

St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday January 16, 2025

Present: Brian Bradford, Susan Halliday, Sandra Fraser, Mike Moloney, Brian Fogg, Brent Anderson, Deb Walker, Peter Langille, Brenden Fraser,

Regrets: Leslie Grieve, Ingrid Schmid, Amanda Longmoore, Aruna Anderson

Scribe: Mike Moloney

Opening – Sandra opened with a prayer.

Reviewed previous Minutes, (no corrections)

MOTION to accept by Brenden seconded by Sandra PASSED by All.

Business arising from the minutes.

Rector's Report

Amanda currently on vacation. No Report

Warden's Report Deb

Vestry Report mostly completed. Just waiting on two reports. (Stats and Choir)

Property Committee – Brian B.

The bathroom by the northwest corner of our hall had the water freeze three times this winter. When investigating if there was adequate insulation it was found one of the lines had a small leak. When Custom Plumbing came to site, they found the cold-water line had two water leaks and repaired both of them. They also noted the main water line in the crawlspace also has a water leak near the church shutoff valves. Custom Plumbing will need to coordinate with the city on shutting off the outside valve to fix this issue. More insulation will also be added to bathroom walls before closing repair holes.

ACW Report

Sandra reported a lady from St Joseph Hospice is going to speak at next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

December 2024 generated \$13,900 in givings. Thank you! We budgeted a \$9000 deficit but managed to make a \$4500 credit in operating revenue in 2024. A \$21,283 GIC from 2022 memorial funds was transferred from investments in 2024 and contributed to this operating credit; these GIC funds were directed to memorial capital in 2024. Excluding this investment transfer, we had an operating deficit of about \$16,800. Givings had an increase of 5.2% compared to last year, good and thank you! In December four \$2,200 donation cheques were issued and given to the Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton, St. Clair Child & Youth Services, Women's Interval Home of Sarnia Lambton, and the Inn of the good Shepard. Note: A complete listing of church outreach donations will be listed in the 2025 Vestry Report. Looking at all money flows for 2024 (total revenue, expenses, capital, and outreach) we were a smidgen in the positive – well done!

The Diocese of Huron urges that parishes have a balanced budget; this means our givings need to increase \$15,439 more a year for a total of \$131,000 to have a balanced operating budget in 2025.

Apportionment will increase by \$4,000 in 2025 vs 2024

Insurance budget for 2025 is now \$7,600

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

New Business

There was a diocese questionnaire regarding apportionment procedure sent to parishes. Brian F. filled it out for our parish and identified a few concerns. One concern brought forward was using the dollar numbers for apportionment that were almost two years old. With everyone using electronic documents and emails there is no reason this information could not be more current. The second concern is setting apportionment on what the diocese wants to spend instead of setting the budget on what parishes can afford to give.

Susan, our organist, informed us she can't stay up for the 10 PM Christmas service. We had 116 attendees at 7 PM Christmas Eve service and 38 attendees at the 10 PM service. We will discuss if we should move the service to an earlier time or other options.

Shalleen notified us she will not be able to pickup the food donations for 3 weeks in February. The church parish usually donates around 2 bags of food per week. This is usually at the entrance. She proposes we have a table in the hall for the donation. If anybody donates food at the entrance Nancy will move it to this table. She will talk to Carol about moving coffee tins and egg cartons to the empty quilt shelf in the storage room. There will be a one-time pickup in February to collect all the donated food.

Correspondence

None

Other Business

None

MOTION to adjourn by Bob

Closing

The meeting was closed with the grace.