



St. George's of Forest Hill

Parish Council Minutes of January 20, 2009

Present

Wayne Matheson, Chair	Don Davidson	Judy Proctor
Christine Ledbury, Secretary	Murray Gamble	Reta Risto
Karen Baker	Jean Horne	John Shaw
Susan Butt	Steve Lipkowski	Brian Tomka
Valerie Cuthbert	Ivan Mariapen	Margaret Walker

Guest: Nelson Cuthbert

Regrets*

Nathan Butt	John Ryrie	Jim Stirling
Gerry McGregor		

1. Call to Order

2. Regrets

3. Devotions

Devotions were led by John Shaw, followed by prayer for Barack Obama and the upcoming Vestry meeting.

4. Reading and Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes of the November 25, 2008 meeting were approved as distributed.
Ivan Mariapen, seconded Brian Tomka.. Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Margaret Walker reminder Council that the money should be in by the end of the month for those who plan to attend the Magnetic Workshop in April.

6. Stewardship Committee

Wayne Matheson reported that Paul Thomas, a new member on the committee, will steer the parish survey. To date, \$5080 has been received toward the Fix-It campaign. The Parish Auction is now set for May 23. A job description is being written for the new communications person. Ruth Pearce will continue with the Newcomers and the welcoming kit is to be reviewed. As a result of the door-knocker blitz before Christmas, two people attended the church. In answer to a question, Fr. Don contacts prospective new members if they indicate he should do so on the form filled out by the Newcomer greet. A planned giving seminar is to be planned for the spring, e.g., possible endowments to the church. And Wayne Matheson is taking on the responsibility for the church sign.

7. Standing Committee Reports

a) Executive

The main item on the agenda was the budget for 2009.

b) Finance

Steve Lipkowski summarized his report. Donations were about even with 2007, parishioner donations to capital were generally down. With adjustments shown in Line 4 of the report, total donations were down

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about \$1000. Fundraising was level with 2007, Camp Little Dragon made a profit. Generally revenue was down by \$5050.20.

On the expenditure side, wages were up a little, Rectory expenses were up by \$600, but Church expenses were down, and actually under budget, due to lower maintenance costs. Worship expenses were down, Stewardship was about level with 2007, there is a deficit of about \$900 which represents history books yet to be sold. Apportionment is up, but paid in full. In all, the net operating budget is up \$6259.80 giving a net operating (adjusted) deficit of \$7642.73

Budget for 2009

Steve gave a brief overview of the budget for 2009. Wages and related expenses will go up by 3%, Rectory expenses will remain the same, church property expenses will go down by \$8000 (-9.24%). All other areas will remain the same as 2008. The apportionment has been increased from \$35,000 to \$38,782. Steve explained that there is still an outstanding bank loan for \$38,343 for which we pay \$18,600/year, with two and a half years to go.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: John Shaw, seconded Murray Gamble. Carried.

c) Worship

Fr. Don reported on the January 6 meeting of the Worship Committee. The main item was to critique the Christmas services. The 4:00 p.m. service was the largest attendance, but was much too long. There will be discussion on how best to shorten this service. The weather was a factor in the lower attendance and the other services. So far there have been positive comments about the new format for the 10:00 a.m. service, and very favourable comments about the new Choir Director. The position of Youth Director has been advertised, applications due the end of February. Don and Nelson will be visiting other youth services in London on February 1. Kate Durdan has arranged a activity for the youth for grades 7-12 but there is some thought that this may need to be divided into grades 7-8 and 9-12.

d) Property and Maintenance

Murray gave a brief report on the work of the property and maintenance team. The boiler in the old part of the church is constantly being fixed and this will be an expensive item to replace. There is between \$3,000 and \$4,000 worth of miscellaneous electrical work to be done, plus there is still some work to be done on the washroom upgrades, the carpet in the church to be replaced and the HVAC to be painted. Murray will bring carpet samples to the next Council meeting for members to look at/choose, therefore taking the onus off Murray.

e) Outreach

This committee met February 3. Chocolates will be on sale with proceed to Anselma House. The Pancake Supper will be on February 24, all proceeds to the foster children. There is a motion going to Vestry re supporting the broader community.

8. New Business

a) Coffee Hour

Would Council members please consider volunteering for one Sunday.

b) Vestry

Vestry to be held after the 10:00 a.m. service, lunch will be held prior to the start of the meeting.

c) Lenten Study

Fr. Don will hold a Lenten series dealing with five weeks of prayer. Five people have volunteered to talk about what they do about prayer, and what works for them. This will be on Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings following the mid-week services.

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- ▶ Fr. Don has been asked to lead a retreat for new ordinands.
- ▶ The Executive have agreed to pay up to \$20 in reimbursement if needed for those who supply cookies, etc. at coffee hour.
- ▶ This was Wayne's last Council meeting. He said that over the four years he probably got more out than he put in.
- ▶ Margaret Walker reminded members that the next Deanery meeting is on February 10. March 28 is the election of a new Suffragan Bishop, with consecration on June 6.

9. Old Business

None

10. Correspondence

None

11. Dates to Remember

- ▶ Next Council meeting: February 24, 7:30 p.m. (following the Pancake Supper)

Motion to adjourn: 8:45 p.m.