

Diocese of Rupert's Land
Diocesan Council

MINUTES (as amended)

March 21, 2015

St. Margaret's Church, Winnipeg

Present = Y Regrets = R Absent = A (*) = *ex officio* (a) = *appointed*

Y	Bardsley, The Ven. James*	Y	Maweje, The Ven. Godfrey*
Y	Blanchard, The Rev. Jonathan	R	Norman, Mrs. Patricia
Y	Braid, Mr. E. Arthur*	Y	Pawling, Mr. Gordon*
Y	Bruce, The Rev. Michael	Y	Phillips, The Rt. Rev. Donald*
Y	Carlson, Mr. Sean (a)	Y	Relf, Mrs. Donna Lee
Y	Cook, Mrs. Ellen V.	Y	Silk, Mr. Ian
Y	Dolloff, The Rev. John (a)	Y	Sisson, The Ven. Jennifer*
Y	Dugan, The Ven. James*	R	Slipetz, Ms Willie
Y	Elliott, The Rev. Dr. Brad	Y	Solomon, The Rev. Vince
R	Fortier, Ms Roselyn	Y	Thagard, Mr. Dan
Y	Hunter, The Rev. Deacon Helen	Y	Trott, Dr. Christopher* (Warden St. John's College)
A	Ingram, Mrs. Barbara	R	Webster, Ms Tannis
Y	Jackson, Mr. Gary	Y	Wedlake, Mr. Bob* (Secretary of Synod)
Y	James, Dr. June	Y	Whitmore, The Rev. Judith
Y	Ives-Lewis, Mrs. Diane		
R	Johnson, The Very Rev. Paul*		
Y	Kennedy, The Rev. Helen		Staff:
Y	Kennedy, The Rev. Dick	Y	Funk, Mrs. Bernice – Director of Finance
Y	Lysecki, The Rev. Mary	Y	Suppes, Mrs. Susan - Secretary
Y	MacDonald, The Rev. Deacon Lynn		

The meeting commenced at 9:30 am with the Bishop in the Chair. Worship was led by Sean Carlson.

Diocesan Council Minutes of January 17, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the meeting of January 17, 2015 be approved as circulated.

L. MacDonald/M. Lysecki

Carried.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of February 17, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee of February 17, 2015 be received.

J. Dugan/D. Thagard

Carried.

Business arising from the Minutes:

- a) Manitoba Interchurch Council on Hydropower: The Executive Committee reviewed the recommendation for funding for the Interchurch Council and the Executive Committee passed a resolution for Council's consideration.

MOTION: THAT \$1000 be provided to the Interchurch Council on Hydropower from the Diocesan Council Project budget line; and that the Interchurch Council be asked to prepare an article for the Rupert's Land News; and that information be made available to parishes with an opportunity for members of their congregations to respond.

Carried.

The Executive Committee also invited Ellen Cook to be the official Anglican representative on the Interchurch Council on Hydropower (ICH). Vincent Solomon, who is a member of the Council (representing Mennonite Central Committee) indicated that Rupert's Land has been involved since the 1970's. This is part of the on-going work of reconciliation of the Diocese through the Interchurch Council. Bishop Don indicated consideration should be given to having this as a budget line in future budgets as this grant from the Diocesan Council project line is not sustainable. It was also asked if the ICH display could be used at an upcoming diocesan event. The travelling display is available for loan by contacting Ellen Cook or the other co-chair. The ICH will be exploring having its own website; a link on the diocesan website would be in order.

- b) Compensation Committee: The Executive Committee has recommended two motions concerning compensation matters as noted in the February minutes.

MOTION: THAT the Diocese of Rupert's Land adopt two levels of vehicle allowance, plus the casual travel for the Diocese, (rather than the current three level vehicle allowance) as follows:

H. Kennedy/

- i) for the first 5,000 km driven
- ii) km's driven thereafter and casual travel for the diocese

Carried.

MOTION: THAT as of March 1, 2015 reimbursement for kilometres driven be paid at the following rates:

G. Maweije/

- \$0.43 per km for the first 5,000 kms driven
- \$0.38 per km driven thereafter
- Casual travel for the Diocese at \$0.35 per km

AMENDMENT: AND THAT reimbursement for travel entirely within Ontario be paid at an additional \$0.02 cent per km for the first two categories of travel.

J. Bardsley/ J. James

Carried.

The MOTION as AMENDED was put and CARRIED.

The motion reads as follows:

THAT as of March 1, 2015 reimbursement for kilometres driven be paid at the following rates:

- \$0.43 per km for the first 5,000 kms driven
- \$0.38 per km thereafter
- Casual travel for the Diocese at \$0.35 per km

AND THAT reimbursement for travel entirely within Ontario be paid at an additional \$0.02 cent per km for the first two categories of travel.

