Devotions:  Rev. Craig Miller  
Observer:  Ms. Barbara Hansen  
  
Call to Order:  VP Del Toro called us to order 5:05 pm and welcomed Ms. Hazel Goldstein to synod council  

1. Adoption of Agenda:  adopted as presented.  

2. Adoption of Minutes: 24 January 2012:  adopted as presented.  

3. Bishop’s Report  
   A. Committee on Congregational Viability Norms  
      EXHIBIT A  
      Pr. Wm. Baum gave report on work of committee and informational meetings in the synod that have been held thus far.
B. Strategic Plan: Draft (Mr. Tom Massey)
   Tom Massey led the council in a review and discussion of the draft strategic plan.
   Key aspects of the plan will be published on the synod website for review and response.
   In a pause in our discussion, VP Del Toro called for a time of silent prayer for our work.

C. Appointments
   b. Ms. Barbara Hansen: Environmental Stewardship Committee
   c. Mr. Pat Almonrode: Environmental Stewardship Committee

   Bp. Rimbo reported that these appointments had been made.

D. MNYS Employee Handbook
   Bp. Rimbo reported that the Executive Committee (as personnel committee) has reviewed and
   approved the revised handbook.

E. Congregations: for report
   a. New Hope, Valley Stream
      Pr. Perucy Butiku reported on the fire. She thanked everyone for their prayers.
   b. St. Thomas, Bronx
      Bp. Rimbo reported that an advisory panel had been appointed to meet with congregation
      and make a report to the bishop.
   c. Grace, North Branch
      Bp. Rimbo reported on letter received from congregation, and reiterated that congregation
      has to call a pastor rostered in the ELCA.
   d. Grace Lutheran School / Queens Lutheran School
      Bp. Rimbo reported on his visit with schools and their joint planning.

F. Legal Updates
   a. Property formerly Bethlehem, Brooklyn
      Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported that appeal has been perfected by the appellants and that
      synod’s response will be filed by our attorney. Should have a decision by mid-June.
   b. St. Luke’s, Bronx
      Ms. Schmidt reported that there are several legal issues being dealt with.

3. Treasurer’s Report
   Mr. Robert Buescher presented his report. EXHIBIT B

A. Financial Management Committee Report
   No report.

5. Constitutions
   A. Our Saviour’s Atonement, Manhattan – constitution received and reviewed
   B. Ascension, Franklin Square – constitution received and reviewed
   C. St. Peter’s, Springfield Gardens – constitution received and reviewed
   D. NY Finnish – constitution received and approved
   E. Third, Rhinebeck – constitution received and approved
   F. Trinity, Staten Island – amendments received and approved
6. Synod Assembly 2012
   A. Memorandum: Procedures/Requirements for SA Resolutions and Memorials  
      EXHIBIT C

   B. Proposal: 2013 Synod Assembly
      Upon motion made, seconded and approved, it was determined to vote on Item 7A (bishop election procedure), prior to consideration of this resolution on the 2013 Synod Assembly.

   ACTION SC12:02/02

      RESOLVED, that the 2013 Metropolitan New York Synod Assembly be a one day assembly, devoted to our life together, but including necessary business.

      ADOPTED

   C. Nominations for Treasurer

7. Old Business
   A. Process for Election of Synodical Bishop  EXHIBIT D

   ACTION SC12:02/01

      RESOLVED, that the Synod Council recommend to the 2012 Synod Assembly that it adopt the proposed procedure for the election of the synodical bishop in 2014.

      ADOPTED

   B. Congregations under synod administration (monthly report)
      Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported.

   C. Congregational Loan Status / Synod Properties update (monthly report)
      Ms. Kathy Schmidt reported.

   D. Pending
      a. Zion/Sion, 119th Street, Manhattan
      b. Studley Contract
      c. Manhattan Latino Strategy
      d. Working Group for Racial and Ethnic Awareness and Sensitivity
      e. Christ Chinese, Brooklyn
         Pr. Gary Mills noted that he will be meeting with the congregation.
      f. Office Space Task Force

8. New Business
   A. Housing Allowances  EXHIBIT E

   ACTION SC12:02/03

      RESOLVED, that the housing allowances for rostered staff as specified be approved.

      ADOPTED

9. Other Reports
   Dcn. Charlie Germain presented Child, Youth and Family Ministry report.  EXHIBIT F
10. Announcements/Events
Ms. Christine Connell noted that LSS President’s Dinner, honoring Robert Buescher, will be held Thursday, March 1.

11. Meeting Evaluation
Pr. Al Ahlstrom suggested we spend time in discussion of Barna’s book, Revolution. Book discussion will be facilitated by Tom Massey and added to the agenda for the April 28 SC meeting.

12. Observer’s Evaluation
Ms. Barbara Hansen evaluated our meeting.

13. VP Del Toro thanked Ms. Hansen for her evaluation.
Ms. Barbara Johnson will be observer for March meeting.
Dcn. John Malone will give devotions at March meeting.

Ms. Christine Connell closed the meeting with prayer.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.