

St. James' Anglican Church, Dundas

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held September 11, 2016

Start time 12:05pm

Present: David Brown, Donna Evans, Audrey Nicol, Marcia Rennie, Jennie Rennie, Nora Clemenger, Sue Carson, Jane Beckett, Chris Swartz, Donna Clark, Carleon Hardie, Terese Herron, Sharon White, Tom Parker, Anne Washington, Lil Stewart, Mick Stewart, Nancy Crosby, Richard Hansen, Jean Archbell, Marlene Sarjeant.

Regrets: Jill Regoeczi, Jackie Donnelly, Christine Aiken, Sara Parker, Jackie Donnelly, Miriam Reed

Opened with a reminder of the 2 scripture passages we identified with (The Good Samaritan, and The Mustard Seed), and then a prayer.

Donna Evans and Sue Carson were first and second to motion for adoption of May's minutes and that was carried.

Corporation Report:

- 1) Corporation did not meet over the summer so there are no up to date financials to share but it was reported we are \$37000 in deficit as of end of August.
- 2) The faucet for the handicapped washroom is purchased and will be installed as are the programmable thermostats which will be in before we need heating on.
- 3) Quotes are being gathered for the sanctuary floors to be patched, repaired, and polished.
- 4) The ceiling of the main entry is just a drywall problem and drywall has begun to be repaired in the hallway.
- 5) Tree needs trimming which has branches overhanging the parlour roof.
- 6) Timers on exterior lights need adjusting for earlier nights. Andre notified.

Outreach:

Anne Washington is the coordinator of the chairs of the different outreach committees.

- 1) Donna Bomberry in coming to speak on Indigenous issues around the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Oct. 2, 16. Workshop and lunch to follow.
- 2) Grandmother's Tea Sept, 28th from 12-2pm at Bethesda United church in Ancaster. It is potluck and carpooling can be arranged. All welcome to hear wise women sharing stories. As a parish, we are first to be educated before making decisions on how to act to be helpful.
- 3) Adopt a Family: If you can help in any way, contact Jackie Donnelly.

- 4) Community Dinners still happening. Cooking is done for 60 people but at least 40 come usually.
- 5) Refugees: Furniture is all set for the Government sponsored families except for new claimants who are sporadically arriving. Nothing is being gathered or stored at the church any longer although sporadic needs are being dealt with. Meeting Tues. Sept. 13th to discuss the money left over meant to be used for programming for these folks. Need has been identified with mothers of young children who are having trouble getting out and socializing.
- 6) Our privately sponsored family the Al Ramo's, have been busy settling in. The men are focussed on learning enough English to be employable come the New Year.
- 7) A \$2500 Hands Across Niagara grant was awarded and will be used to get bikes, helmets, locks, etc... to new refugees to help with integration and employment or schooling. The people must spend a small amount and then are helped get the equipment they need.
- 8) The St. Matthew's house Coat Drive will start in October, just need a location to store the coats
- 9) Big Salvation Army food drive coming up on the Sat. Sept. 24th. Help if you can or at least make sure to leave out food and/or get money to them.
- 10) Ellen Osler House: Small gathering happening on Sept. 29th with sharing of stories. Painting is happening, and next, gardening. There is a cooking club and Terese Herron is doing inventory.
- 11) The Association of Dundas churches meets on the 4th Monday of the month.

Pastoral Care Report:

There was a break in the summer but will have a meeting on Oct. 16th after an orientation meeting with new members on the 13th.

Parish Life:

Jill Regoeczi is going through a list of all areas that need volunteers. We don't have a coordinator of drivers and we know we need more drivers. There are other areas needing more volunteers and maybe we could hold a ministry fair for recruiting.

Worship Committee Report:

Services are planned until the first of November and hymns are chosen until early October.

Children's Choir, the St. Cecelia Singers, will begin rehearsals this week. It was asked if boys could join and that will be explored. Children will sing for the Feast of St. Francis.

Potential Fundraiser: Singing of 1 verse of all hymns in the Book of Common Praise from 8am-5pm with 4 organists in early November. There was some discussion on how to encourage fundraising with this initiative. There was an idea to also sell food during the day.

Fundraiser in the form of Pie Sunday to happen sometime.

Christian Education:

Thursday mornings are a Bible study called The Way, Education for Ministry, and Men's Spirituality have begun.

There was Sunday School throughout the summer and has been well attended. Sunday School has had a change of leadership. Sara Parker is leading the nursery now and Jessica Cook has taken over Sunday School. Stephen Gentles will also teach on occasion with Marlene Sarjeant, Terese Herron, and Angela Roper.

Sundae Sunday coming soon.

The nook has been changed around for the comfort of our younger members and a big panel of wood that has been leaning there hazardously will be removed. It has been causing a thermostat behind it to run continuously so it will also be more economical to have it removed.

Green Committee Report:

On Oct. 30th, Bill Mous will award us the Gold certification. We have done very well with our environmental initiatives!

Filomena Tassi is holding a Town Hall meeting on Clean Growth and Climate change on Wed. Sept 14th at St. Paul's United church. All welcome!

Rector's Report:

Sat. Sept. 17th is a parish workshop with Steve Miller. We will be looking at our history, mapping our assets, like the building, finances, people (time, talents, and treasures). We will be looking at where to move forward. Maybe take on new and let go of old.

A stewardship committee is coming to create a narrative budget for this year's vestry. These tell the story of why things are done.

Watch for bulletin inserts asking about your time, talents, and treasures. A personal letter will be sent as well. We want to make sure to avoid burn out with volunteers so we will need to let some things go that aren't working any more.

Other Business:

- 1) It was suggested to regularly clear the names from the prayer list as it has become quite long to list them again.
- 2) Evening security checks need to be covered while the regular person is away. Volunteers were chosen to make sure the building is secure after hours.

3) Jane Beckett is being awarded the Order of Niagara on Oct. 2nd at 4pm at the cathedral. Come support her if you can.

4) It was decided that all parish council members should bring a bag lunch for our meetings.

Next meeting is Oct. 16, 16 after the 10:30am service.

We ended with the grace at 1:10pm.