

SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Leonel E. Avila 2020
***Ms. Cynthia Corley** 2020
***Ms. Maria del Toro, Vice President** 2018
The Rev. Justin Johnson 2018
Ms. Tabitha Johnson (youth) 2018
The Rev. Amy Kienzle 2018
Mr. John Litke 2018
Dr. Carlos Lopez 2018
Synod Dcn. John Malone 2018
S.Dcn. Karen Maulen 2018
Bishop Donald McCoid 2019
The Rev. Christopher Mietlowski 2020
Mr. Walter Nash 2018
***The Rev. Jeanine Owens** 2020
The Rev. Daniel Peter 2018
Ms. Denise Rutherford-Gill 2020
***The Rev. Harry Schenkel** 2018
***The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.** 2018
The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe 2020
The Rev. Garry Squire 2020
Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum 2018
Ms. Abby Triebel 2020
Ms. Emma Turner (Young Adult) 2020
***Mr. Christopher Vergara** 2020
Ms. Karen Woolley 2020

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

STAFF

Dcn. Margy Schmitt Ajer
Ms. Susan Brandt
The Rev. Percy Butiku
Ms. Regina Daniels
Mr. Branden Dupree
Mr. Roberto Lara
The Rev. Jonathan Linman
Ms. Maria Rodas
Synod Deacon Gayle Ruege
The Rev. Lamont Wells

GUESTS

Bold = present

Italics = excused absence

*Member of Executive Committee

Devotions: *Syn. Dcn. Denise Rutherford-Gill*

Observer: *The Rev. Harry Schenkel*

Call to Order: *by VP Maria del Toro at 5:15 pm.*

- 1. Introductions: Bishop Donald McCoid / Synod Council**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda: adopted as amended.**

3. Adoption of the Minutes

- A. Synod Council: 8 February 2018: adopted.
- B. 2017 Synod Assembly: adopted.

ACTION SC18:03/01

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the minutes of the 2017 Synod Assembly as presented.

ADOPTED

4. Bishop's Report

A. Calls

- a. Leonard A. Duncan, Jr.: Mission Developer / Jehu's Table, Brooklyn
Pr. Wells spoke about redevelopment of congregation formerly known as Holy Redeemer.

ACTION SC18:03/02

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to Leonard A. Duncan, Jr. as Pastor / Mission Developer for Jehu's Table, Brooklyn, NY, effective May 1, 2018.

ADOPTED

- b. The Rev. Dr. Deborah DeWinter: renewal of Invitation to Extended Service / First, Poughkeepsie

ACTION SC18:03/03

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council *renew* the Invitation to Extended Service to the Rev. Dr. Deborah DeWinter serving First Lutheran Church, Poughkeepsie effective March 1, 2018 – 28 February 2019.

ADOPTED

- c. The Rev. Lorraine Peterson: Chaplain, Stony Brook University Hospital effective 1 April 2018

ACTION SC18:03/04

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council extend a call to the Rev. Lorraine Peterson as Chaplain, Stony Brook University Hospital effective April 1, 2018.

ADOPTED

- d. Deacon Judith Hinsch: retired status effective 1 Apr 2018
- e. The Rev. Donald Lemke: retired status effective 1 Apr 2018
- f. The Rev. Arthur Pettersen: retired status effective 1 Jan 2018

ACTION SC18:03/05

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council acknowledge retirement status for Deacon Judith Hinsch effective April 1, 2018; The Rev. Donald Lemke effective April 1, 2018; and The Rev. Arthur Pettersen effective January 1, 2018.

ADOPTED

B. Appointments

Bp. McCoid reported these appointments.

a. S. Dcn. Ingrid Compton: Worship Committee

b. The Rev. Marcia Parkinson-Harrison: Assembly Planning Committee

C. Synod Transition / Natural Systems Process: Mary Ann Schwabe and Dr. Larry Foster

Bp. McCoid announced that Mary Ann Schwabe, Natural Systems Coordinator for the ELCA will assist our synod in an assessment process during this transition.

Ms. Schwabe and Dr. Larry Foster are scheduled to meet with the Executive Committee and the staff on April 3 to provide an overview of the process and its timeline.

D. Synod Congregational Vitality Table

Pr. Wells spoke about the congregation vitality project and the formation of a Congregation Vitality Table that will work with him as the Director for Evangelical Mission.

VP Del Toro broke from the agenda for SC members to introduce themselves to Bp. McCoid, and for Bp. McCoid to introduce himself to the members

5. Report of the Strategic Plan Working Group

A. Bp. McCoid introduction and overview of the plan

VP Del Toro reported that the Strategic Plan Working Group met on March 15 to provide an overview for Bishop McCoid on our synod's strategic plan. The overview included a history of the plan, and the current priorities of each strategy committee.

B. Property projects / redevelopments review with Renato Matos

VP Del Toro reported that our Synod attorneys, Renato Matos and Joe Milano were present at the March 15 meeting and that Renato provided a stellar presentation on the redevelopment projects currently underway and future projects in the planning process. A presentation to the Synod Council will be arranged. The current and future projects include:

- Epiphany, Brooklyn
- Former Zion, Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn property
- Trinity, Astoria
- Christ Center at Transfiguration, Harlem
- Jehu's Table at the former Holy Redeemer, Brooklyn
- Mission redevelopment at the former Transfiguration, Bronx
- Mission redevelopment at Fordham, Bronx

C. Leadership Development Grants EXHIBIT A

Pr. Linman reported on the grants.

