

St. John-in-the-Wilderness Anglican Church

VESTRY MEETING

January 12, 2020

Father Shaun welcomed everyone and began the meeting with a review of Canon 18 and a prayer.

Election of Vestry Clerk

Sandra Fraser moved to elect Sandra Lamoureux as vestry clerk, seconded by Fran Taylor. Carried.

Election of Scrutineers

This is to be done later if needed.

Janice McAlpine moved that the voting on the motions be done by ballot. Seconded by Judith Bond. Carried.

Acceptance of Agenda

Mavis Schmid moved that the agenda be accepted. Seconded by Janice McAlpine. Carried.

Minutes of 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting

Brent Anderson moved that the 2019 Minutes be accepted. Seconded by Pat Poland. Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising from the Minutes.

Acceptance of Reports

Father Shaun mentioned there was a typo which has been corrected. Doug Winch moved that the reports be accepted as written. Seconded by Ingrid Schmid.

Treasurer's Report

Ingrid Schmid (Deputy Treasurer 2019) talked about 2019. Our aim for outreach has traditionally been 10% of the offerings (approx \$10 000). As our expenses were lower until we had a new Minister we committed to double that amount. We had to dip into the reserves to

cover our capital expenses for the slight shortfall realized when the final revenue vs expenditures data was in. She concluded with a “well done” to the congregation for the outreach provided.

Brian Fogg (Deputy Treasurer 2020) then spoke to the 2020 financial situation. The budget anticipates a slight decrease in envelope givings. Cash flow is sufficient to meet the operating expenses; however, the current outreach amount of \$20,000 is not sustainable without continued dipping into the surplus.

Deb Walker said the question then is; “What can we do to attract new members.”

Leslie Grieve mentioned that the ACW was providing needed funds for VBS which is an outreach programme

Peter Langille suggested that if everyone contribute \$100 more this year there would be enough to cover the Outreach.

Maggie Brownridge mentioned the ACW was providing \$5,000 for outreach this year.

Bob Halliday commented that he did not feel the current cleaning service was doing a good job for the price and that he and Susan would be willing to do those two cleaning weeks in addition to the one they presently do to save money.

Brenden Fraser moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Seconded by Deb Walker. Carried.

Recognition of Service

Fr. Shaun thanked those who had been on council: Sandra Fraser, Denise Hillary, Ron Jackson & Brenda Clingersmith.

Nominating Committee Report/Slate of Officers

The nominating committee consisted of: The Reverend Shaun Eaton, Sandra Fraser, Shirley MacKenzie, Brent Anderson and Peter Langille.

Fr. Shaun read through the list. For each position he called for nominees from the floor. No others were nominated for any of the positions. He then asked “All in favour?”. There was a show of hands for each position. The result was the slate of officers as listed below.

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2020 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Vestry Clerk

SANDRA LAMOUREUX

Warden Emeritus
Council)

SHIRLEY MacKENZIE (Appointed by Rector, Not on

Warden	DEB WALKER (Appointed by Rector)
Warden	PETER LANGILLE
Deputy Warden	INGRID SCHMID (Appointed by Rector)
Deputy Warden	BRENT ANDERSON
Treasurer	DAVE HAINS (Appointed by Wardens and on council)
Deputy Treasurer	BRIAN FOGG (Appointed by Wardens)
Envelope Secretary	SANDRA LAMOUREUX (Not on Council)
Lay Delegate to Synod	JANICE MCALPINE
Alternate Delegate to Synod	SANDRA FRASER (not on council)
Youth Member	DURHAM LANGILLE (not on council)
Regular Council Members	KEN WALKER BRIAN FOGG FRAN TAYLOR LESLIE GRIEVE TIM CROSSLAND BRIAN BRADFORD (Appointed) (Appointed) (Appointed)
AFP Representative	BRENDA CLINGERSMITH

New Business

There were two motions put forward for discussion prior to coming to the floor.

Motion #1: Would move that the 8:00 a.m. service remain at 8 a.m. and the 10:30 service be changed to 10:00 a.m. all year long.

Motion #2: Would move that the 8:00 a.m. service and the 10:30 service remain the same all year long.

