

CC041

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS HELD AT
DIOCESAN CHANCERY, 10 VICTORIA ROAD, PARRAMATTA, ON
WEDNESDAY, 25TH JULY, 1990

Present: Bishop Bede Heather (Chairman) and Fathers K. Hannan,
L. Breslan, L. Champion, C. de Souza, G. Dickinson and
J. Pilkington.

1. OPENING PRAYER

Bishop Bede opened the meeting with a prayer to the Holy Spirit,
10.42 a.m.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were tendered on behalf of Fr. D. Arcamone and
Fr. David Scott, and for Fr. K. Hannan who would be arriving
late.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

A MOTION moved by Fr. Champion, seconded by Fr. de Souza, that
the Minutes of the previous meeting of 27th June, 1990, be
confirmed, was, on being put to the Meeting, declared CARRIED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (not elsewhere listed)Blackheath Property

Bishop Bede said as some may have read in the newspapers, there
was a fire in the former convent building last Saturday night
week just prior to which we had been advised that, although we
signed the contracts, the buyer was unable to raise the funds and
withdrew from the purchase.

Bishop Bede said the building was not functional, consisting of
many small rooms, and he wondered whether we should not try to
get the insurance and demolish the building, and then look at the
block of land and see what to do with it; he thought could get
about four residential blocks out of it. Fr. Dickinson said the
idea of subdivison appealed to him. A question was asked as to
whether the land could ultimately be used for a retirement
complex similar to Springwood, but it was felt one of the things
against this would be the climate. Fr. Dickinson also wondered
whether a motel chain would be interested.

Bishop Bede said he thought the first thing to do was to
determine the insurance position, once the assessors have
obtained a second quote, and then to talk to Stan Laing about the
options we have.

Sit?
Demolish
110,000 - 120,000

C

2.

Fr. Rod Bray*Still
not
well*

Bishop Bede said he had spoken to Fr. Bray the previous week. He had made some improvement but not all that much and he had proposed to him he take three months' complete break. Fr. Bray had agreed to that. Fr. Isaac was prepared to continue looking after things pastoral, Fr. Don Griffin is prepared to go and live in there, and he had authorised Mr. Jack Tompsett to administer the finance and sign the accounts.

Fr. [REDACTED]

recovered Fr. Dickinson said he had seen [REDACTED] and he was not 100% well. He gave the meeting some details of their conversation. Bishop Bede said he expected to hear from [REDACTED] again after he had had further tests.

Fr. Peter Henry

Bishop Bede advised that Fr. Peter had been appointed as Assistant at Penrith.

Chaplaincy to University of Western Sydney

Circulating copies of a draft advertisement for comment, Bishop Bede said he would also give Fr. David Maguire a look at it before the advertisement was placed in the Diocesan circular, national and religious circulars and the Catholic Weekly. We were concentrating our endeavours initially on the two Campuses in our Diocese and would then see where we need to go from there. In reply to a question re lay people Bishop Bede said whilst there would be lay persons now who might offer themselves we would find it difficult to offer the salaries we would have to pay them.

5. PERSONNELFr. [REDACTED]*Much
better*

Bishop Bede advised that Fr. [REDACTED] was taken to Baulkham Hills Hospital at 2 a.m. yesterday in considerable pain and was in the coronary care unit. The specialist said there had been some damage to his heart but Bishop Bede did not know whether it had actually been a coronary. Would have to await developments.

C

3.

Fr. REDACTED

Bishop Bede advised that Fr. RED had seen him and requested permission to resume his Ministry, which he had readily granted. Fr. RED had been working with the Christian Brothers Retreat team at Mulgoa and was very interested to continue in that field to the end of this year. So he had appointed him to that and would put that in the next circular. He had written to Tony Whelan, Provincial Consultor of the Christian Brothers, who in the course of his reply had said that if REDACTED journey towards renewed priestly ministry sees his identification with Mulgoa in some way they would be pleased to support this. Bishop Bede said he would like to see REDACTED back in the parochial service of the Diocese in due course.

*coming
back?*

Fr. Don Griffin

As mentioned earlier, Fr. Don would be asked to go to Merrylands and live in there for the next three months whilst Fr. Bray was still on sick leave.

Fr. Gerald Iverson

Bishop Bede gave details of a conversation with Fr. Iverson a little while ago in the course of which he asked Fr. Iverson, who belongs to Wagga Wagga Diocese, about his plans for next year as he finishes up as President of St. Patrick's College, Manly, at the end of this year. He had nothing definite at this stage but hoped to get into some special works in the service of Priests and he doubted that would be possible in his own Diocese. In a fairly informal way, said Bishop Bede, he talked to him about our House of Prayer, and he had shown interest.

