



SYNOD COUNCIL
Tuesday 25 March 2025
St. Paul's Kingston and Online

Minutes

Present:

Bishop William Cliff, Greg Best, David Selzer, Alex Pierson, Wayne Varley, Dean Doug Michael, Brad Beale, Barb Gilbert, Mary Haigh, Sandra Hounsell-Drover, Angela Kelman, Aveleigh Kyle, Jon Lavalley, Susan Orgill, Michael Read, Anne Striker, Susan Withers, Jane Kirkpatrick (Honorary Lay Secretary), Margaret Johnston-Jones (Honorary Clerical Secretary)

Guests: Laurel Dempsey

Regrets: Tony Ashworth, Noel Henry, Elizabeth Matthews, Rebecca Michael, Jeff O'Hare, Cathy Seymour.

1. Opening Devotions

Jane Kirkpatrick

Reflection on the Annunciation, by Rev. Dr. Jarred Mercer of Merton College, Oxford was shared.

2. Agenda Review and Adoption

Agenda approved by consensus.

3. Chair's Remarks and Bishop's Update

Bishop/Chair

Bishop William presented a list of events he has participated in, Mission in Westport, Lenten Reflections, Provincial Meetings, National House – Bishops provide names to General Synod, General Synod may request more names, if General Synod can't decide then the House of Bishops must elect someone, Episcopal Election in Diocese of Moosenee tomorrow, Rod BrantFrancis is a candidate, Tyendinaga Evensong this coming Sunday, also teaching LTh. courses.

4. Approval of Minutes 28 January 2025 Meeting with corrections. Chair

Correction: Angela Kelman and Mary Haigh noted as being present when both were absent.

Moved by: Aveleigh Kyle

Seconded by: Doug Michael

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

6. Synod 2025 Update

Barb Gilbert/Michael Read

Agenda for Synod

Question re: workshops: 4 workshops will be available four times throughout Saturday to allow for all to attend each workshop. Dr. Scott Gunn, Evangelism in the post-Christian era, Archbishop Chris Harper, Truth and Reconciliation, Capt. The Rev. John VanStone, Human Trafficking, LAM, Engaging the Community.

Motion: Be it resolved, that Synod 2025 agenda be approved as circulated.

Moved by: Michael Read

Seconded by: Barb Gilbert

CARRIED

Notices of Motions

Canon 1.2

DEO

Synod Planning Committee must receive notices 35 days prior to Synod.

Nominations

DEO

Nomination forms in premeeting package along with Deanery's which have vacancies.

Question re: who is on Synod Council currently and length of terms. It was suggested that individuals follow-up directly with David Selzer.

7. Anglican Foundation Grant Approvals

DEO

Three approvals per diocese each year or one large grant for diocese.

Summer Fruits for Souls

Laurel Dempsey

See premeeting package. Applying for a \$15,000.00 grant. Application deadline is April 1.

Motion: Be it resolved, that Summer Fruits for Souls be permitted to apply to Anglican Foundation for a \$15,000.00 grant.

Moved by: Sandra Hounsell-Drover

Seconded by: Angela Kellman

CARRIED

Pending Approvals:

Bancroft, information only: Renovating parish hall for community feeding station. Accessibility will be the largest cost. This is a community focused project. Russ Grant has requested a large (\$50,000) 2026 grant.

DOORS, information only: DOORS is requesting a large (\$40-50,000) 2026 grant. This is the 30th anniversary of Diocese of Ontario involvement in refugee support.

The Diocese endorses a project, only one approved by the Foundation.

8. Historic Designation - Stirling

Bob Wright

Canon Bob Wright asking for Historical designation for St. John's Stirling. This should make it more possible to get grants. St. John's Stirling was designed by the same architect of the House of Commons during the same time frame.

Why? Historically significant building; frees up granting opportunities.

Motion: Be it resolved, Synod Council permits The Rev. Canon Bob Wright to pursue investigation of historical designation for St. John's Stirling.

Moved by: Brad Beale

Seconded by: Angela Kellman

CARRIED

9. Committee Updates:

a. Property Update

DFO

Ecclesiastical Insurance on average 3% increase. Continuing to work provincially with a consultant to try to build out 2026 renewal options.

b. Finance Update

DFO

Diocesan Leadership working on how to increase income/decrease expenses to meet 2025 budget as approved.

Audit report should be available for Synod Council's April meeting.

BAO requests that each cemetery trust fund be individual trust funds. Other dioceses as well as ours are attempting to continue with a diocesan cemetery trust fund.

Investment fund portfolio statement planned for April Synod Council.

Detail work on 3-year financial plan continues.

For Synod 2025: Review historical (2020-2024) trends to plan for future.

Churches are asset rich but cash poor. Looking at strengthening church finances. Plan to use Summer Finance Student, if funding approved.

Question: CMM is estimated can it be moved to an actual?

One option: Submit "green sheet" (financials) by midyear or Diocese will get information from CRA and then submit a bill to the parish for 20% of the parish's income to Diocese as CMM.

Training session re: green sheets requested.

Question: is there a simplified form for CMM?

c. Mission & Ministry

Wayne Varley

Recently, as an ACC representative Interfaith Committee of Chaplaincy – Millhaven review. OPCOTE session last Friday, shared the diocesan's donation to LTh program.

"Graduating more Anglicans than who come into seminaries." Robert Stewart studying at Huron, doing field education at Gananoque and Rockport.

Covenant to raise \$30,000 for SSJD, Christ Church Gananoque have raised \$1000.00.

10. Consent Agenda (no items identified)

14. Other Business

Bishop

Parish of Kitley, have to replace floor. Require building permit from the township.

Motion: Be it resolved, that Synod Council approves the Parish of Kitley obtain a building permit.

Moved by: Angela Kelman

Seconded by: Aveleigh Kyle

CARRIED

Nancy Northgrave will be serving in Mistissini for a month. Robert Stewart will be doing a 6-week placement in Milford, two weeks with Nancy then covering the parish while she is at Mistissini.

15.Online meeting evaluation

Bishop

16.Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm: by Aveleigh Kyle.

17.Grace

Led by Bishop

Date of Next Meeting:

**Tuesday 29 April 2025, 6:00 pm
St. Paul's, Kingston and online
Devotions: Alex Pierson**