



THE ANGLICAN SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of April 29, 2021 - Virtual meeting using Zoom platform.

EX OFFICIO

Bishop	The Right Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee
Chancellor	Bob Gill
Vice Chancellor	Vacant
Dean	The Very Rev. M. Ansley Tucker
Registrar	Nathan Lampard R
Lay Secretary	Canon Elaine Ellison
Clerical Secretary	The Rev. Paul Schumacher
Treasurer	Barbara Underhill R

ELECTED BY SYNOD

The Venerable Dr. Dawna Wall	The Ven. Clara Plamondon
Don Wilson	Michael Wolff
Joan Hoffman	Penny Holt
Ash Blair R	

ELECTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The Rev. Juli Mallet	Walter Stewart
The Rev. Heather Cutten	Lynn Schumacher
	Denise Ropp
	Ed Norman

APPOINTED

Boyd Shaw

STAFF

The Ven. J. Barry Foster, executive officer
 Gail Gauthier, finance officer
 Catherine Pate, communications officer
 Brendon Neilson, vision animator

GUESTS (with voice, no vote)

Canon Bob Brandle
 The Rev. Dr. Eric Partridge
 Tony Davis
 Andrea McCoy
 Kimme Russell

Faith in Foundation: Asset Management • Financial Resources • Effective Communication • Current Ministries
 • Shared and Remote Ministries

RENEWED **H**EARTS RENEWED **S**PIRITS RENEWED **P**EOPLE

Welcome, Opening Payer and Team Building

Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee opened the meeting at 10:01 AM and welcomed the members of diocesan council. The bishop thanked the members of council for joining in this virtual meeting on the Zoom platform.

Bishop Anna offered an opening prayer taken from the writings of Catherine of Sienna. The bishop presented a power point presentation referencing Susan Beaumont's book, *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going*. A copy of the bishop's presentation is appended to the minutes (Appendix 1).

Following the presentation, a brief period of discussion took place. Bishop Anna concluded this teaching moment by reminding council that we find ourselves in a time of change which may be threatening to many. We must remind ourselves that these are conversations we need to have, as a church, during this "liminal" time of being between the "no longer" and the "not yet."

The bishop then asked if there were any changes to the agenda:

- 1) The finance officer requested time to update council on the status of the Diocesan Year-end Financial Statements from the auditors. Bishop Anna added this item to the agenda under "Other Business."

Consent Agenda

Regrets for Absence - The clerical secretary noted the regrets for absence from this council meeting. There was one voting member absent, and one youth voting member of council absent. The clerical secretary declared that there was a quorum present.

Consent agenda approval (Appendix 2)

- 1) Receive the Diocesan Council minutes for the meeting held on March 25, 2021.

Finance Committee Items: 003-01

- 2) Receive the Finance Committee minutes for the meeting held on April 22, 2021, including:
 - a. Financial Statements and Reports for March 2021 as circulated.
 - b. Property Advisor's activity reports for March 2021.
 - c. Receive the "Phase Three" housing update from Dawson Heights Housing Society.
 - d. Approve transfer of the net December 31, 2020 net rental income earned from properties held in the Capital Assets Fund to the Operating Fund.
 - e. Approve the Finance Committee recommendation balance transfer between Capital Assets Fund and the Operating Fund to eliminate the balance offset between the two funds.
 - f. That Diocesan Council give approval for St John the Divine, Courtenay's request to withdraw up to \$88,000 from its unrestricted Comox Glebe fund for the building renovation.

- g. That Diocesan Council give approval for St Mary Magdalene, Mayne Island's request to withdraw \$1,834.51 from its Building fund, \$203.37 from its Cemetery fund and \$20,000 from its Reserve fund.

Resolved: *That the consent agenda be approved.*

MOVED BY: Don Wilson

SECONDED BY: Joan Hoffman

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Reports on Capital Projects

1) Dawson Heights Housing Society

The chancellor reported briefly regarding the annual meeting of the Dawson Heights Housing Society, which he attended. The finance officer indicated that finance committee and diocesan council will receive the finance documents for Dawson Heights Housing Society once they have been received by at the synod office.

2) Report of Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul, Esquimalt Affordable Housing Project and Ministry Centre

Bob Brandle, the diocesan property advisor, updated diocesan council regarding the collapse of the ministry center/affordable housing complex plans. This leaves the diocese with several items requiring attention:

- a) Demolition of the existing parish hall (under the longstanding [2010] demolition requirement of the Township of Esquimalt)
- b) Sub-division of the property
- c) Improvements to the church building to include washrooms, a kitchenette, office space, and other suitable improvements.

The property advisor indicated that the Township will not permit the long-term installation of any temporary structure on the property. The property advisor responded to several questions from council.

