

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

This report summarizes the actions of the Synod Council from the November 2010 Synod to the Synod Council meeting of October 4, 2011 inclusive. Seven meetings were convened. Attendance averaged 77.35%.

Membership

- all changes in membership were in accordance with Canon 1.9 and the election of members and alternate members by Synod in November 2010

Election and Appointments

- re-appointed the Regional Archdeacon of Brock as the Diocesan Administrator of All Saints Mission, Niagara Falls for 2011
- approved that the Diocesan Administrators, The Reverend Susan Wells, St. George's, Lowville; The Venerable Bruce McPetrie, Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Catharines; The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, St. Peter's, Hamilton; The Reverend Sue-Ann Ward, St. Hilda's, Oakville; pursuant to Canon 4.5, Section 7, terms be extended until December 31, 2011, subject to review by the Bishop and Executive Officer
- elected Mr. Jim Sweetlove as President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term
- elected Mr. Andrew Bucknall as Vice-President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term
- elected members of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation as follows: Mr. Gord Archbell (Jan. 2008 - Dec. 2011); Mr. Andrew Bucknall (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2011); Mrs. Judy Conning (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2011); The Venerable Lynne Marchant (Jan. 2008 - Dec. 2011); Mr. James Sweetlove (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2011); Mr. David Watson (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2011)
- appointed KPMG auditors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara for fiscal year 2010
- elected members of the Financial Advisory Committee for 2011 as follows: Mr. Mitch Banks, Mrs. Judy Conning, Mr. Stan Hatcher, Mr. Tim Huxley, Mr. Jim Higginson, Mr. Ian Pratt, Mr. David Ricketts, Mr. Fred Roach, The Reverend Jeff Ward
- elected members of the Audit Committee for 2011 as follows: Mr. Gord Archbell, Ms. Joanna Beck, The Reverend Dianne Distler, Mr. Jim Higginson, Mr. Gerald Jenkins, Mr. David Page, Mr. Ian Smith,
- authorized the following as signing officers: The Right Reverend Michael Bird, Diocesan Bishop; The Venerable Michael Patterson, Executive Officer; The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod; The Very Reverend Peter Wall, Dean; Ms. Joanna Beck, Diocesan Treasurer, Ms. Debbie Young, Assistant Treasurer
- required that the signature of one of the following must appear on cheques: the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, or the Executive Officer
- elected the following to serve as the Synod Council Coordinating Team; Brenda Brownlee, Dianne Distler, Ian Pratt, Peter Wall, Susan Wells
- appointed the Synod Council Coordinating Team to be the Provincial Synod Nominations Committee for the purpose of securing names for the ballot

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Election and Appointments (continued)

- accepted the resignation of The Venerable Dr. Rick Jones to the position of Secretary of Synod, effective February 15, 2011
- ratified the appointment of The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell as Secretary of Synod, effective February 16, 2011
- approved the removal of The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones as a Diocesan signing officer
- added the Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, Secretary of Synod, as a Diocesan signing officer effective April 5, 2011 and that the signature of one of the following must appear on all cheques; the Assistant Treasurer, or the Executive Officer
- ratified the appointment of Andrew Clinkard as the Mohawk Region alternate representative to Synod Council for the remainder of 2011

Policy Matters

- that annual vestry meetings be held by February 28, 2011 under Canon 4.1.4
- Synod Council be deemed to have considered an editorial change to Canon 1.9.1(l) whereby the Divisions of Ministry be changed to the elected members from the six (6) Diocesan Vision Petals groups

Parish and Property Matters

- approved the recommendation from the Financial Advisory Committee to cash in the entirety of the rectory funds of the disestablished parish Christ Church, Nanticoke to pay the 2009 and prior outstanding debt
- approved the request from St. Columba's, St. Catharines to borrow up to \$25,000 from its Rectory Fund to facilitate the replacement of the furnaces for the Parish Hall
- authorized the Secretary of Synod to conduct an electronic poll on timely property matters prior to the April 5th meeting date
- authorize the Corporation of Church of the Nativity to list the rectory located at 42 Owen Place in Hamilton for \$299,900 or any figure that is greater and to sell the same in consultation with Synod Council for no less than \$270,000
- authorized the Diocesan Solicitor to review and approve the contract between Holy Trinity, Fonthill and Niagara Peninsula Energy
- approved that the Corporation of Holy Trinity, Fonthill continue to proceed with the purchase and installation of a 10kW solar power roof system under the Micro-Fit tariff program offered by the Ontario Power Authority pending review of contract by Diocesan Solicitor
- authorized the Diocese of Niagara to provide a letter of comfort on behalf of the Corporation of Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Fonthill to secure a better interest rate from the Royal Bank of Canada as required by the parish for this project
- approved that the Church of the Nativity be allowed to split the proceeds of the sale of the rectory such that the Endowment portion of the Rectory Fund (sale proceeds) are capped at the higher of \$270,000 or the actual net proceeds for the sale
- approved that the excess of the sale proceeds balance be used to a) reduce the current rectory loan to nil and b) increase the restricted portion of the Rectory Fund

