



St. George's of Forest Hill

Parish Council Minutes of February 26, 2008

Present

Wayne Matheson, Chair	Don Davidson	Judy Proctor
Christine Ledbury, Secretary	Murray Gamble	Laura Robertson
Karen Baker	Jean Horne	Reta Risto
Nathan Butt	Steve Lipkowski	John Ryrie
Susan Butt	Ivan Mariapen	John Shaw
Valerie Cuthbert	Gerry McGregor	Jim Stirling

Regrets*

Andrea Balfour	Brian Tomka	Jessica Visutski
Margaret Walker		

These minutes are written in the order of the agenda and not as presented.

1. Call to Order

2. Regrets

3. Devotions

The Rector opened with prayer.

4. Web Site Presentation

Marc Mennell introduced Cameron Crassweller as a member of the Communications Committee and Allison Olmstead, who is the web site administrator. Following these introductions, Cameron gave a brief overview of what is being done to improve and update the parish web site. Allison then took over and gave Council a demonstration of how the web site will look and how viewers will be able to zero in on current events/activities/committees which form St. George's Parish. The demonstration was done at length and was very informative and appreciated by all members..

5. Reading and Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes of the January 22, 2008 meeting were approved, subject to the following changes: 1st line, 2nd paragraph, p.2, debt for 2007 should read debt for 2006, Margaret Walker and Karen Baker to be added as members of the Worship Committee, reference to the letter from the Library in 7. a) on p. 3, should show as under the Anniversary Committee, and Guiana should be Guyana under the World Day of Prayer under 8., p. 3. John Shaw, seconded Ivan Mariapen. Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising.

7. Stewardship Report

Marc Mennell brought Council up to date with recent activities of the Stewardship Committee. He reported that the skate with the Rangers was good with five team players out, and raising \$270, which the Rangers may match. An ad hoc committee has been formed to study where the parish will be going in the future. A two part recommendation has been made to the Executive from the ad hoc committee, 1) to engage the parish in a planning and vision retreat to be held in the Spring of 2008, and 2) a financial campaign to be run in the fall of 2008 in the hope of retiring the mortgage on the rectory. John Ryrie feels that the campaign should be started before September. John has also sent wording to Murray regarding an information insert to be put in the

bulletin re the mortgage and other expenditures needed to maintain the church property. He suggested that perhaps a 60/40 split be considered when utilizing funds raised in the campaign to offset other areas in need. Wayne suggested that Marc Mennell work with John Ryrie. Council was asked to give thought to a facilitator/leader for the proposed upcoming retreat. In discussion on feedback from the earlier retreat, the question was asked, where do we go next – a five year plan? A four committee structure was put in place from this. A need to plan the future, who will replace the current leaders of the church in 10-20 years time. One reason for the lack of incoming young people is that they are too organized with sports and other activities on Sundays, and from the youth member, Nathan Butt, it helps to come to church if you have friends also attending. Laura suggested that it be emphasized to the parish that it is a congregational retreat that is planned, not just a parish council retreat. Wayne will go back to Marc to talk about a date and explore the fund raising aspect.

8. Committee Reports (Standing Committees)

a) Executive Committee

Wayne reported that:

- The Dragon Flyer will be mailed on March 10, deadline for submissions is tomorrow, Feb 27.
- May 11 there will be an inter-generational service.
- A group of graduate students from Renison College are setting up a memorial fund for David Hartry. Anyone wishing to make a donation to this fund may do so through the Executive.

b) Finance Committee

The Treasurer reported that at this time the parish is solvent.

c) Worship Committee

- i) The Worship Committee has approved going to one service in the summer months, to be held at 9:00 a.m., with services alternating between the BAS and Book of Common Prayer.

Motion: That St. George's go to one service at 9:00 a.m. during the summer months.
John Ryrie, seconded Judy Proctor. Carried.

- ii) There will be an inter-generational service at 2:00 p.m. on Good Friday, which has now become the largest service of the Easter season. The Worship Committee would like to see another one for Pentecost which would be children based using their choice of music and Ken Hull bringing in some high energy music. The homily would be a lengthened children's focus.

iii) Pastoral Care.

The Rector explained to Council the idea behind the prayer quilts which are being made by a parish quilting group called Blessings and Blocks. These quilts will be made and given to seriously sick parishioners. The congregation will be asked to tie the knots on the quilts and say a prayer for the person who is sick. Permission from the ill person will be obtained to give out their name.

iv) Camp Little Dragon.

The Rector explained that in the past a director has been hired and paid \$5700/summer. There are theology students in the Diocese looking for summer placements who could run the camp and also provide help for services for about \$6000. This could eliminate the need for an Assistant Director.

The second monies are now coming in for the Habit build with more money coming in than expected and growing momentum from parishes who were not previously involved.

Motion: The Rector has asked to spend between \$100-\$200 to buy a new chip for his older computer to enable him to access through the new high speed internet connection.

John Ryrie, seconded by Ivan Mariapen. Carried.

e) Property and Maintenance

Murray Gamble reported that the lights in Thompson Hall have been fixed. Complete rewiring has been necessary to complete this. Other priorities identified were miscellaneous electrical work to be done, the front roof is still leaking but cannot be fixed until the better weather comes, the eavestroughs create water dams. On the positive side, the sound system is good, with positive comments from the hearing assist aids. A new mic is coming for the lectern. And, Mike DuBoulay has been asked to join the Committee. Ivan said that the bifold door on the cupboard in the Fireside Room was causing problems and it had been suggested that a curtain be used to replace the doors. Jim Stirling would like to buy a chair trolley for use in Thompson Hall to aid in the moving and stacking of the chairs. Murray added that it would cost about \$700 to replace the lights in both the washrooms in the basement.

f) Outreach

Reta reported that there is a Habitat for Humanity family skate on March 1. The Pancake Supper raised about \$800 for the two foster children and a further \$800 was raised by the selling of chocolates for Anselma House. St. Monica House will be holding their high tea on May 4. Roberta Finnie has bought a table for eight and tickets can be purchased for \$35/person.

9. Committee Reports (Ad Hoc)

a) History Committee

Laura reported that the Dragon Bytes would be taken and incorporated into the volume with the photos and a DVD of music over the years, will also be produced. Everything is now coming together and hopefully the volume will be available by the end of April.

10. New Business

A list of Council members was handed out indicating their information. John Shaw asked that his e-mail be corrected to read ironman_s@hotmail.com. Also distributed was a list of expectations of members, who were asked to sign up for devotions or refreshments for the coming year.

Ivan mentioned that neither the 8:15 a.m. or Wednesday 10:00 a.m. services were mentioned in the K-W Record. This to be taken to the Worship Committee.

11. Dates to Remember

- ▶ World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Executive Meeting – Thursday, March 13, 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room
- ▶ Next Parish Council meeting, Tuesday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m., Jim Stirling, Chair

Motion to adjourn: Laura Robertson, John Shaw, 9:20 p.m.