair

12 Adjournment and Grace

Led by Chair

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm: by Tony Ashworth

Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 10 December 2024, 6:00 pm

St Mark's, Barriefield and online