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Parish and Property Matters (continued)

- authorized the Corporation of St. Alban's, Grand Valley to proceed with the process of transferring the cemetery and Cemetery Trust Fund to the Township of East Luther Grand Valley
- authorized the Diocese of Niagara to provide a letter of comfort on behalf of the Corporation of St. James Anglican Church in Dundas to secure a 5 year fixed mortgage for \$100,0000 at a rate of Prime +0.25% with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce
- authorized the Corporation of The Church of Our Saviour The Redeemer, Stoney Creek to proceed with the demolition of the rectory located at 23 Lake Avenue South
- approved provisionally the solar project at St. George's, Lowville, subject to the following conditions:
 1. a successful engineering report
 2. approval of the contract and financing by the Vestry of St. George's, Lowville
 3. written consent from ANiC to borrowing from the rental income account
 4. a written undertaking by ANiC to assume all contracts and debts if the court determines they own the property (to be drafted in consultation with the Diocesan Solicitor)
 5. receipt of a letter of comfort from the diocese upon fulfillment of conditions 1 to 4
 6. financing approved by CIBC
 7. approval of all documents by the Diocesan Solicitor
- authorized the Secretary of Synod to ensure these conditions are fulfilled before any contracts are signed
- authorized the Secretary of Synod to conduct an electronic poll on time sensitive property matters prior to the September 13th meeting date
- approved the sale of the rectory at 42 Owen Place in Hamilton for \$285,000 to the Ford Family to close on June 17, 2011 with no conditions
- authorized the Corporation of St. John's, Jordan to list the rectory located at 3685 McKenzie Drive in Jordan for a possible first listing price of \$370,000 and to sell the same in consultation with Synod Council for no less than \$330,000
- approved the sale of the rectory located at 3685 McKenzie Drive in Jordan for \$340,000 to Joseph and Lorraine Snihur to close on August 26, 2011 with conditions as noted
- approved the space use agreement between St. Stephen's, Hornby and Public Mobile Retail Inc. for the purpose of erecting a telecommunications tower for 20 years, as set out in sequential 5 year lease extensions, subject to the same conditions approved the Vestry of St. Stephen's, Hornby
- approved the sale of the rectory located at 30 Idylewyld Street, Fort Erie to Brooke Porter, for \$155,000.00, to close September 1, 2011, with the conditions noted
- approved the sale of a portion of the property, 0.1458 acres, located at 509 - 575 Lions Clubs Road in Ancaster to the City of Hamilton for \$800 to close on July 15, 2011
- approved a different portion of property for granting an easement, 0.1614 acres, at the same address to The City of Hamilton for the purpose of road repair for \$500 to close on July 15, 2011
- approved the Incumbent and Churchwardens of St. Paul's, Fort Erie to enter into a site use agreement under the terms of the Parish Licensing Agreement, as approved at the Vestry meeting July 17, 2011, with Meals on Wheels - Fort Erie for the term specified July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Parish and Property Matters (continued)

- approved St. Elizabeth Burlington vestry's request to borrow up to \$35,000 from the Rectory Fund to assist in making the church wheelchair accessible, on the condition that the loan be repaid within 10 years at 3% interest payable back to the Rectory Fund
- authorized the Secretary of Synod to support the endorsement of the application from St. Alban's, Glen Williams for St. Richard's Bridge to the Anglican Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$9,200
- supported in principle the intention of St. Luke's, Smithville to apply for the solar panels project to the Ontario Power Authority

Financial Matters

- received the 2009 Anglican Church Ministries Foundation Audited Financial Statements
- ratified the decision from the Insurance Subcommittee to accept the rates of \$0.325 for early warning system and \$0.365 for no early warning system for the year 2011
- ratified the decision from the Insurance Subcommittee to accept the Financing Option #3 presented to the Financial Advisory Committee to pay the premium over 90 days instead of 60 days.
- ratified the request from the Insurance Subcommittee to accept the renewal of coverage for the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation which is unchanged from 2010 at \$1,500 for policy and \$900 for Directors and Officers
- approved the Audited Financial Statements December 2010 as presented
- accepted the recommendation from the Compensation Sub- Committee to increase all pay grades on the minimum stipend scale established for parish clergy by 2.8% and on existing clergy housing allowances;
- accepted the recommendation from the Compensation Sub-Committee that a minimum 2.8% increase be recommended for all lay employees

Other

- approved the process for Provincial Synod nominations as presented

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod