

DIOCESAN COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Prepared by J. Roby, Diocesan Administrative Assistant

Friday, June 17th and Saturday, June 18th, 2011

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Diocesan Council was called to order by Bishop Sue Moxley at 7 p.m. at which time all were welcomed and a new members introduced.

This being the first meeting after the new Diocesan Council, Bishop Sue explained the role of the Council, how the numbering system works for documents and the importance of sharing the information with their Regional Councils/Parish.

MAJOR PRESENTATION: #1

Bishop Sue asked that the members refer to the Draft 2012 Budget and the documents related to the budget.

She provided a handout, "Budget Process Background", and took the members through it.

She introduced Allan Turner, Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee and Andy Carras, Chair of the Budget Sub-Committee who were presenting the budget.

It was noted that the 2012 Draft Budget was not yet balanced and it was the direction from Council that was needed to find the shortfall of \$60,000.00. After A. Carras presented information to assist members in making an informed decision regarding some of the options available to "find" this \$60,000.00 he was thanked for the information provided by the Budget Sub-Committee.

P. Flemming made a brief verbal report on the Finance Office work. He noted that the 2nd Quarter activity with the Auditors is completed; spoke briefly about the Pension Committee in Toronto that he attended; the Pre-Authorization Remittance work continues and everyone is trying to cover G. Redden's work while he is out on sick leave.

MAJOR PRESENTATION: #2

The Rev. Randy Townsend and his delegation from St. John's was welcomed as they were presenting the proposal for the new church which needed approval from the Diocesan Council.

Saturday, June 18th, 2011

Bishop Sue noted that the Diocese received a certificate from Diana Whalen, MLA, Halifax Clayton Park, who had presented a resolution to the NS House of Assembly acknowledging the 300 Anniversary of the Diocese.

Selma Doucet, our Anglican Foundation Representative reported that the Diocesan Archives and the Parish of Middleton have received their full request from the Foundation.

She also spoke about the new project, "Foundation of Hope Bear", which was presented at Synod and she is encouraging and promoting that all parishes endorse this project and purchase the Bear for \$20.00 supporting children in need through the funding. Diocesan Council has purchased one through the donations of Council Members.

Bishop Sue presented the Stewardship Commitment Document and after some discussion it was agreed that all the Council Members would sign and show their commitment. She would like this idea taken back to parishes for Parish Council Members to show their leadership in Stewardship in their own parish.

MAJOR PRESENTATION: #3

Bishop Sue introduced Patrick Hartling who conducted the Staff Review requested by the Diocesan Council in June 2010.

P. Hartling presented his findings to the Council Members and a question and answer time was held at the end of the presentation.

Copies of the Synod Resolutions were circulated as approved at Synod in May. These are also on the website. She noted that the Canons will be revised after the synod minutes are approved.

Bishop Sue made reference to the General Synod Resolutions which were circulated and will be going to the 2013 General Synod.

She noted that two items study documents are available: the Anglican Communion Process Study and documents from the Governance Working Group of General Synod which look at policy and Canons of General Synod and how we relate with the rest of the church around the world. These can be found on the General Synod website and need to be shared with the parishes and elected General Synod Delegates.

Discussion regarding the presentation from St. John's and their new facility took place. Diocesan Council requested additional information for the October meeting of Council before a decision will be made.

The ACW Ladies at All Saint's, Bedford were thanked for their hospitality.

Discussion took place regarding the 2012 Draft Budget which needed to be balanced and where cuts can be made to do this. It was agreed, after a great deal of discussion that the following areas would be cut: The Diocesan Medical/Dental Plan - \$25,000.00 from the present cost; Removal of the Employee Assistance Program - \$10,000.00; Reduction of General Synod contributions - \$30,000.00.

It was also agreed that the work being done by P. Hartling be finished in accordance with his contract in helping to facilitate the staff restructuring.

S. Naylor, the Archives, Bishop Ron and Bishop Sue's reports were received.

The date of the next meeting is October 21st and 22nd, 2011 at St. John's, Sackville.