

St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday December 12, 2024

Present: Peter Langille, Brian Bradford, Sandra Fraser, Amanda Longmoore, Mike Moloney, Brian Fogg, Brent Anderson, Deb Walker, Ingrid Schmid, Leslie Grieve

Regrets: Brenden Fraser, Susan Halliday

Scribe: Deb Walker

Opening – Amanda opened with a prayer.

Reviewed previous Minutes, (no corrections)

MOTION to accept by Leslie seconded by Mike PASSED by All.

Business arising from the minutes.

none

Rector's Report

Advent / Christmas schedule has been in the bulletin for a few weeks. Longest Night service will be Dec 21 at 4pm. Sun, Dec 22 at 10:30 we will be joining other parishes in Sarnia for Lessons and Carols at All Saints'. Christmas Eve services at 7 and 10 pm, Christmas morning at 10 am. Dec 29 at 10:30 we will have Christmas Lessons and Carols.

I will be on vacation from Mon, Jan 6 to Mon, Jan 20. The Rev'd Steve Harnadek at All Saints' will be covering for pastoral emergencies; his contact information will be in the bulletin.

At a recent meeting of **Diocesan Council**, it was decided that the **new structure for the Territorial Archdeacons** (TADs) would be a 3/4 position funded by the diocese, with each TAD serving 1/4 time in a parish. There will be considerable turnover from the current Archdeacons, and Bishop Todd is still in the process of filling these positions. Further details will be shared as they become public.

Warden's Report Deb and Peter

Amanda is training Deb on the **web**. Church business page is in the process of going up. We will have portions open to the public and portions open to parish members only.

Aruna Anderson has volunteered to be our **Deputy Treasurer**. **Brian Fogg** has agreed to move from Deputy Treasurer to **Treasurer**, with the aim of Aruna becoming Treasurer in a couple of years.

- **Thanks very much to Brenden Fraser** for being our Treasurer and **Aruna and Brian** for assuming the above roles.

Per our Vestry meeting we will give **outreach funds** of \$2,200 to each of Alzheimer's, Inn of the Good St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church, Bright's Grove
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Shepherd, St. Clair Child and Youth, and Women's Interval Home. We will ask Alzheimer's to put the funds towards their wellness lounge, as we have parishioners involved here.

Sacristy Furnace failed a couple of Sundays' ago. After a cleaning by a Furnace technician, it is working fine. Peter is going to speak with Mark's Home Comfort Tech regarding initiating a fall maintenance of our furnaces as this has happened for a couple of the last Decembers.

Vestry Milestones: Vestry is February 2, 2025, with a snow date of February 16. Reports will be due to our secretary for January 10. This Sunday's bulletin announcement will have this information,

Acoustic Tile Project: Peter is looking to get together with Brent and Mike to test the 24 tiles. Each tile is 1 foot x 1 foot and the group of them cost less than \$100. Aim is to establish best way to install tiles for both function and aesthetics.

Projector was purchased with memorial funds. We are working out how best use it. We are keeping two wall spaces open in the hall for use (buy the coffee area and in front of the alter area in the Sunday School). The sound is excellent.

Property Committee – Brian B.

We did not meet in December. Routine maintenance is our focus, along with the sound tile project and then the sound/video projector project.

ACW Report (Leslie)

\$600 was collected on ACW Sunday – it will be taken to to the annual Diocesan annual ACW meeting in April and donated to them to support their efforts.

Christmas party at Johns Restaurant was a lot of fun, and lots of gifts were collected for children and adults at the Woman's Interval Home.

The Bake Sale engaged the whole church and many community members came to chat and purchase our baking. The ACW raised \$1450. The hall looked fun and was bustling.

Treasurer's Report

We had a good November parishioner givings but we are still lagging behind our budget (not at a balanced operating budget yet). This said we are 7% ahead of 2023 givings.

Apportionment is paid in full; it was \$21,286.00 for the year.

December tends to be a very good month for givings and we are hopeful this is the case this year.

MOTION to accept by Brian B seconded by Sandra PASSED by all.

2025 Proposed Budget

Brian Fogg presented the 2025 proposed budget for our parish, we discussed it, our plan is to formalize it in January in time for Vestry.

The Diocese indicates we must present a balanced budget.

Move to Libro from Scotia Bank

This is in progress; it should be transparent to parishioners and will occur over the next few months. This will save on transaction fees, help in deposit box logistics, and make it easier to handle the small investments we have.

New Business

Sandra brought the Christmas Family gifts cards to the Bright's Grove School for a family and to Errol Village School for a family. The principals at both schools said the gifts were very much appreciated. Thanks to the parish.

Correspondence

None

Other Business

MOTION to adjourn by Ingrid

Closing

The meeting was closed with the grace.