The Executive Committee also considered a recommendation from the Compensation Committee regarding a policy for Meals and Lodging. The Executive Committee has a recommendation to the Council as follows:

MOTION: THAT the Diocesan policy for lodging and meals for members attending committee meetings be as follows:

H. Kennedy/

- Lodging: a maximum daily rate of \$100/night, plus applicable taxes;
- Meals: a maximum daily rate of \$45 (including taxes) for meals (with receipts required).

Carried.

- c) Anti-Racism Policy for the Diocese: The Executive Committee has recommended to the Bishop that a task force be established to study the Anti-racism Policy and Protocol of the Diocese of New Westminster and, in consultation with Church House, produce a report with recommendations to Diocesan Council.
- d) Memorandum of Understanding – re: Old St. Jude’s Church, Grand Marais: The Council was made aware that a MOU has been signed to turn over the church building of old St. Jude, Grand Marais to the RM of St. Clement. This is being done so that a group that wants to restore the building can do so, but that it is no longer the responsibility of the parish to maintain the church. The Executive Committee and Council expressed thanks to the Rev. Judith Whitmore and Mr. Gerry Miller for their tireless work to see this proposal come to fruition after nearly 6 years.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of March 10, 2015

MOTION: THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of March 10, 2015 be received.
D. Thagard/

J. Dugan
Carried.

A new member on the Compensation Committee is required due to the resignation of a lay member. Nominations were opened: Pat Norman was nominated. As there were no other nominations forthcoming, a motion to close nominations was put.

MOTION: THAT nominations close.

J. James/H. Hunter
Carried.

Pat Norman was acclaimed as a member of the Compensation Committee.

All other items contained in the report of the Executive Committee were elsewhere on the agenda.

Urban Indigenous Ministry Developer:

This item is being circulated for information. However, the Bishop indicated there has been a request for more work to be done on the job responsibilities section in the Job description, and that a revision be submitted to the Executive Committee. This has been passed along to the Dean who is coordinating this work.

Update on Faith Horizon 2015:

The Rev. Helen Kennedy has been appointed chair of the Faith Horizons Committee for 2015. Gary Jackson is a key member of the Committee. The Bishop has met with Helen and Gary and it has been decided that Kevin Lamoureux of the University of Winnipeg will be the Keynote speaker. Bob Baker, Ombudsman of the Provincial Justice Department, will meet with the four named above, along with Irma Fast-Dueck of Canadian Mennonite University, and Dr. Chris Trott, Warden of St. John’s College to further the discussion on the theme of reconciliation. Faith Horizons will be held on October 16 & 17, 2015, at Maples Collegiate, in the atrium. Kevin will tell the story of Canada to help educate and lead us in understanding what reconciliation means, and justice issues around this. The Bishop indicated that his hope is for some key members from Diocesan Council (Chris Trott and Vincent Solomon) to be part of the conversation.

Rupert’s Land News Funding Request:

At the January Diocesan Council meeting the Rev. Canon (now Venerable) Geoff Woodcroft presented a

plan for the Diocese to include the full net costs of the Rupert's Land News and Media Strategy to be integrated into Common Ministry and Mission funding. At the present time \$4000 was included in the budget, and it is hoped that donations would offset other expenses.

The formula for determining how this is put into place has not yet been devised. The Executive Committee has recommended that this be done as follows:

MOTION: THAT the full net cost of the Rupert's Land News be brought into the Diocesan Budget
J. Bardsley/ effective for 2016.

CARRIED.

Draft Unaudited Financial Year-end statements for 2014:

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council receive the draft unaudited Financial Year-end Statements for
G. Pawling / 2014.

Carried.

The Auditors are in at the present time reviewing all funds under the jurisdiction of the Diocese. The Balance sheet shows all of the various funds included in the statements. \$170,289 is the surplus. The Operating fund shows a surplus of \$29,848 of revenue over expenditures for 2014. Accumulated surplus to date: \$45,268. The Audited statements will come back to Council for approval in May.

Diocesan Budget 2015:

Mr. Pawling presented the revised draft budget for 2015. It is different from the one presented and approved by Synod because in November much of the information was based on best guesses and preliminary information. This draft is more accurate. The budget submitted to Synod showed a surplus of \$14,613. This budget anticipates a deficit of \$3,778. The Executive Committee and the Finance Committee are recommending this budget for Council's adoption. A further 'in and out' adjustment will be made to the trust income from the Anderson & McLaren trusts as the actual amount has been received from the Winnipeg Foundation. These are 'flow-through' funds and do not affect the bottom line.

