

Minutes of the Meeting of the Diocesan Council

16 February 2008

Members Present: Lay: William Munn (Wabash Valley), Sharon Katona, Treasurer, Joni Carlson (South Bend), Marianita Porterfield (Calumet); Clergy: Dan Layden (Ft Wayne), Aune Strom (Michigan City), Richard Lightsey (Wabash Valley), Larry Biller (Elkhart), John Schramm (Secretary), and Edward S. Little II (Bishop)

Sent Regrets: Lay: Shirley Steele (Fort Wayne), Katie Craig (Elkhart), Peggy Guardiola (Michigan City); Clergy: Susan Haynes (South Bend), Carolyn Jones (Calumet).

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Little at the Diocesan Conference Room, at 1005, with a prayer.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report

The year 2007 ended \$17,240 in the black for the budgeted and a surplus of \$2976 in the non-budgeted. The report was received and approved as printed.

Millennium Development Goals

The Bishop suggested that with the disappearance in recent years of the social outreach committee, it ought to be reconstituted. Thus he has done, appointing Dcn Janice Miller as the chair, with representatives from each deanery. So the Bishop suggested that we wait to apportion MDG's until this committee can make recommendations. Council agreed.

Housing and Medical Resolutions

Council designated from the salaries of the following the IRS-required resolutions regarding Housing Allowances: Bishop: \$35,000 (housing); Canon: \$18,000 (housing); Vocations Director: \$3,000 (housing); Treasurer: \$500 (medical). This resolution was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

Communications

The Bishop's Secretary has had more responsibilities added to his portfolio than previously, so that he is really an administrative assistant. So the Bishop proposed a salary increase of \$1500 per year plus perquisites. It was suggested that it be taken from the communication budget. This was moved and seconded and passed.

Bishop's Remarks

A long conversation about health care took place and the Bishop said that a national Episcopal plan was due to be presented in a preliminary form to the House of Bishops' meeting in the spring.

The first CDI training session took place last weekend. This will be a two-year program, but new people could begin the sessions at the beginning of the second year. Representatives from nine churches of the diocese were present. Church / Congregational Development is the locus of much of the energy of the diocese now and the new Canon to the Ordinary is devoting much time and has the primary responsibility for it.

Deployment issues are still being dealt with. The Rev'd Tony Clavier is coming to LaPorte. The Cathedral has also chosen a new dean and that name will be announced tomorrow (February 17).

There being no other business, council adjourned with the Bishop's blessing at 1206.

Respectfully submitted
The Rev'd Canon John E Schramm
Secretary to Convention

Dates of next meetings:	April 19
	June 28
	August 23
	September 20
	November 15

Minutes of the Meeting of the Diocesan Council

28 June 2008

Members Present: Lay: Katie Craig (Elkhart), Bill Munn (Wabash), Joni Carlson (South Bend), Marianita Porterfield (Calumet); Joni Carlson (South Bend), Shirley Steele (Ft Wayne); Clergy: Carolyn Jones (Calumet), Susan Haynes (South Bend), Aune Strom (Michigan City), Dan Layden (Ft Wayne), Larry Biller (Elkhart), Dick Kallenberg (Finance Committee); John Schramm (Secretary), and Edward S. Little II (Bishop)

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Little at the Diocesan Conference Room, at 1005, with a prayer.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were approved as printed. The April meeting was cancelled.

Treasurer's Report

The report was received and approved as printed.

Lambeth Offering

Lambeth Conference has requested that each diocese contribute to the expenses of developing-world bishops to attend the conference. Northern Indiana could not afford the whole amount asked but council agreed with the Bishop and Dick Kallenberg that \$1500 be given. It was suggested that the money be taken from the contingency fund and overspend it by that amount. All agreed with the motion.

General Convention 2012

The convention will be in Indianapolis. It was suggested by the bishop that our diocese help with publicity and seek volunteers and appoint a couple of people to be on the development committee. Council approved this suggestion.

Millennium Development Goals

Council took up a recommendation from the Social Outreach committee regarding disbursements for the diocesan MDG goals:

“Our recommendation to Diocesan Council is to split the \$4977.96 evenly between the Diocese of Eldoret, Kenya, and the Anglican Agency for the Development of Honduras, giving \$2488.98 to each project.

“**A. Kenya:** The funds for the Diocese of Eldoret in Kenya are in response to a request from The Rev'd Paul Korir, Administrative Secretary for the diocese, writing at the behest of The Rt Rev'd Thomas Kogo, Diocesan Bishop. The funds will be used to assist many persons displaced in the post-election violence in Kenya rebuild their lives again. They intend to use the grant to buy food for returnees as they try to resettle in their original farms and to pay school fees for 20 children from very poor families.

“**B. Honduras:** Fr John Schramm advised us of the current project being undertaken by the Anglican Agency for the Development of Honduras (Aanglidesh—La Agencia Anglicana para el Desarrollo de Honduras): a sanitation project desperately needed in the village of Delicias del Norte near San Pedro Sula—the headquarters of the Diocese of Honduras. Our funds will assist the agency in building foot bridges across their river and decent latrines, in providing cook stoves that put less air pollutants in the houses, and in developing cleaner sources of water.”

