

SYNOD COUNCIL Tuesday 16 April 2024
St Mark's Barriefield and Online
268 Main Street, Kingston
Minutes

Present:

Bishop William Cliff, Alex Pierson, Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Wayne Varley, Douglas Michael, Angela Kelman, Susan Withers, Anne Striker, David Selzer, Jane Kirkpatrick, Noel Henry, Robert Porter, Barb Gilbert, Mary Haigh, Aveleigh Kyle, Elizabeth Matthews, Brad Beale.

Guest: Colleen, auditor, Wilkinson & Co.

Regrets: Jeff O'Hare, Tony Ashworth, Susan Orgill, Cathy Seymour, Rebecca Michael.

1. Opening Devotions **Doug Michael**

The Dean told a story of the multiplication of lunches at a primary school in Johannesburg. If called to do something God will provide. God is real. He inspires.

2. Agenda Review and Adoption

Motion to adopt agenda.

Moved by: Doug Michael

Seconded by: Noel Henry

Carried

3. Chair's Remarks and Bishop's Update

Bishop/Chair

In parishes week to week, enjoying himself immensely. Wolfe Island in am and Collins Bay in afternoon. In Brandon to attend Rachel's consecration.

4. Approval of Minutes 27 February 2024 Meeting

Chair

Errors/omissions: Angela Kelman was present. Spelling of Tyendinaga corrected.

Motion to approve: Jane Kirkpatrick

Seconded by: Doug Michael

Carried

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

6. 2023 Audit Presentation and Approval

Audit Committee

Auditor appointed by Council – Wilkinson & Co. Colleen presented the 2023 audit. New this year, was the owning of Bishop's house and its mortgage. Overdraft has come down. 2023 better financial year than previous year.

? – liquidity risk – normal for all organizations. Yes.

? – funds holding for parishes and cemetery appeared lumped together. They are separated in office but lumped together in audit.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2023 Audit be approved.

Motion to approve: Robert Porter

Seconded by: Noel Henry

Thanks expressed to diocesan staff.

CARRIED

7. Committee Update:

Ministry and Program Update

Wayne Varley

Follow-up to Feb meeting. On May 1 four Reach and three Stretch grants will be considered. Robin Jones has vetted the applications. Stretch grants are more stringent than Reach grant applications, looking for partnerships and building on future.

DOORS – have dealt with 15 applications so far this year, 11 moving forward. Required application fee submitted and 50% of funds available.

Fed. Gov't notes fewer settling in more rural context; however the availability of suitable resources, language training and transportation must be considered.

New pilot program – Economic Pathway Program – target displaced refugees who have more skills, no language barriers, desire to work. Queens working on displaced academics. Prospective employers required to hire and \$5000 fee for refugee and family. DOORS are so pleased to have Bishop William's support.

8. St. George's, Trenton Administrator Report

Nancy Beal

Written report in pre-meeting package. Anne – thank you for the help and support.

Probable - a slate of officers presented and request to come out of administration at May meeting.

9. Property and Legal Update

DFO

Waupoos – placed on hold; don't own the cemetery, therefore municipality will take it over. Once PEC receives cemetery, licence will be transferred.

Possible having seminarian student placed here for summer ministry (June-July-August), May and September for clergy. Building needs work, shower needs to be installed, parish hall could be used as a 2-bdr cottage. Now up to parish to agree to this plan and invest \$20,000. Archdeacon Beale to meet with Mayor. Proposed for summer 2025.

According to Canon law – all property belongs to the diocese. The church/diocese has been collecting funds for plots and care, which will be transferred to PEC upon the approval of BAO.

Disposition of Christ Church, Cataraqui – decommissioned at parish's request. Church building heritage protected. Negotiating with Cataraqui Cemetery to take the building.

St. Mark's to remove top 1/3 of tower \$300,000.

Legal –

Three active actions underway:

One discovery hearing in Oct. 2023 (insurance coverage in place)

One claim made in Oct/SOC received in Jan (insurance coverage being worked/timing of which company)

Notice of new claim received in Feb. (insurer notified)

Proposed settlement for litigation with PEC (Wellington)

10. Finance Update

DFO

Discussion with Algoma on Shared Services continues

- 2023 closing and audit completed
- Q1 management statements being prepared and will be presented at next Synod Council
- Upgrading our Azure (Cloud) environment
- Summer student funding applications made; awaiting notification on outcome in the next couple of weeks.

2024 Insurance:

Billing and documents being sent out this week.

Included in the March statements to parishes (going out this week)

Invoices include a 5% top up for the deductible reduction fund (max of \$1K)

Average Invoice \$7,511

Median invoice \$4,710 Largest 60,000 smallest 3200

Total billed to parishes \$556,626

Billed to diocese \$32,914

Every church has same cost for liability insurance.

Bishop has raised \$29,000 of the \$50,000 deficit to date.

11. Consent Agenda (no items identified)

12. Other Business

Bishop

Be It Resolved, that Synod Council approve the electrical upgrade needed for St. Mary Magdalene, Napanee, to be paid for by the parish Green Group. Electrical service needs to be increased to 600 amp from 200 amp. Came to Synod Council as it requires a permit.

Moved by: Susan Withers

Seconded by: Angela Kelman

CARRIED

13. Online meeting evaluation

DFO

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Noel Henry

15. Grace

Led by Bishop

Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 28 May, 6:00 pm

St Mark's, Barriefield and online

May Devotions – Wayne Varley