

ST. George's of Forest Hill Anglican Church – Kitchener, Ontario

Parish Council Minutes of May 25, 2010

Present

Susan Butt, Chair	Don Davidson	Gerry McGregor
Valerie Cuthbert, Secretary	Cheryl Fox	Judy Proctor
Karen Baker	Murray Gamble	Reta Risto
Marcia Condon	Jean Horne	John Ryrie
April Couzens-Brown	Steve Lipkowski	John Shaw
Nelson Cuthbert	Ivan Mariapen	

Regrets Gladys Grant, Laura Lightfoot, Christine Ledbury

1. *Call to Order*
2. *Regrets. See above*
3. *Devotions: Karen Baker*
4. *Changes/Additions to Agenda*

John Ryrie noted that the T-shirt Sunday date should be June 20th and moved such. John Shaw seconded.

John added Music Director to the agenda.

5. *Reading and Acceptance of Minutes*

Changes to the Minutes

Under Outreach 7c) should read "and a special needs person." (rather than "some")

Under the *Rector's Report*, remove the last sentence, "There will be a breakfast between ... at St. James Church, Mannheim."

John Ryrie, seconded John Shaw. Carried.

6. *Business Arising from the Minutes*

- a) Reta spoke of the results from the survey concerning placement of the rectors' pictures. The most votes went to positioning them at the base of the stairs by moving the Boy Scouts window box.

Ivan noted that some parishioners had said that a good place would be where the Noah's Arc hanging is in the Narthex. Cheryl added that we hadn't given that as an option and that the vote should be redone. Reta will redo the vote with the new option.

- b) Under *Other Business*, Marcia is looking for pictures of the 2 sponsored children.

3. *Rector's Report*

Don has asked those who went to Synod for a day on which to present the Synod Report. June 13th will be the day.

4. *Committee Reports*

Finance

Total Revenues are down and a number of expenses have been incurred, due to boiler repairs, a new speaker, and organ repair due to squirrel damage. Expenses for these have been kept down with parishioners contributing via their labour. It was noted that both choirs who rent our facility have gone elsewhere so those revenues will be down.

Nelson and John are putting out a memo regarding our current financial position.

A four month givings report is going out soon. Murray wondered whether it would be helpful for parishioners to have a comparison of their givings to date from last year. Father Don will ask Lori-Beth Vickery if this is feasible.

John Ryrie questioned what we should do concerning the monetary situation. Murray cautioned that too much of a push at this point may work against the capital campaign. Cheryl noted that some kind of report should come out before summer as people are away on vacation. Nelson wondered whether a letter to go with the receipt would be a good idea. John and Nelson will look into this.

Acceptance of Report: Steve Lipkowski, seconded Ivan Mariapen. Carried

a) *Worship*

No report as no meeting was held since the last parish council.

b) *Outreach*

Camp work continues. Susan reported that MaryLynn will give an update to parishioners at announcement time. Father Don noted that more than half of the revenue has been collected and there are 86 registrations.

c) *Property*

Murray reported that an on-demand water heater and new water softener are now installed. Squirrel damage repairs to the organ are complete with the assistance of John R. and Nelson. As well, a repair was needed on the dishwasher. Murray noted that we will need grass cutting volunteers so please sign up. Lines will be redone on the parking lot.

A neighbour requested a contribution to his fence as he said that snow ploughed there had been a contributing factor in its needing replacing. There was discussion about this and Murray said that it was not clear how much the snow had contributed.

John Ryrie moved that we make a good neighbor gesture donation of \$250, seconded John Shaw. Carried.

Judy Proctor moved that this amount be amended to \$300.

Judy Proctor, seconded Cheryl Fox. Carried.

Murray will send an e-mail. This is approved strictly as a good neighbour gesture. Nelson will speak with the snow plow operator prior to the winter season.