ACTION SC18:03/06

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the Leadership Development Grants reviewed by the Leadership Development Grant Review Team and recommended by the Executive Committee.

ADOPTED

6. Financial Report

A. Mission Support Report (Jan 31, 2018) EXHIBIT B

Ms. Sue Brandt reported that contributions for the month of January totaled \$105,725, which is \$43,360 lower than what was budgeted for the month. Year-end mission support received totaled \$1,086,923, which is \$113,077 lower than the budgeted amount of \$1,200,000.

She gave the following comparisons from last year:

- 57 congregations increased their mission support. The increases ranged from \$10 - \$7,781, for a total increase of \$69,750
- 39 congregation's mission support remained the same as last year.
- 63 congregations reduced their mission support. The reductions ranged from \$.29 - \$20,009, for a total reduction of \$125,409.
- 24 congregations contributed no mission support. 15 of those congregations contributed zero last year; 9 had contributed, for a total reduction of \$29,543.

B. Resolution to Adopt Ten-year Financial Plan for 2018-2027

Mr. Ed Wagner presented plan. **EXHIBIT C**

Pr. Schenkel led the council in prayer before the vote.

ACTION SC18:03/07

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council Ten-Year Plan for 2017-2026 be adopted as presented.

ADOPTED

B. Proposed revised budget 2018 / Proposed budget for 2019 EXHIBIT D

Ms.Sue Brandt presented.

ACTION SC18:03/08

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council recommend to the Synod Assembly that it adopt the revised budget for 2018 and the proposed budget for 2019.

ADOPTED

C. Appointment to Audit Committee

ACTION SC18:03/09

RESOLVED. That Barbara Hansen is appointed to a three-year term on the Audit Committee, February 1, 2018 through January 31, 2021.

ADOPTED

7. Synod Assembly

A. 2018 Proposed Synod Assembly Agenda

Syn. Dcn. Gayle Ruege, as staff liaison to the Assembly Planning Committee presented the proposed agenda on behalf of the committee.

ACTION SC18:03/10

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council present the proposed agenda on May 11, 2018 for adoption by the Synod Assembly.

ADOPTED

B. Nominations:

VP Del Toro reported that in accordance with our constitution, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall nominate at least two persons for vice-president. Nominations may also come from the floor.

a. Secretary: The Rev. Robert Schoepflin

VP Del Toro reported that in accordance with our constitution, the Synod Council shall nominate at least two persons for secretary and two persons for treasurer. Nominations may also come from the floor.

ACTION SC18:03/11

RESOLVED, that The Rev. Robert Schoepflin is nominated for another term as Synod Secretary.

ADOPTED

b. Treasurer

VP Del Toro indicated that the Executive Committee contacted two suggested candidates for treasurer, and that both declined .

8. New Business

A. Leif Ericson Day School, Brooklyn: election of Board of Directors

Pr. Linman reported that Leif Ericson's by-laws state that the sole member of the LEDS LLC (the Synod) will hold an annual meeting during the first quarter of each calendar year during a Synod Council meeting and will elect directors at that meeting.

The terms of three current directors will expire and all three have agreed to serve another term and have been nominated by the Directors of LEDS.
A nominee from the synod will be made at a later date.

ACTION SC18:03/12

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council re-elect to the Leif Ericson Day School Board of Directors Joanne Cavalleri for service through the 2020 annual meeting, and Catherine Adams and Gail Adamski for service through the 2021 annual meeting.

ADOPTED

B. Walden Asset Management signatories

ACTION SC18:03/13

RESOLVED, that Kathleen Koran, Kathleen Schmidt and Frank Suttell be removed as authorized signatories on the synod's two accounts with Walden Asset Management and that Susan Brandt, Gayle Ruege and Margaret Schmitt Ajer be authorized signatories for the two Walden Asset Management accounts, Metropolitan New York Synod IMA and Metropolitan New York Synod TEF IMA.R

ADOPTED

C. HSBC LLC accounts signatories

ACTION SC18:03/14

RESOLVED, that Susan Brandt, Gayle Ruege and Margaret Schmitt Ajer be authorized signatories for each HSBC account opened for MNYS LLCs.

ADOPTED

D. Election process for New Bishop

VP Del Toro reported on the work being done to review our process and to suggest changes.

9. Old Business

A. Synod Properties / Congregations under synod administration

a. Former Trinity, St. Albans: offer

ACTION 18:03/15

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council accept an offer and enter into contract for a sale price of \$1,700,000 or more for the properties of the former Trinity, St. Albans.

ADOPTED (16 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

b. Trustee for former Zion, Brooklyn property

ACTION 18:03/16

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod remove Kathleen Schmidt as trustee and appoint Susan Brandt as trustee for the property located at 6309 Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn.
ADOPTED**

B. SA Actions (Pending)

- SA2015:05.08 / MNYS Disaster Response Task Force
- 2016 SA Actions
 1. SA2016:05.4 On Mission Partnerships
 2. SA2016:05.11 On Advocacy and Justice for Refugees

10. Observers' Evaluation

11. Announcements

Emma Turner made an announcement about Pinecrest Leadership.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: April 3, 2018 *

Next Synod Council Meeting: Saturday, April 21, 2018 (Meeting room A-B)

***Proposed items for the Synod Council agenda should be submitted to Gayle Ruege (gruege@mnys.org) for consideration by the Executive Committee on or before March 27.**

All committees are to provide a digital copy of meeting minutes to Regina Daniels (rdaniels@mnys.org) for the synod files.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm, with prayer by Bishop McCoid.

**Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Secretary**