Minutes of the Meeting of the Diocesan Council

20 September 2008

Members Present: Lay: Katie Craig (Elkhart), Peggy Guardiola (Michigan City), Joni Carlson (South Bend), Shirley Steele (Ft Wayne); Clergy: Carolyn Jones (Calumet), Susan Haynes (South Bend), Aune Strom (Michigan City); John Schramm (Secretary), and Edward S. Little II (Bishop)

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Little at the Diocesan Conference Room, at 1007, with a prayer.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report

The report was received and approved as printed.

CDI

The bishop suggested a new condition for parishes which receive an assessment reduction: the parish must send a team to the CDI program. It was moved and seconded that this be a policy position of the Council. The motion passed.

Assessment Reduction Petitions:

Elkhart, St John's

Sally Weaver, priest in charge, was present with the parish treasurer, Brock Weaver and Sr Warden, Brian James, to ask for a reduction of next year's assessment by about \$9838. The remaining assessment would represent about 15% of the projected income. There have been cut-backs in staff and a projected deficit budget. There has been significant income loss over the last couple of years. There is a lot of development work going on in the parish—youth, Sunday School, and new leadership for adult programs. A Saturday Evening Mass will begin at the end of this month. There is a new web site, too, thanks to a diocesan grant. The parish will be starting the process for a search committee for the next rector. It is expected that this request would not be repeated in the next year. The secretary will respond to sallysweaver@yahoo.com

Assessment Reduction Petitions:

Bristol, St John's

The parish was represented by the new priest-in-charge, Corinne Hodges, along with the parish treasurer, Bob Hartley, and Joe Bean, chair of the finance committee. The parish is requesting an \$8000 reduction, which amounts to about 50% of the requested. A lot of planning is going on and attendance is going up—25% increase since last year at this time—including children. The next two years will be crucial. The requested reduction is half of last year's. People seem to be coming back who have been missed over the last few years, but the economic down-turn in the area has hit the parish hard. Email results to be sent to chodgespr@comcast.net.

Assessment Reduction Petitions:

Munster, St Paul's

The parish was represented by Sr Warden, Todd Corben, and Jr Warden, George Libak. The parish is requesting a \$20,881 reduction, which is 75%. Email results to be sent to

toddcorban@hotmail.com. The struggle continues over the banquet hall/parish hall. Income is holding steady in the congregation but expenses are increasing. The parish has re-financed the mortgage and has been able to save about \$2000+ per month. The details of this rearrangement seem not to be fixed yet, however. The parish is still working on raising pledging and adding programming back in. The parish has also completely revamped its accounting system. Average pledging is also increasing. The parish is also in touch with the auditor recommended by council. There are plans being developed in three areas: leadership, membership, and finances.

Assessment Reduction Petitions:

Huntington, Christ the King

The parish was represented by priest-in-charge, Rich Miller, Sr Warden, Gary Beatty, and treasurer, Bill Oswalt. The parish is seeking a \$6600 reduction which is nearly 50%. Email address for correspondence is frrichmiller@gmail.com. There has been a serious decline in income over the last several years, which is rebuilding but slowly. The day care center working in the parish has not been able to pay its share of expenses—it cares mainly for the children of poor families.

Assessment Reduction Petitions:

Michigan City, Trinity

The parish was represented by Kevin Warren, Jr Warden. The amount of assessment reduction requested is \$16,000. The main problem is the increasing costs and the fall-off in attendance and income. The parish has been making a study of its options and doesn't understand yet the energy and willingness of the congregation to make the effort towards growth. If things work, there is a lot of preparation for a three to five year plan on growth which would see stability and full assessment payments by the end of that time, living off sustainable income and having a full time rector. Email to kevin.warren@comcast.net.

Assessment Reduction Petitions:

Council decision

The total amount of reductions in assessment requested is: \$61,319. It was suggested that council grant St John Elkhart full amount since this was the one and only time of asking; and the rest be granted 78% of their asking. This will all fit into the \$50,000 line for assessment reductions in the 2009 budget. Moved and seconded. The motion passed.

Social Ministry Account

This began when Episcopal Social Services had a building in Gary. When it was burned, the insurance money was put in this fund along with a small amount from the sale of a house. The service agency was never re-opened. Sharon asked for permission to merge this fund with the Social Outreach Fund. It was so moved and seconded and passed.

Presentation by Canon Silla

In January of 2010 the diocese will be invited to go on a pilgrimage to the holy land as a way of celebrating the 10th year of Bishop Little's episcopate. The costs are not available yet, but there are some funds still in existence from the evangelism rally to subsidize this trip. There was some conversation about this and it was decided to make a decision by the next council meeting.

Bishop's Remarks

The attendance statistics for 2007 are not good.

Three searches in process: St Andrew's, Valparaiso; St John's, Elkhart; St Michael's, South Bend.

House of Bishops' meeting. Bishop Little just returned from Salt Lake City. Bishop Duncan of Pittsburgh was deposed. The Lambeth conference was talked about.

There being no other business, council adjourned with the Bishop's blessing at 1400.

Respectfully submitted
The Rev'd Canon John E Schramm
Secretary to Convention

Dates of upcoming meetings: November 15 (possible)
February 21, 2009
April 25, 2009
June 27, 2009
August 15, 2009 (possible)
September 19, 2009
November 7, 2009 (possible)