



St. George's of Forest Hill

Parish Council Minutes of August 26, 2008

Present

Wayne Matheson, Chair	Murray Gamble	Reta Risto
Christine Ledbury, Secretary	Jean Horne	John Ryrie
Andrea Balfour	Steve Lipkowski	John Shaw
Susan Butt	Gerry McGregor	Jim Stirling
Valerie Cuthbert	Judy Proctor	Brian Tomka
Don Davidson	Laura Robertson	Margaret Walker

Regrets*

Karen Baker	Ivan Mariapen	Jessica Visutski
Nathan Butt		

1. Call to Order

2. Regrets

3. Devotions

Margaret Walker led devotions with a reading from *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda* by Romeo Dallaire, followed by prayer.

4. Reading and Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes of the May 27, 2008 meeting were approved as distributed.
Judy Proctor, seconded Margaret Walker. Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

At the May meeting a date had been chosen for the parish auction, but now need to concentrate on who will organize it.

6. Stewardship

The next meeting will be September 2. Laurie Childs is still working on the contemporary music service.

7. Committee Reports

a) Executive

The last meeting was held on July 10. In his estate, Bill Winterbotham left \$1000 to the church.
September 14 the new Chancellor of Renison College will be installed in a service at 3:00 p.m. in the church.

b) Finance

Steve Lipkowski reported that the financial situation remains about the same as before. Parishioner donations are up from last year and we seem to be holding our own over the summer. The current operating deficit is about \$17,000. Steve to put an update on the financial situation in the Sunday bulletin.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: Brian Tomka, seconded Andrea Balfour. Carried.

c) Worship

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- ▶ The Rector reported that the Worship Committee is to meet on the third Tuesday of every second month.
- ▶ On September 7 the 10:00 a.m. service will be a Blessing of the Beasts service, held outdoors (to be held in Thompson Hall if raining). As it is start-up Sunday, there will also be a barbecue.
- ▶ On September 14, the choir has been asked to sing at the installation of Bishop Ralph Spence as Chancellor of Renison College.
- ▶ As of September 1, Laura Lightfoot, a theology student from Huron College, will start a one year internship at St. George's.
- ▶ November 2, Karen Baker will receive the Bishop's Award for Ministry at 5:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.
- ▶ The Wednesday morning service is outgrowing the Chapel and as an alternative, a Thursday evening service will be offered at about 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. starting in September.

d) Property and Maintenance

Murray reported that the summer has been quiet, but the roof will still have its leaking problem and should be fixed before the winter. The cost between \$6,000-\$7,000, he suggests the work be done in late October. Jim Stirling said that three parishioners had saved the church a lot by keeping the grass cut in the absence of volunteers to do this job. Jean Horne asked that she be allowed to have pea gravel delivered to the church at a cost of about \$68. This was unanimously agreed to. Jean would also like some help in spreading the gravel after it has been delivered.

e) Outreach

Reta Risto reported that the Little Dragon Day Camp had been successful with 173 spots for children, 41 bursaries and 10 partial bursaries. MaryLynn Forrest would submit a full report for the next meeting.

The Habitat for Humanity project is now finished, well ahead of schedule.

8. *Committee Reports* (Ad Hoc)

a) History Committee

Laura reported that the book is now at the printers; 250 copies have been ordered along with a DVD. The Committee is suggesting a donation cost of \$15 per book. The Committee will do a presentation on September 14 during the homily time. Books will be offered for sale on September 14, 21 and 28. Laura is going to keep a list of past members so they are covered off rather than parishioners buying for former members. She will report on the sales at both the September and October meetings of Council.

b) Parish Growth Committee

Murray reported on the progress of this Committee, saying that the feedback from the May meeting had been considered and have come up with different categories. There is a conservative goal of 5%-7% growth per year from this exercise. They have developed four subcommittees: youth, nurture (to see to the needs of existing membership), attracting and keeping new young families, communication in the church and community at large. The Committee is trying to prioritize. There will be another meeting to draft a report to present to Council in September.

9. *Music Director*

To date one application has been received, and another one will be coming. Possible interviews will be held in September.

10. *Old Business*

There was none.

11. *Correspondence*

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There will be an Electoral Synod on October 25 for selecting a new Bishop. Lay delegates will be requested to attend.

12. Dates to Remember

- ▶ Executive Meeting – Wednesday, September 10, 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room
- ▶ Next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday, September 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn: 9:10 p.m.