

St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday March 13, 2025

Present: Brian Bradford, Sandra Fraser, Mike Moloney, Brian Fogg, Brent Anderson, Deb Walker, Peter Langille, Amanda Longmoore, Aruna Anderson, Kathy Morris, Leslie Grieve, Susan Halliday, Brenden Fraser

Regrets: Ingrid Schmid, Sandy Dawson

Scribe: Mike Moloney

Opening – Amanda opened with a prayer.

Reviewed previous Minutes, (no corrections)

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

Business arising from the minutes.

Rector's Report

Amanda officiated a wedding on Sat, March 8 in the church (Jonathan Burwell and Maize Draper) that went very well. We began Lent with our Ash Wednesday service and she is planning ahead to Holy Week and Easter.

After her announcement last month that she will be finishing her time with us at the end of April, much of Amanda's work will now be getting us ready for our transition time. She will be working with people, the wardens and Heather in particular, in making sure there's nothing she does regularly that no one else knows how to do. She's working with a few folks who are interested and willing to learn to maintain our parish website as well. The decision to move to London was a difficult one, but with her Archdeacon role she will be only 1/4 time in a parish and our parish needs a priest for more than 10 hours a week. She spoke a bit about the process to find a new rector that will happen after she leaves, and that will be shared with the parish over the next couple of weeks as many people are worried about what the next steps will be.

Wardens' Report

The parish has submitted most of the reports due to the Diocese by March 31, 2025. Some safe church reviews and the Statistical report still to be completed.

Well done to the ACW, Rector Amanda, the Property Committee, the Altar Guild, and other helping parishioners; on March 3 to 8 we hosted Pancake Tuesday, Ash Wednesday service, World Day of

Prayer, a wedding rehearsal, and a wedding. Our little church was hopping.

Property Committee – Brian B.

Outside AC units still need to be cleaned. To be done around June 2025 when the poplar cotton has finished.

Parking Lot to be regraded by Lakeshore Lawncare to reduce water pooling. A temporary trench to drain parking lot water worked well to relieve the winter melt.

The snow markers have been removed from parking lot and front lawn has been raked. Garden, bushes and rear lawn will be scheduled at a later date to protect overwintering pollinators.

Locks will be lubricated soon.

We are expecting to receive Saint Bart's PA amp system and speakers.

Brent installed two new shelves in north part of kitchen and installed drawer fronts.

Karl Schmid made a new Projector Stand for the Church. It is currently being stored at the rear of the church. A big thank you to Karl for this beautiful item.

The start of the sound dampening tiles are going to be installed in the church hall in a few weeks.

The crawl space vents to be removed next week.

Outdoor light timers have been adjusted and emergency exit lights have been tested as of March 12.

The kitchen island is splitting in the centre. It needs to be reinforced by a steel frame. Date TBD

The floor in the storage room was upgraded. It was enhanced with a thicker 1" floor and retiled. Thank you to everyone who help with this project. Especially Brent who led the project.

ACW Report

The ACW prayer day was a great success. Lots of positive comments.

A blue altar cloth is being made for the altar.

Pancake supper was a huge success. It made \$1000.00 net. Thank you to everyone who contributed to its success.

Soup and Sandwich is scheduled for April 13, 2025 – Palm Sunday.

Treasurer's Report

Good month for cash contribution. Over \$9000 of operating revenue for February.

We are currently applying for 2024 HST rebate.

Salary and benefits are lower since Amanda's salary is being covered by the diocese.

The church banking is mostly switched to Libro with the church weekly deposits going there.

Bluewater Power, Enbridge, Cogeco automatic withdrawals are now setup with Libro.

A credit card is being requested for the church with the Treasurer holding the physical card all transactions will be automatically emailed to the Treasurer.

A \$43,000 GIC will be moved from Scotia Bank to Libro.

We need to address the accounting SAGE software where the church secretary is the only person knowing how to use it.

Year end Vestry financial has been completed and filed.

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

New Business

No more new books needed right now for the church little library.

When the new credit card is made available the Church Web Site (Tithely) will be moved to this card. Also the creation of church electronic Dropbox will be charged to this credit card.

Motion to Spend up to \$300 a year for a Dropbox was put forward.

MOTION to accept by Deb seconded by Leslie PASSED by all.

It was decided we will only purchase Zoom account if/when needed.

Correspondence

None

Other Business

None

MOTION to adjourn by Brenden

Closing

The meeting was closed with the grace.