

SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Rev. Albert Ahlstrom	2012
Mr. William Anderson	2012
*The Rev. William Baum	2012
The Rev. Rosalind Brathwaite	2012
<i>Ms. Kelsey Brown</i>	2012
*Mr. Robert Buescher, Treas.	2012
Ms. Christine Connell, DM	2014
*Ms. Maria del Toro, Vice President	2014
Dcn Charles Germain	2014
Ms. Barbara Hansen	2014
Mr. Gene Hiigel	2014
Ms. Barbara Holm	2012
<i>The Rev. Brenda Jack</i>	2012
*Ms. Barbara Johnson	2012
The Rev. Perry Kirschbaum	2014
Dr. Carlos Lopez	2014
Dcn. John Malone	2014
*Ms. Minerva Melendez	2014
The Rev. Craig Miller	2014
*The Rev. Paul Milholland	2014
Dcn. Bobbi Paulik	2012
Mr. Brian Reardon	2012
*The Rev. Robert A. Rimbo, Bishop	2014
The Rev. Kit Robison	2014
*The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Sect.	2014
Mr. Jonathan Westerlund	2012

26 Voting Members

AUXILLIARY MEMBERS

STAFF

The Rev. Percy Butiku
Ms. Sarah Gioe
The Rev. Dr. Jack Horner
The Rev. Kathleen Koran
The Rev. Jonathan Linman
Mr. John Litke
The Rev. Dr. Gary Mills
Dcn. Gayle Ruege
Ms. Kathleen Schmidt

GUESTS

The Rev. Leo E. ("Jay") Longan, Conference of Deans

Bold = present

Italics = excused absence

*Member of Executive Committee

Devotions: *Rev. Albert Ahlstrom*

Call to Order: at 5:15pm by VP Del Toro

1. **Adoption of Agenda:** adopted as presented.
2. **Adoption of Minutes: 19 November 2011:** adopted as presented.
3. **Bishop's Report**
 - a. **Pr. Kathleen Koran** gave a verbal report of her ministry over the last quarter year.
- A. **Written Reports of Bishop and Synod Staff (EXHIBIT A)**

B. Strategic Plan

Bp. Rimbo reported that draft of strategic plan, being worked on by executive committee with Tom Massey, will be presented to Synod Council at February meeting. VP Del Toro noted that a draft will be posted on the synod website.

C. Calls

- i. **Rev. Marianne Tomecek: New Hope, Jamaica**

ACTION SC12:01/01

RESOLVED, that Rev. Marianne Tomecek be called as interim pastor of New Hope, Jamaica.
ADOPTED

- ii. **Rev. Daphne Burt (resignation): Trinity, Staten Island**
Letter of resignation received.

- iii. **Rev. Haiko Behrens: On Leave from Call status**

ACTION SC12:01/02

RESOLVED, that Rev. Hailo Behrens be granted on leave from call status.
ADOPTED

- iv. **Rev. Carol Kessler: On Leave from Call status**

ACTION SC12:01/03

RESOLVED, that Rev. Carol Kessler be granted on leave from call status.
ADOPTED

D. Appointments

- ii. **Rev. Rebecca Pollicino: Synod Worship Team**

ACTION SC12:01/04

RESOLVED, that Rev. Rebecca Pollicino be appointed to the Synod Worship Team.
ADOPTED

E. Staff Reports

- a. **MNYS Partnership Grants (EXHIBIT B)**

ACTION SC12:01/05

RESOLVED, that the Partnership Grants were approved as presented.
ADOPTED

4. Treasurer's Report (EXHIBIT C)

Treasurer Buescher noted that his term as treasurer ends this year and that he has been searching for potential candidates. He invited SC members to suggest names of potential candidates.

A. Financial Management Committee Report

5. Old Business

A. Zion/Sion, 119th Street, Manhattan

Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported that Bp Rimbo and members of his staff have met with congregation to discuss disposition of property and other issues.

ACTION SC12:01/06

RESOLVED, that the Latino Strategy Team for Latino Ministry in Manhattan be extended to June 30, 2012 and report to the June meeting of Synod Council.