Fr. Bede Lowery

Bishop Bede said that Fr. Lowery's four year term runs out at the end of this year, and, after speaking with Fr. Larkey, he suggested to Fr. Lowery he consult with his Provincial and if he is prepared to further release him we would welcome him in some place other than Parramatta. His great strength was Adult Education.

*going
to parish
in Tasmania*

Fr. Peter Zarzecki

At the present time, Fr. Zarzecki, who had been looking for some full time supply work, was living in at Windsor and will be there until the end of September when Fr. Dooley is due back.

going

4.

Fr. John Farrell

Bishop Bede said this was a difficult situation in that Fr. Farrell had come to see him to say his psychologist had advised him he should move on from Kenthurst as it was not satisfactory for him there. He had then spoken to Fr. Chris Dixon and subsequently saw Fr. Farrell again, but could not manage to get them together in a three sided meeting. Fr. Farrell would like some further work in the Diocese. Bishop Bede said he might have possibility of weekend supply but did not have anything more for the moment. Some discussion followed.

*Apptmt
to June.
now
till October*

Fr. Wim Hoekstra

Fr. de Souza having said Fr. Wim kept asking him when he was coming back to the Diocese, Bishop Bede said Fr. Wim was really employed by the Institute and so he was thinking of writing to the President of the Institution, proposing Fr. Wim return as from 1st January. In reply to a question by Fr. Dickinson, Bishop Bede said that Fr. John McSweeney comes back in February.

*mid
January*

6. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Bishop Bede said he had been sent a copy of the memorandum with the Marist Brothers concerning La Valla, this being the residence of the Parramatta Marists. Discussion particularly centred around items Nos. 6 and 9 where it was felt the words "can" and "may" respectively should each be replaced by "will"; and needed clarification in No. 8 as to what where 'major' items of maintenance, and also in No. 9 concerning intent, i.e. would the Brothers assume responsibility for such major items of maintenance.

7. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE LOOKING TO THE ASSEMBLY 1990

Bishop Bede advised, in the absence of Fr. Arcamone, that the latest programme would go out with his next circular.

Covenant (Refer Council of Priests Meeting)

In reply to a question raised by Fr. Dickinson concerning this matter, Bishop Bede said he had asked for it to be discussed in the Vicariates, and he would be hesitant for it to go public at this stage because there may be some revision when it comes back to the Council of Priests.

5.

8. GENERAL BUSINESSPosition of R.E., Catholic Education Office

Bishop Bede referred to a matter raised with him by Ann Clark concerning the likely resignation of **REDACTED** rather than his return from sick leave. In that event she had asked if he considered it suitable for the position to be advertised as Assistant Director Religious Education, and he gave reasons advanced for this, including giving a higher profile to the position. In the course of discussion Fr. Pilkington suggested it would be good if the Priests could be informed of what is proposed and one or two of them assist in the appointment.

Australian Guild of St. Stephen

Bishop Bede read a letter dated 27th June from Fr. John Murphy, National Director, Guild of St. Stephen, seeking the name of our Diocesan Director to help promote the 11th National Conference of the Guild in Wagga Wagga from 20th - 24th January 1991. The suggestion was made by Fr. Pilkington that someone from the Brothers of St. Gerard Majella might be appropriate.

Fr. Chris de Souza - Last Meeting before leave for Overseas

Advising that this was Fr. Chris' last meeting before going overseas for further studies, Bishop Bede thanked him for his time with us as a member of the younger Clergy and the Vocations person and his assistance over that time. He wished him well in the studies he was to undertake and would look forward to his return to the Diocese when these were completed.

Bishop Bede mentioned that this whole matter would come up in April next year because the initial appointments were for ~~four~~ ⁵ years. The new appointee would be to complete Fr. Chris' term of office.

9. NEXT MEETING

Bishop Bede advised that on the date shown on the agenda for the next meeting, namely, Wednesday, 22nd August, 1990, he would be in Hong Kong, following the meeting he was to attend in Seoul. It was agreed that this scheduled meeting would not be held and the next meeting would be on 26th September 1990. In the event of anything urgent arising, Fr. Hannan would call an extraordinary meeting.

10. CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting then closed with Bishop Bede leading the saying of the Lord's Prayer, 12.33 p.m.

 next meeting
 Oct 18.