

St. George's of Forest Hill

Parish Council Minutes for 27th, August, 2019

Present:

Fr. Stephen Hendry, Chair	Valerie Cuthbert	John MacKellar
John Dale, Secretary	John Shaw	Nelson Cuthbert
Jim Fox	Cheryl Fox	Charlotte Cromarty
Anne Taylor	Debra Barclay	Catherine Carlson
John Ryrie	Cameron Mott	Murray Gamble
Cameron Olmstead		

Regrets: April Couzens, MaryLynn Forrest, Terry McCoy, Connie McCoy, Lesley Burland-Prong

1. Call to Order at 7.30 p.m., by Fr. Stephen Hendry.

2. Attendance/Regrets. As above.

3. Devotions: Fr. Stephen

4. Approval of Current Agenda: The agenda was amended to insertion a new item (#7)—a financial report, and a new sub-item in 8(h) concerning the need for a report on hazardous materials in our building. **Motion:** to accept the current agenda as amended. Proposed, Valerie Cuthbert; Seconded, Anne Taylor. **Carried.**

5. Acceptance of Minutes of Two Previous Meetings: Motion: to accept the minutes for the PC meetings held 21st. May, and 25th. June 2019 as presented. Proposed, John Dale; Seconded, Catherine Carlson. **Carried.**

6. Business from PC Minutes.

A question was raised regarding what to do regarding any surplus from the monies voted by PC and donated by the Optimists to fund the

Vacation Bible School, now that the event is past. It is decided to wait until we know whether there is any surplus before making a decision.

7. Financial Update as of the end of July (Anne Taylor).

We were close to being 'on budget' for the month of July, but YTD donations are approximately \$4,700 less than budget. Anne urged financial restraint when new spending is considered. **Motion:** to approve the financial report as presented. Proposed, John Ryrie; Seconded, John MacKellar. **Carried.**

8. New PC Business.

a) Fall BBQ 'Love and Kindness' Event (Cameron Mott). Cameron described enhancements he has introduced into the 'Back to Church Sunday' and BBQ event scheduled for September 8th. A number of visual artists, local dignitaries, celebrities and musicians will be in attendance. There will also be children's activities (including a magician) and a silent auction. The intent is for the event to promote faith, compassion and love. Invitations are being mailed to 2-3000 homes near the church. There will be no cost at all to St. George's, even for the food. PC members are asked to attend to 'meet and greet' and help with running the event. **Motion:** that PC supports the 'Love and Kindness' event as described. Proposed, Catherine Carlson; Seconded, John Shaw. **Carried.** It was suggested that the garbage bags at the bottom of the rear stairs should be cleared away prior to this event.

b) Fall and Winter Concerts (Fr. Stephen). On October 11th at 7 p.m. a concert will be given in the Thompson Hall by 'Cameron', a solo guitar artist. This will be an intimate candlelight event and wine and cheese will be provided. The Atmosphere committee will do the set-up. Tickets, \$10; cost \$150; 80 attendees expected. On Nov 2nd, Pleasant

Ridge will give a concert in the sanctuary. Tickets, \$20; Cost \$500; approx. 150 expected. In January, Steel City Brass will perform, (Cost \$625). Publicity for the concerts will, or has, appeared on the website, the Facebook page and the sign, and posters will be passed out at the Deanery meeting on October 1st. Anne Taylor pointed out that income from the concerts has already been included in the budget, and we have to exceed the budgeted income to make an impact on our deficit.

c) Turkey Dinner (Fr. Stephen). October 8th at 5.30p.m. The tickets have been produced.

d) Rental Fees (Jim Fox and John Dale). All renters have been contacted and many have signed new rental forms. AA and Teachers' Choir have agreed to modest increases in rental fees.

e) New Mailboxes (Nelson Cuthbert, Jim Fox and John Dale). Old boxes have been demounted and are in the process of being replaced by a more flexible system of hanging files at waste height. Replacement should be complete by the end of this week. Uncollected material from the old boxes will be replaced in new folders if it includes a name, otherwise will be displayed as 'Lost and Found'. There will be explanatory articles in the Dragonflyer and bulletins.