Lynn Schumacher, a member of diocesan council and a member of the Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul, told council that the parish feels a sense of relief in knowing that the project is not happening. The parish hopes that it can move forward with improving the church building to meet their needs. The bishop's input has been appreciated by the congregation.

Bob Brandle proceeded to introduce council to the "Guidelines for Capital Projects" document (Copy of the document is appended to these minutes as Appendix 3).

MOVED BY: Walter Stewart

SECONDED BY: Ed Norman

That diocesan council adopt the new guidelines for capital projects as presented by the diocesan property advisor.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Refugee Sponsorship Program – task force report to diocesan council

Brendon Neilson presented the task force findings to diocesan council. He noted for council that the staff members dealing with the refugee sponsorship program were present as guests of diocesan council for today's meeting.

A copy of the power point presentation (PDF) is attached to these minutes (Appendix 4). Following the task force presentation and recommendations to diocesan council, questions were responded to by the task force chair.

At 11:17AM, the bishop called for a ten-minute break. The refugee sponsorship staff-members left the meeting at this point. Council resumed discussion at 11:30 AM.

Many questions were brought forward by members of diocesan council regarding the number of applications being proposed and the sustainability of the two models of diocesan support of the program as an in-house program or as a 'stand-alone' program with diocesan support.

MOVED BY: Walter Stewart
SECONDED BY: Heather Cutten

That diocesan council, having received the report of the refugee task force, removes the restriction adopted at the February meeting and accepts the go-forward recommendation for 24 applications (96 people) to be submitted beginning in 2021. The sustainability of this number will be reviewed, yearly.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Ed Norman was opposed to approval of this motion.

Youth Forum

Bishop Anna reported to council that twenty youth from the diocese joined together on April 25th to talk about the future involvement of our diocesan youth in the life of the diocese. Through discussion, those in attendance by Zoom decided on a less formal manner of gathering together. They settled on an open forum style of meetings, four times a year, instead of a formal youth council. The bishop will be attending two of these meetings. The bishop indicated there will be future opportunities for the diocesan youth to make presentations to diocesan council. A copy of the report prepared by Bishop Anna, is attached to these minutes (Appendix 5).

Synod Preparations for May 29, 2021

a. Nomination Committee Report

Diocesan council received the nominations committee report prepared by the regional archdeacons (Appendix 6). Clarification regarding the members of the diocesan court was forthcoming from the bishop.

MOVED BY: Dawna Wall
SECONDED BY: Lynn Schumacher

That diocesan council accepts the report of the nominations committee for clerical and lay Synod nominees for provincial and general synod, to be elected during the regular meeting of diocesan Synod, May 29, 2021.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

b. Canons Committee Supplemental Report

The chancellor introduced several supplemental changes to the proposed Canon changes. These further changes are the result of the consultations held at each of the five regional meetings, during April 2021. The chancellor and the bishop responded to several questions from diocesan council.

MOVED BY: Bob Gill
SECONDED BY: Don Wilson

That the amendments to the Canons and Regulations set out in the CANONS COMMITTEE REPORT TO 100TH SYNOD be placed on the agenda of Synod for consideration by way of a consent agenda procedure, except for the proposed amendments to Canon 3 and Regulation 3.07, dealing with the size and meeting frequency of diocesan council.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOVED BY: Bob Gill
SECONDED BY: Dawna Wall

THAT the proposed amendments to Canon 3 and Regulation 3.07, dealing with the size and meeting frequency of diocesan council, be put forward for consideration as a separate agenda item at Synod.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOVED BY: Bob Gill
SECONDED BY: Heather Cutten

That diocesan council conduct an ongoing review and evaluation of the proposed amendments to Canon 3 and Regulation 3.07, dealing with the size and meeting frequency of diocesan council, if adopted, and report back to the 101st Synod with recommendations for their continuation or for further changes.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

c. Receiving of Regionally Elected Representatives to diocesan council (Appendix 7)

MOVED BY: Clara Plamondon
SECONDED BY: Juli Mallett

That diocesan council receive the report of the elected lay and clerical regional representatives to diocesan council May 2021 to the 101st regular Synod meeting (September 2022)

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED

Other Business

- 1) Grant Thornton Review Engagement of Diocesan Financial Report

The finance officer reported that the auditors are close to completing their report. Diocesan council will be asked to accept the report, upon its completion, by e-vote, as the report must be presented to the May 29th regular Synod for approval.

- 2) Next meeting date for Diocesan Council

Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 10 AM, on ZOOM platform.

Closing Reflection

The bishop thanked everyone in attendance for their commitment to the life of the Diocese. The bishop blessed the members of diocesan council.

Bishop Anna moved the conclusion of the meeting at 12 PM noon.

Next Scheduled Diocesan Council meeting
Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 10:00 am by ZOOM