

**SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS**

<b>Mr. Leonel E. Avila</b>	<b>2020</b>
Mr. Adam A.D. Campbell (Youth)	2020
<b>*Ms. Cynthia Corley</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>The Rev. Chryll Crews</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>S. Dcn. Steven Daniels</i>	<i>2022</i>
<b>Mr. David Ehlers</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Ms. Monica Gavryszewski</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Ms. Hazel Goldstein</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Marva Jenkins</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*Mr. John Litke, Treasurer</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*Bishop Donald McCoid</b>	<b>2019</b>
<i>The Rev. Christopher Mietlowski</i>	<i>2020</i>
<i>S. Dcn. John Ogren</i>	<i>2020</i>
<b>*The Rev. Jeanine Owens</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>The Rev. David Parsons</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>*The Rev. Daniel Peter</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Denise Rutherford-Gill</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Mr. Thomas Sargent</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Nicole Schwalbe</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Mr. Cecil Spurlock-Shackelton</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>The Rev. Garry Squire</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Ms. Wendy Bean Tannenbaum</b>	<b>2022</b>
Ms. Emma Turner (Young Adult)	2020
<b>*Mr. Christopher Vergara</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>*Ms. Renee Wicklund, VP</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>S. Dcn. Anita Martin-Williams</b>	<b>2022</b>
<i>Ms. Karen Woolley</i>	<i>2020</i>

**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 Dcn. Gayle Ruege**  
**The Rev. Lamont Wells**

**Guests**

**Bold = present**

*Italics = excused absence*

\*Member of Executive Committee

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**Opening Devotions: The Rev. Chryll Crews**

**Observer: The Rev. Chryll Crews**

**Call to Order: Ms. Renee Wicklund at 5:06 pm.**

VP Wicklund gave a synopsis of what events she has been involved with since last SC meeting.

**1. Adoption of the Agenda:** adopted as presented.

**2. Adoption of the Minutes (22 September 2018):** adopted as presented.

**3. Bishop's Report**

Bishop reported that four of the scheduled Town Hall Meetings have been conducted. They have been well attended with helpful insights and conversation.

Total attendance for Quad 3 (Brooklyn & Queens): 68 Lay; 48 Rostered

Total attendance for Quad 2 (Nassau & Suffolk): 61 Lay; 58 rostered

**A. Town Hall Meetings Update**

**Nov 4 – 5: Quadrant 1**

**Sun, Nov 4 @ King of Kings, New Windsor (3-5 pm)**

**Mon, Nov 5 @ King of Kings, New Windsor (9:30 am – 2:30 pm)**

**Nov 11-12: Quadrant 4**

**Sun, Nov 11 @ Grace and St. Paul's, Manhattan (3-5 pm)**

**Mon, Nov 12 @ Saint Peter's, Manhattan (9:30 am – 2:30 pm)**

**B. Resignation Maria del Toro / appointment of Renee Wicklund, Interim Chair**

Bishop reported that Maria del Toro indicated at the September meeting of the joint committees of the Strategic Plan that it would be her final meeting as Chair of the Strategic Plan. He appointed Renee Wicklund to serve as the Interim Chair until the time when a new chair will be appointed.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

**A. Mission Support Report EXHIBIT A**

Treasurer Litke reported that for 2015/2016, mission support went down, whereas other benevolence increased. Reason for this is not clear.

**B. Financials 8.30.18 EXHIBIT B**

Treasurer Litke led the council through the financials.

**5. Report of the Strategic Plan Working Group**

**A. GATHERED**

Ms. Hazel Goldstein reported that the Gathered Committee met on Oct 1.

- Time was shared with the Financial Management Committee to become more familiar with the processes that the FMC uses with congregations who are in a redevelopment process.

- Leadership Development – discussions with Pr. Linman regarding funding opportunities for increasing internships in our synod.
- Capital Grant award letters were mailed.
- One congregation is beginning the process for the Building for Mission Grant.

**B. CLAIMED**

Pr. Linman reported that the Claimed Committee met on Oct 22. Its focus includes

- Develop a Theology of Inclusion
- Work collaboratively with SENT Committee to develop a Advocacy PR strategy.
- Plan event around the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stonewall (Stonewall50)

He also reported on work on “First Third” (children and youth ministry) and that 125 pastors are registered to attend the Bishop’s retreat.

Roberto Lara reported that committee is working on creating apps for children and youth.

**C. SENT**

Pr. Butiko reported that the Sent Committee met on Oct 20. The committee’s focus for this year will be:

- Walking with Immigrants: putting together care packages in collaboration with LSSNY, Seafarers and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. These packages will include a cross and the scriptures in the language of the particular recipient.
- Inviting congregations to walk with the immigrants in their communities and participate in care package supplies and production.
- Finding people to visit those in detention centers, for prayer and worship.

**D. FMC**

Treasurer Litke reported that FMC is conducting an in-depth review of the synod finances as they prepare the budgets.

