

St. John in the Wilderness

Church Council Meeting - Thursday January 18, 2024

Present: Peter Langille, Deb Walker, Brian Bradford, Brian Fogg, Ingrid Schmid, Brent Anderson, Susan Halliday, Sandra Fraser, Mike Moloney, Dave Hains

Regrets: Leslie Grieve, Brenden Fraser, Amanda Longmoore

Scribe: Deb Walker

Opening – Sandra Fraser opened with a prayer.

Minutes, previous meeting (corrections, approval)

MOTION to accept by Brent seconded by Brian Bradford. PASSED

Business arising from the minutes - none

Minister's Report

None – Amanda is on vacation.

Warden's Report

Things are moving along smoothly. Just finished cleaning and waxing the pews and other wood in the church proper. Garden shed will be installed in February; anything going into the shed must be approved by a warden.

Vestry: We have all but Little Library and Servers reports in. The slate of officers is almost complete. We are still encouraging parishioners to come forward if they want to be on Council/Executive, we would like to have one or two more Council members.

Property Committee

Windows should go in the south end of the hall, sacristy and over the south stain glass window in May. H Moore will install – we had seven quotes. Single hung, thermal pane for the hall and sacristy. Memorial funds are covering the costs.

We now have a battery-back-up sump pump to back up our main sump pump.

The kitchen has new faucets; we installed them after several floods over the last few weeks.

A volunteer crew cleaned the wood pews, wood chairs, paneling, altar, and rails in the church proper with isopropyl alcohol then waxed them.

ACW Report

ACW is hosting Pancake Tuesday dinner here for the community on Tuesday, February 13 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Donations will be accepted at the door.

ACW is leading the potluck meal before Vestry.

ACW is sending February Blah packages to post-secondary students in February.

Treasurer's Report

The envelope givings were below plan but increased versus 2022, which is good. Our operational revenue grew by 7%. We were below plan on revenue but had good growth. Memorial funds and fundraising were good.

Church expenses were up due to energy (gas), some building costs, building use was up (a good thing). Operational expenses were 6% above plan.

This year-end financial report (presented by Brian Fogg) will be in our Vestry report.

Our cash position is still healthy. To be a healthy parish, however, our operational revenue (does not include fundraising/memorials) should cover operational expenses and this is not the case now. Operational expenses are greater than 85% fixed costs.

MOTION by Brian Fogg to accept, seconded by Ingrid Schmid. PASSED

2024 Budget

We are looking to a 9% growth on givings (same dollar target as 2023). Our apportionment is \$4,000 more in 2024 versus 2023, due to increased expenses in 2021 versus 2022. Apportionment amount from an expense basis should increase less going into 2025.

Electrical upgrades for the kitchen and sound upgrades for the church proper are in the capital budget. We introduced 200-amp service to the church about 18 months ago for air conditioning of the hall; this now enables the much-needed fix of the kitchen electrical.

New Business

Brian Bradford: Next Council meeting talk about protocol around use of our new electronic church bell.

Sandra Fraser: Let's post the Fundscrip procedure on our bulletin board and the first Sunday of each month put an announcement in the bulletin and talk about it in the church. We all agreed.

Correspondence

none

Other Business

none

MOTION to adjourn by Sandra Fraser

Closing

The meeting was closed with the grace.