

Minutes of the 1st Session of the 141st Synod of the Diocese of Niagara May 23rd, 2015 at Christ's Church Cathedral in Hamilton

The Right Reverend Michael Bird called Synod to order at 9:19 a.m. The Chancellor, Canon Robert Welch, and the Secretary of Synod, The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, were seated at the head table with Bishop Michael Bird.

Credentials Committee Report

The Chancellor reported that as of 9:10 a.m., 72 clergy out of the 97 eligible members had registered. In the order of laity there were 128 present out of 193 eligible members. Quorum was achieved.

MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell
'**THAT** the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.'

CARRIED

Privileges of the House & Welcome of New Members

Privileges of the House were extended by the Bishop to The Venerable Lynne Marchant, The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick, The Reverend Canon Sharyn Hall, The Reverend Canon J. Lefebvre, Mr. Gerald Aggus, Dr. John Watts and Mr. Richard Williams, as members of the Cathedral Place Development Task Force not already eligible to vote at Synod, as well as Mr. Alex Speigel of Windmill Developments and Mr. David Premi of David Premi Architect Inc. The Bishop also welcomed new members of Synod: The Reverend Daniel Cranley, The Reverend Craig Luccock, The Reverend Scott McLeod, The Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz, Ms. Holly Klemmensen, and Ms. Su McLeod.

Election of Synod Secretaries

MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell
'**THAT** the Reverend Canon David Anderson and Mrs. Carol Summers be the Honorary Secretaries of Synod at the sessions of this Synod.'

CARRIED

Minutes of the 140th Synod

MOTION: Mrs. Carol Summers/The Reverend Canon David Anderson
'**THAT** the minutes of the 2nd Session of the 140th Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, as found on pages 3 through 9 of the Convening Circular, be now approved.'

CARRIED

Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: Canon Christyn Perkons/The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell
'**THAT** the agenda as presented by the Agenda Committee be adopted.'

CARRIED

Reception of All Reports

MOTION: The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell/The Reverend Bill Mous
'**THAT** all reports found in the Convening Circular and obtained at registration be received.'

Announcements

The Bishop announced that the use of the clickers was being deferred until the October Synod; for the short agenda of this session the technology expense was not warranted.

Worship

Morning Prayer was led by the Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz.

Cathedral Place Revitalization Plan

Introductory remarks

Bishop Michael Bird spoke about his call to the people of the diocese when he first became bishop to "think outside the box." The Bishop believes that this project follows that call. The Bishop then made remarks about the work of the Cathedral Place Task Force and thanked the members for their work on this project. The Bishop also thanked members of Synod for their attendance and participation in the discernment around this proposal which will have an impact on the viability of the Cathedral.

The Bishop's Message to Synod was then presented by video to members of Synod.

Development Partners Presentation

Mr. Alex Speigel spoke about his company, Windmill Developments, their interest in this project, their commitment to the environment and the various developments they have completed. Mr. David Premi, the principal architect at DPAL spoke about his company's commitment to the Hamilton community. He also talked about the various buildings and spaces that his firm has helped to create.

Presentation of the Motion

Dean Peter Wall expressed thanks for being part of this community which is capable of thinking seriously about such an innovative project.

MOTION: The Very Reverend Peter Wall/The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell **'THAT** this Synod endorse the plan for the development of Cathedral Place, including the construction of condominiums and the renovation of the School House building;

AND THAT this Synod authorize an initial investment of not more than \$4,500,000 in cash, a transfer of land valued at \$1,700,000, a subsequent mortgage of not more than \$2,500,000;

AND THAT this Synod require regular updates to Synod Council and/or Synod, including progress reports on expenditures and construction plans through to the completion of the project;

AND THAT this Synod authorize its officers to enter into such agreements, as may be approved by the Diocesan Solicitor, and as may be necessary for the completion of this project, including but not limited to a limited liability partnership, negotiating zoning bylaw agreements, and securing interim financing and / or a mortgage(s).'

Bishop's Assent and Closing Remarks

Bishop Michael Bird gave his assent to all of the decisions made by this session of Synod. He thanked a number of the people and groups who were involved in making this session of Synod a success. The Bishop gave a special thanks to Archdeacon Lynne Marchant who gave leadership to the Task Force.

The Bishop also asked prayers for Canon Terry DeForest and family who were preparing at this hour for the funeral of Bob DeForest, Terry's father and a faithful member of this Synod.

The Bishop said a blessing and the Synod was prorogued at 11:37 a.m.