Before there was any voting, Fr. Shaun opened a conversation about the various issues relating to the service times. In this conversation:

Mavis Schmid: Suggested 1.5 hours between services is not enough time for the altar guild to set up. Instead of creating a calm feeling before church it is rushed.

Jim Foubister: Questioned how there could be a discussion until there was a motion on the floor.

Ken Walker: Asked for clarification. #1 the services are closer and no summer change; #2 the hours stay the same and again no change in summer.

Deb Walker: Commented that earlier services e.g. 10 a.m. are not helpful in attracting young families

Brenden Fraser: Asked what the “Pro’s” would be for changing the times.

Brent Anderson: Spoke to Motion #1 which he had put forward. Decreasing the time between services keeps the A/C & Heating footprint to a minimum

Duncan Mann: Was asked by Fr. Shaun to then speak to Motion #2 which he had put forward. Said he had nothing to add to the written motion.

Sandra Lamoureux: Agreed with Mavis. Was not concerned about the actual times of the services but felt 2 hours between services was necessary.

Doug Winch: Was OK having the earlier service begin at 8:30

Brian Bradford: Asked how long the 8 a.m. service was? Fr. Shaun said both services were approximately 1 hour long.

Deb Walker: Commented that the 8 a.m. congregation were “huggers”. Fr. Shaun agreed.

Jim Foubister: Decreasing the time between services is negative for the Altar Guild; if it’s not broken don’t try to fix it; fooling with the times will decrease the number of congregants.

Ingrid Schmid: Moving the time to 10 a.m. could affect outlying parishioners in Wyoming, Sarnia

Brian Fogg: What about 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.?

Aruna Anderson: Change is hard for older parishioners. Harder to adapt. Will just stop attending.

Mavis Schmid: Thanked Fr. Shaun for allowing this discussion. Found it enjoyable and enlightening.

Mavis Schmid moved that Motion #1 be amended to read that the services be at 8:30 and 10:30 all year long. Seconded by Jim Foubister.

Election of Scrutineers if needed

Instead of holding an election for scrutineers Fr. Shaun appointed the following scrutineers:

Duncan Mann (Who proposed Motion #2)

Brent Anderson (Who proposed Motion #1)

Mavis Schmid (Who proposed the amendment)

37 parishioners were present. 19 votes represented a majority

Results of the vote on the Amendment: Yes (28), No (6). Passed.

Amended Motion #1 Vote: Yes (29), No (6). Passed.

Regular Sunday services at St. John-in-the-Wilderness will now be at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. all year long.

In follow-up, Jim Foubister questioned why motions had to be submitted 3 weeks before vestry as there was no mention of that in the canons. Fr. Shaun agreed that there was no such rule in the canons, but that this was the practice of the National Church and the Diocese for Synods. The practice is not required at the Parish level, but can be helpful, because it allows the congregation a chance to reflect on the issues prior to Vestry. That being said, new motions and amendments can arise at Vestry.

Jim Foubister felt motions from the floor should be allowed during New Business, unlike last year's Vestry, when he was not allowed to make a motion regarding service times because it had not been submitted in writing three weeks in advance. Added that he did not understand Fr. Shaun's approach to discussing motions that have not yet been made.

Fr. Shaun responded that he was not here at the last Vestry; that he regretted any hurt caused by Jim's not being allowed to make a motion at that time; that it is being handled differently now; and that it was time to move on. He added that, in fairness, he had shared with Jim, Archbishop Colin Johnson's counsel regarding how to handle these two conflicting motions in this year's Vestry by seeking to resolve them through conversation at Vestry, prior to formally making motions.

Jim agreed that he had seen the Archbishop's letter, but not that he had understood it. Added that he would like a motion that motions from the floor be allowed during New Business.

Brian Fogg said that this would be redundant.

Fran Taylor moved that motions from the floor be allowed during New Business. Seconded by Mavis Schmid.

Ken Walker proposed voting by show of hands.

Motion brought by Brent Anderson, seconded by Janice McAlpine, to vote by a show of hands rather than by ballot. Carried.

The motion (by Fran Taylor, seconded by Mavis Schmid) that motions from the floor be allowed during New Business was carried.

Brenden Fraser moved that vestry be adjourned. Seconded by Denise Hillary. Carried.