

# St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday November 14, 2024

Present: Brian Bradford, Susan Halliday, Sandra Fraser, Amanda Longmoore, Mike Moloney, Brian Fogg, Brent Anderson, Deb Walker, Ingrid Schmid, Peter Last

Regrets: Peter Langille, Brenden Fraser, Leslie Grieve

Scribe: Mike Moloney

**Opening** – Amanda opened with a prayer.

**Reviewed previous Minutes**, (no corrections)

**MOTION to accept by Mike seconded by Brent PASSED by All.**

**Business arising from the minutes.**

February Blahs list being revied, two dropped from list due to graduation one has been added for a total of nine students.

## **Rector's Report**

PAST

- attended Diocesan Synod mid-October, 2 major things:
  - o We adopted the Diocesan plan, "Turning to Grace" -- copies will be available soon
  - o We reviewed the finances of the Diocese. They are behind in audits and working to resolve some bookkeeping issues. Carried a significant deficit for 2023 which improved significantly in 2024. Continuing to get audits caught up and create clearer and more transparent accounting. Jackie Davison, our Diocesan Director of Finance, will be joining our upcoming Deanery Council to present the 2025 budget and answer questions. Proposed 2025 budget is balanced.
- Oct 30 - Peter & I interviewed by Elizabeth Millar, a doctoral student studying what makes for successful churches in Canada. She will make a summary of her findings available to us when completed.
- Remembrance Sunday Nov 3 -- worship with Camlachie United and cenotaph ceremony went well

CURRENT

- This Sunday is ACW Sunday at 10:30
- I'm away Sun, Nov 24 to be in London that morning, and Bishop Terry Dance will be covering for me at both 8:30 and 10:30. Terry and is wife Diane are looking forward to coming.

## FUTURE

- Offer from Sarnia parishes for our parish to join them for a combined Lessons and Carols service on Sunday, Dec 22, 10:30 am at All Saints'.

MOVED by Brian B, seconded by Ingrid, that our parish join the Sarnia area parishes of All Saints', St. Bart's, Canon Davis, and St. Paul's for a Lessons and Carols Service the morning of Sun, Dec 22 at All Saints', Sarnia in place of our regular 10:30 service. CARRIED

### **Warden's Report Deb**

Acoustic tile update: Peter has purchased two boxes of acoustic tiles for less than \$100. Each box has a dozen tiles. The tiles are 12-inch by 12-inch. A sample area will be chosen soon to install these tiles on.

A projector will be purchased shortly with memorial funds. We expect the projector we are looking for will go on sale soon since Black Friday sales are around the corner.

On November 8, 2024 the church internet speed has been increased from 20/10 Mbps to 80/30 Mbps. The newly negotiated cost for the Phone / Internet has decreased for a yearly saving of more than \$925.

The three building timers for our outside spotlights have been adjusted to reflect the end of Daylight Savings Time and the earlier sunset. The three timers will come on between 4PM to 5PM and turnoff at midnight,

### **Property Committee – Brian B.**

The Hall floors are scheduled to be deep-cleaned by volunteers on Friday November 15, 2024.

The leaves are scheduled to be raked/mulched by volunteers on Monday November 18, 2024 at 1PM.

### **ACW Report (report by Amanda)**

ACW service this Sunday November 17, 2024.

Soup and Sandwich is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent. December 8, 2024.

The ACW is hosting a Christmas party at John's Restaurant. It is scheduled for Noon on December 4, 2024. They will be accepting new children's or women's unwrapped items to be donated to the Women's Interval Home if interested.

Bob Clingersmith has consented to a ACW \$1000 donation to the Sound / Video System. This will be in memory of Brenda Clingersmith.

ACW will be hosting a bake sale extravaganza 10AM to Noon on Saturday November 30, 2024.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Good news we are 7% ahead of giving compared to last year however we are still 8% behind budget. Church has just reinvested \$44,000 into a cashable GIC. We also have a healthy cash balance from earlier fundraiser that have been settled.

Brian F noted the church insurance is roughly \$1000 more than we budgeted for.

**MOTION to accept by Brian B seconded by Susan PASSED by all.**

### **New Business**

We are looking at our 2025 budget and started to work on a new 2025 draft. With the extra cost we really need to look at growing our congregation. We are asking our congregation to invite a neighbour, friend or family member to join our wonderful church.

**MOVED** by Deb Walker, seconded by Brian Bradford, that we as the Anglican Parish of St. John in the Wilderness, Bright's Grove, transfer our account and other assets from Scotiabank to Libro Credit Union as soon as practical, and authorize 5 people to act as signing authority on the account, with 2 signatures required per transaction. **CARRIED**

**MOVED** by Sandra Fraser, seconded by Mike Moloney, that the people filling the following positions will act as signing authority for parish banking: Parish Wardens (2), and 3 additional people as appointed by the Wardens. **CARRIED**

\*Note as always two signature required for all cheques.

### **Correspondence**

The Anglican Foundation has asked our church for a donation. This foundation has given us money in the past. i.e. Bee Suits, etc... We donated \$100 in each of 2021 and 2022; we missed donating to them last year and decided to give them \$200 this year.

**MOTION to accept by Susan seconded by Brent PASSED by all.**

### **Other Business**

A request to the congregation to donate no longer needed eye glasses to the Kenya Mission. There is a basket in church to receive these donations.

**MOTION to adjourn by Ingrid**

**Closing**

The meeting was closed with the grace.