ADOPTED

ACTION SC12:01/07

RESOLVED, that the financial support to Zion be extended pursuant to the existing agreement until the sale of the property or until the amount of the loan equals the appraised value of the property.

ADOPTED

Treasurer Buescher moved that interest at the rate of 5% be accrued on the outstanding loan amount from June 30, 2012 until the sale of the property. This motion was defeated.

B. Studley Contract

VP Del Toro that contract is being reviewed by Executive Committee.

ACTION SC12:01/08

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee is authorized to enter into a contract with Studley for a period of one year after favorable review and negotiation of the contract.

ADOPTED

C. Resolution: Call to Celebrate and Support LMHE

ACTION SC12:01/09

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod and its congregations do everything in their power to financially support Lutheran Ministries in Higher Education; and

RESOLVED, that members of the Metropolitan New York Synod who have an appreciation for Lutheran Ministries in Higher Education encourage their congregations to hold a Ministries in Higher Education Sunday at least once a year to lift up campus pastors, campus ministries, and the cooperating congregations across the Metropolitan New York Synod who minister to and with the students, faculty, and staff of colleges and universities within the Metropolitan New York Synod; and

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan New York Synod Bishop and Synod Council be commended for their efforts to seek cooperation and effective partnership in campus ministry with our full communion partners.

ADOPTED

D. Congregations under synod administration (monthly report) (EXHIBIT D)

Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported.

E. Congregational Loan Status / Synod Properties update (EXHIBIT E)

Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported.

F. Committee on Congregational Viability Norms update

Rev. William Baum reported that 4 informational gatherings will be held:

January 29 – First, Poughkeepsie

February 12 – Gustavus Adolphus, Manhattan

March 4 – Trinity, Middle Village

March 25 – Ascension, Deer Park

G. Working Group for Racial and Ethnic Awareness and Sensitivity update (EXHIBIT F)

Ms. Barbara Johnson reported.

H. Pending VP Del Toro noted that these items are listed on agenda each month as continuing issues or projects and invited questions from SC members.

- a. St. Luke's, Bronx
- b. Grace, North Branch
- c. St. Peter's, 140th Street, Bronx
- d. Property formerly Bethlehem, Brooklyn
- e. Christ Chinese, Brooklyn
- f. Office Space Task Force
- g. Committee on the election of the bishop

6. New Business

A. Report of the Nominations Committee and the Committee on Conduct of Elections

Ms. Christine Connell presented proposed procedures for 2012 Synod Assembly. **(EXHIBIT G)**

ACTION SC12:01/10

RESOLVED, that the Nominations and Elections Procedures for the 2012 Synod Assembly, as presented, be approved.

ADOPTED

a. constitutional change (EXHIBIT H)

Motion to present proposed amendment to Synod Constitution to Synod Assembly. [Bp Rimbo noted that since this is a constitutional amendment, it will need to be voted on in 2012 and in 2013]

ACTION SC12:01/11

That the following resolutions be presented to 2012 Synod Assembly:

RESOLVED, that this Assembly of the Metropolitan New York Synod create one Constitutional Committee, to be called the Nominations and Elections Committee, whose responsibilities shall encompass the duties and responsibilities as listed in the Constitution of the Metropolitan New York Synod and currently relating to the Committee on the Conduct of Elections and the Nominating Committee, and BE IT FURTHER,

RESOLVED, that the newly created Nominations and Elections Committee be appointed by the Bishop and approved by the Synod Council.

ADOPTED

B. Synod Council vacancy

ACTION SC12:01/12

RESOLVED, that Ms. Hazel Goldstein be appointed to serve the remaining term of Janet Sirey until May 2012.

ADOPTED

C. Trexler Grant: Rev. Kimberli Lile

ACTION SC12:01/13

RESOLVED, that a Trexler Grant in the amount of \$1,000 to Rev. Kimberli Lile be approved.

ADOPTED

7. Other Reports

Dcn. Charlie Germain presented report. **(EXHIBIT I)**

8. Announcements/Events

Healthy Congregations Workshops
Day of Thanksgiving and Renewal

9. Meeting Evaluation

