SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Rev. Albert Ahlstrom 2012
Mr. William Anderson 2012
*The Rev. William Baum 2012
The Rev. Rosalind Brathwaite 2012
Ms. Kelsey Brown 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 Hügel 2014
Ms. Barbara Holm 2012
The Rev. Brenda Jack 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
Mr. Jonathan Westerlund 2012

AUXILLIARY MEMBERS

Ms. Kelsey Brown 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 Hügel 2014
Ms. Barbara Holm 2012
The Rev. Brenda Jack 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
Mr. Jonathan Westerlund 2012

STAFF

The Rev. Perucy Butiku
Ms. Sarah Gioe
The Rev. Dr. Jack Horner
The Rev. Kathleen Koran
The Rev. Jonathan Linman
Mr. John Litke
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.
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

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

8. Announcements/Events

Healthy Congregations Workshops
Day of Thanksgiving and Renewal

9. Meeting Evaluation
10. Observer’s Evaluation
Dcn John Malone gave critical observations of the meeting.

Pr. Kit Robison closed meeting with prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.