**E. ANTI-RACISM**

Pr. Butiku announced that anti-racism training event will be held on November 17, 8:30 am, at Holy Trinity, Bellerose.

She also noted that every committee needs to examine its processes through the lens of anti-racism.

**6. Secretary's Report / Constitutions**

Secretary Schoepflin reported on constitutions received by him for review.

- A. Saint Peter's, Manhattan (approved)**
- B. Trinity, Kingston (approved)**
- C. Trinity, White Plains**
- D. Good Shepherd, Brooklyn (approved)**
- E. New Hope, Jamaica**

**7. Old Business**

**A. Leif Ericson Day School**

Pr. Wells spoke about the long-standing covenant the synod has with Leif Ericson Day School. He noted exploration of future ministry of the school is being examined.

**B. Eltingville Church & School**

VP Wicklund reported on the present status of litigation brought by the congregation to challenge synod administration. The congregation was granted a TRO to block the synod from taking control of the property. Opposition papers were submitted by our attorneys.

**C. Amended / Restated Operating Agreements LLC's**

VP Wicklund noted that the Synod Council approved the formation of (4) Single Owned LLC's at the January 2018 SC meeting. The four LLC's were congregations that voted to close in order to undergo a radical redevelopment in partnership with our synod.

1. MNYS 129 Russell LLC : former Messiah, Brooklyn
2. MNYS 763 Prospect LLC: former Transfiguration, Bronx
3. MNYS 585 East 163 LLC: former All Saints, Bronx
4. MNYS 2424 Linden LLC: former Church of the Holy Redeemer, East New York

Presented tonight are Amended and Restated Operating Agreements prepared by our attorneys for the four LLC's. The Amended and Restated Operating Agreements include additional language requested by the NYC Department of Finance in order to approve property tax exemption. Vote will be *enbloc*

**ACTION SC18:10/01**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve the Amended and**

**Restated Operating Agreements for MNYS 129 Russell, LLC; MNYS 763 Prospect LLC;  
MNYS 585 East 163 LLC; MNYS 2424 Linden LLC.  
ADOPTED**

**D. Guidelines for Redevelopment Regarding Synodical Preservation  
(§13.24) EXHIBIT C**

VP Wicklund reported that the Synod Council adopted the Policy for Synod Real Property Projects at the June 22 SC meeting.

The Guidelines for Redevelopment Regarding Synodical Preservation were prepared by our attorneys to companion the policy and clarify the process for the redevelopment of synod real property projects.

**ACTION SC18:10/02**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council approve The Guidelines for Redevelopment Regarding Synodical Preservation recommended by the Executive Committee.**

**ADOPTED**

**8. New Business**

**A. SC date change Feb. meeting: February 26, 2019**

**B. NYS Sexual Harassment Requirements**

VP Wicklund reported that this year New York State and NYC each responded to the ongoing #MeToo movement by amending existing laws that aim to prevent sexual harassment. Among other changes, all employers in NY State will be required to adopt a minimum sexual harassment policy and provide anti-sexual harassment training to their employees.

Our attorneys have provided us with a link that contains all the information our congregations, ministry sites need to develop a policy and provide training options for employees. We will create a page on our website with this information and provide the link in our weekly eletter and via written communication to our rostered leaders and congregations.

<https://www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers>

**C. Maritza Tamayo: 2019 CWA Voting Member / Multicultural**

VP Wicklund reported that during the election process for 2019 CWA voting members – it was determined that Pr. Lenny Duncan was not eligible for election as a lay male voting member due to his pending ordination. There were no other candidates for lay male .

The SC is charged with appointing a voting member. After speaking with Pr. Kevin O’Hara (Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee), the recommendation is to allow Christopher Vergara (elected as the multicultural voting member) to be classified as a lay male voting member and for the Synod Council to appoint Maritza Tamayo as the multicultural voting member.

Maritza was second to Christopher in the vote. She is a member of Trinity, Middle Village and her primary language is Spanish. Her appointment as a CWA voting member will equalize the synod’s delegation.

With the appointment of Maritza Tamayo the Synod credentials report would be as follows:

- 11 European Descent ( 6 female / 5 male)
- 2 African Descent (1 female / 1 male)
- 2 Latino Descent (1 female / 1 male) Primary language other than English
- 1 Asian Descent (1 male)

**ACTION SC18:10/03**

**RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Council designate Christopher Vergara as a lay male voting member to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly and appoint Maritza Tamayo as the multicultural voting member to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.**

**ADOPTED**

**9. Observers’ Evaluation**

**Next Executive Committee Meeting: Nov 29, 2018 \***

**Synod Council Meeting: December 11, 2018**

**\*Proposed items for the Synod Council agenda should be submitted to Gayle Ruege ([gruege@mnys.org](mailto:gruege@mnys.org)) for consideration by the Executive Committee on or before Nov 16.**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm, with prayer by Pr. Crews.**

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