f) Vision Weekend (Fr. Stephen, Murray Gamble). This will encompass two meetings in the fall and will be facilitated by Murray Gamble and Ray Finnie. It will attempt, the ASCEND project now being at an end, to define new projects and relationships for St. George's in the context of a much changed and more diverse parish community. Nelson Cuthbert suggested a meeting between Ray and Murray and the ASCEND team to discuss the visioning objectives identified for ASCEND, many of which have now been achieved. For the visioning meetings, a critical mass of 15-20 people is desirable per meeting. Fr. Stephen requested that PC members should email him with their 'visions'.

g) Deanery Youth Event. (Fr. Stephen). This will occur on the weekend of October 5th. and 6th. and will involve a trip to a First Nations Community, meetings with First Nations youth, and reflections thereon. The bus has been booked (35 spots on bus). Participants have been solicited from Waterloo Deanery church youth groups and the project has been presented at Clericus.

h) Church Maintenance (Nelson Cuthbert, Murray Gamble). It is hoped to start the downstairs floor waxing next week (NOTE: this has now been delayed until much later in the year). The downstairs foyer will be painted next week. Murray Gamble said that two quotes had been received for painting the sanctuary, varying between \$5300 and \$9500. The painting will shut down the sanctuary from Monday to Friday. The painting will not happen until October at the earliest, expenditure for it is already in the maintenance budget (the latter has not been exceeded this year so far). Murray will bring a selection of a few colours to an upcoming PC meeting, and ask for one to be chosen. **Motion:** to approve the awarding of a contract for repainting the sanctuary at a cost of not more than \$6000. Proposed, Murray Gamble; second, Cameron Mott. **Carried.**

Murray further informed us that the repairs to the back stairs will be postponed until next year, since no safety issues are involved. The re-positioning and rebuilding of the existing memorial sign will occur in the fall, and the re-sodding of the ground in front of it in the spring. Murray can help with the hazardous waste survey requested by the Diocese, and the cost will be less than the \$5000 projected by the diocese.

i) Stewardship (John MacKellar).

Two letters pertaining to the Stewardship campaign have appeared in the Dragonflyer, and the campaign will be mentioned at Sunday services going forward. The campaign will be less passive than last year. Pledge forms will be distributed September 29th, but will be mailed out if not picked up from mailboxes. Ingathering will be on November 3rd.

j) Mental Health Day. (Fr. Stephen and Debra Barclay). Dialogue is being initiated regarding a Deanery-wide Mental Health Education Day in the Fall. The plan is to provide tools to help families and churches understand and cope with the rapidly-growing issue of youth mental health.

k) Youth Group (Cameron Olmstead). The first meeting of the youth group will be on September 8th, and Fr. Stephen will be asked to address the group during the 10 o'clock service on September 22nd. The first CLAY fundraising scrapbooking event has been scheduled for November 2nd. Nelson Cuthbert and Jim Fox will mediate the clash with the Pleasant Ridge concert.

l) Miscellaneous (Fr. Stephen). Gift card packages from Staples and from Angels Among Us are available to those in need. Please identify same to Fr. Stephen after September 2nd.

Elected members of synod will elect the new Bishop of the Huron on Saturday October 26th. Members of PC are urged to read the biographies of candidates in the Huron Church News and talk to St. George's elected reps if they have views on who is/are the best candidate(s).

9. Upcoming Parish Event Dates.

Sept 8th. Love and Kindness Event and Back to Church BBQ.

Sept. 21st. Men's Breakfast.

October 1st. Deanery Meeting at St. George's.

October 5-6th. Deanery Youth Retreat at St. George's.

October 7th. Memorial service for Elizabeth Stuckless.

October 8th. Turkey Supper at 5.30 p.m.

October 11th. 'Cameron' concert at 7 p.m.

October 26th. Children's Community Closet and Messy Church.

November 2nd. Pleasant Ridge concert (evening) and CLAY scrapbooking event 9am – 9pm.

10. Next P.C. Meeting:

Date; September 24th, 7.30 p.m.

Chair; Fr. Stephen. Minutes; John Dale. Refreshments, April Couzens and Murray Gamble.

11. Adjournment: 9.15 p.m.

_____ Fr. Stephen Hendry: Rector; St. George's
Of Forest Hill

_____ John Dale: Secretary; Parish Council.