Jean Horne noted that there is a half-dead lilac tree that was a memorial. After discussion, council was supportive of dealing with the dying lilac as soon as possible.

d) *Stewardship (reported by John Ryrie)*

The Magnetic Church signs have been paid for outside of the budget. The request to move the large picture of children back to a prominent position on the wall to the right of the Fireside Room door (it was moved to the left of the door to accommodate the new red directional sign) was brought forward, and will be reviewed by Marc. Repositioning the sign may require damaging the wall surface (undesired) and make the sign less visible and hence less effective.

Some Newcomers Greeters have had to withdraw from their positions, but there should continue to be enough to cover most services. Also, Alison Olmstead is now working full time, which will likely reduce the time she can commit to working on the website; she needs people to continue to send information for the website. There will be a September Dragon Flyer. Stewardship is going to approach Henry Williams to see if he would like to be part of the committee. .

5. *Old Business*

a) *Update on Capital Fundraising*

Marc is approaching people and will update council when the chair decision is made. The campaign will run from Sept. 2010 to December 2012 (approx.)

b) *Garage Sale and Spring Market*

It was a great success. Marcia expressed thanks to Reta for her significant efforts. Reta has had people say that the church should do it again. Reta commented that more people are needed to take over sections of the event. As well, she thought that the Spring Market didn't work at the same time. The youth group was pleased with the results of their efforts. They earned \$125 as the agreement was that they could keep half of the proceeds of their section. The grant available from Faith Life has been applied for. A final total is not yet available as there are some consignment items still to be sold.

c) *Long Range Planning Committee*

The first meeting was held and members were asked to think "blue sky" concerning direction for St. George's. There will be a second meeting in June and a report with recommendations likely in September. Nelson referred to Don remarking on the overlap of ideas from Synod with what came up at the Long Range Planning Committee.

d) *Church Campfires in August*

John R. has looked into the open fire rules and will report in June with firmer plans.

e) *City of Kitchener Stormwater Management Impact*

Our tax is estimated to be \$3600. The Council of Churches has approached the City of Kitchener. In Waterloo, there is a staged plan and our cost would be about one-tenth of the proposed Kitchener tax. Kitchener Council has directed its staff to go back and look at the implementation plan again. John will go to the council meeting concerning this issue.

6. *New Business*

a) *Turkey Supper*

Council discussed various dates. The date chosen is November 3rd. Reta will chat with Ruth Pearce. Valerie Cuthbert offered to help with organization.

b) *New Ways of Fundraising*

Reta asked us to look at what others are doing. Can we find something that can be done on an ongoing basis? In discussion it was mentioned by Valerie that we have to be aware of what is being asked in the capital campaign but it was also noted by Marcia that fun, useful small things would still be doable.

c) *Choir Director Evaluation*

Rob's contract said that there would be an annual review. The evaluation, done with Rob, John R. and Nelson in attendance, was very positive and was endorsed by Executive. It should be noted that the original contract showed 8 hours per week but that Rob is spending closer to 10 hours per week.

There is a Royal College of Church Organists salary grid and an interim salary adjustment was made to reflect this. Executive supports going to Vestry in January to move the hours and remuneration to 10 hours per week.

Motion by John Ryrie: Be it resolved that council approve the recommendation of Executive that the Music Director's contract be renewed for another year beginning September 2010.

Seconded, Judy Proctor. Carried.

d) *New Diocesan Website*

Father Don mentioned that the Diocese has launched a new website that is very friendly to outsiders.

www.diohuron.org

e) *Eco Justice*

This is a new initiative and the youth are interested in doing a study. They are looking for someone to lead them in this endeavour. Please think about that for the next meeting (BBQ).

6. *Dates to Remember*

June 20 – T-shirt Sunday plus BBQ

June 22 – Parish Council BBQ (sign up)

June 27 to September 5– start BAS/BCP alternate Sundays at 9 a.m (one service only)

July 4 – 9 a.m. service at the Cressman's (has since been clarified and will take place at St. James, Mannheim)

7. *Adjournment* Ivan Mariapen, seconded, Marcia Condon