MOTION: THAT the budget for 2015 be approved.

G. Pawling/

Carried.

Financial Statements to February 28, 2015:

Bernice Funk presented the year-to-date statements to February 28, 2015 for the operating fund. A motion to receive the statements was put. Because these were not ready in time for the Finance Committee, they are coming here first. It was reported that investment earnings have been calculated using 4%. The surplus to date is \$13,090. Investment earnings on all trust funds to date is 7.5% for the first two months of 2015. The total amount of investments held in all funds by the Diocese is \$5.9 million.

MOTION: THAT the financial statements to February 28, 2015 be received.

G. Pawling/J.James.

Carried.

The Bishop thanked Bernice Funk for preparing the year-end unaudited draft statements and for preparing for the audit.

The Theological Education Commission Report:

The Bishop welcomed, Mr. Paul Dick, Ms Kirsten Pinto-Gfroerer and the Rev. Allison Chubb who were in attendance to present the final report of the Theological Education Commission Report. Kirsten named the other members of the Commission who were not part of the delegation to present. She provided the background to the Commission, and presented the Executive Summary and recommendations. The report was prepared at the request of the Bishop and Warden of the College as a response to the suspension of the Faculty of Theology at St. John's College. The work had three foci, but it became apparent that a fourth focus would need to be addressed to enable the College in supporting church leaders in self-determining indigenous training.

After a fulsome presentation of the Summary and recommendations, questions were put and answered. The Commission was commended for the quality of the work it has done in this paper.

As a way to move forward, the Executive Committee has put a recommendation to the Council.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council receive, with grateful thanks, the report of the Theological
G. Maweije/ Education Commission; distribute it to relevant bodies; and request the Bishop to
work with the Commission to create the Working Group as outlined in Section 2, V.,
Recommendations.

The report will come back to Diocesan Council in May along with any feedback and commentary that is received. The College will look at lifting the suspension of the Faculty of Theology and consider the recommendation to form a Theological Commission. The Diocesan Council will also need to consider this.

Questions were raised about funding the position recommended in the report. This recommendation has not yet been considered. It will be important that the whole church own the importance of theological education. Many professionals require on-going continuing education for their professions; the church is one area where this is not mandated, but should be encouraged. As well, the idea of a robust theological climate is also for lay people, for their spiritual growth, for enrichment, discernment, and for on-going growing of disciples.

Spirit Path:

Jennifer Sisson gave some background to Spirit Path (formerly Waverley West), and explained that this proposal is the beginning of trying to formalize the ecumenical relationships that have been in existence to date. While Jennifer has been a part of this project, (Waverley West) it has been directed primarily by the United Church who put a full time person into this area for a three year term (being renewed this June).

The Executive Committee was not ready to recommend the commitment of \$25,000 to this program at this time, (in addition to the recommendation of a ¼ time position [currently Jennifer Sisson] for a Mission Researcher in Waverley West). The Executive Committee is recommending \$10,000 from the New Church Development Fund be put toward funding Spirit Path, to enable us to have members on the Advisory Committee. Most members were supportive of continuing involvement in this project, but until further information is known, not prepared to go all in with \$25,000. We will have to appoint persons to be part of the Advisory Committee. Once the Advisory Committee is formed, we may have an opportunity to make a further contribution to this ministry venture.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council receive the report on Spirit Path.
J. Sisson/G. Jackson
Carried.

The Executive Committee has made a recommendation to Diocesan Council concerning the extension of the Waverley West Mission Researcher position. Funding for this position would come from the New Church Development Fund.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council extend Jennifer Sisson's contract as Waverley West Mission Researcher at .25 time to June 30, 2016.

Carried.

Jennifer Sisson abstained from voting.

MOTION: THAT Diocesan Council make a contribution of \$10,000 (from the New Church Development Fund) for 2015 to Spirit Path and accept the invitation to appoint designates to serve on an Advisory Committee to discuss the future of this ministry and to bring a clarified proposal back to Diocesan Council by November 2015.

Carried.

Evaluations of 2014 Diocesan Synod:

Secretary of Synod, Bob Wedlake, prepared and presented this report on behalf of the Synod Agenda Committee. The Agenda Committee has full evaluations and has noted several areas where suggestions could be made for continued improvement. Overall, the synod experience appears to have been well received by the delegates.

MOTION: THAT the report on the Evaluation of Synod be received.

D. Thagard/M. Bruce

Carried.

Next meeting is on May 30, in Kenora. Members are encouraged to car-pool, either by contacting others for a ride or the Secretary of Council for coordination of vehicles.

With the time having expired and all agenda items considered, the meeting was adjourned.

22/03/15

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