

St. Mark's Parish Council

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

7:30 pm, Bishop Reed Hall

Present:

Joy Bowerman, Wanda Bowman, Judy Corbishley, Allen Deering, Fr. Brian Kauk, Riva Lieflander, Jenny Morphew, Gillian Morris, Janis Perkin

Regrets: Les Cundell, Steve Coaker, Cynthia Greer

Absent: Marilyn Benn

1. Call to Order at 7:45 by Allen

2. Reflection

Brian offered the reflection based on Dr. Nicolosi, a speaker at the clergy conference. Where are we going as a Christian faith? This month we looked at the Spiritual mandate. Dr. Nicolosi suggested that Jesus is the one thing the church can offer that no one else can.

3. Approval of Agenda

Under Business arising, add Ministry Review

Under New Business, add nomination committee, Seniors' Residence Exploratory Committee and a report from Great Chapter

Agenda approved as amended (Riva, Janis)

4. Approval of previous minutes.

Under 5. The people Riva found for Discovery University are not potential instructors but a potential organizing committee.

Approved as amended. (Judy, Gillian)

5. Business arising from previous minutes

Comments were solicited on the Ministry Review

It was noted that Prayer Shawl Ministry should be added.

A request was made to have this item brought forward to November for further comments.

6. Rector's Report

A new more detailed calendar is being worked on by the office administrator that will be available electronically. There are two different calendars: one for the use of the space (including rentals) and one for parish activities. There was a suggestion to add Choir practice to the parish activities.

The book study began today in the morning.

A parish newsletter is in the works and should be available on Sunday. Brian will include a Thanksgiving letter in the envelope.

Brian will be away October 25-27 in Paris Ontario at a workshop called Breakthrough which explores issues related to parish vitality.

6. Warden's report

- a. We are Looking into the possibility of moving forward on a new roof for the church in 2011.
- b. There have been concerns re illegal activity in the parking lot. Notices have been posted around the church advising anyone who is concerned about illegal activity in the parking lot to call the Ottawa Police. The notice cautions the person to stay in the church and not approach vehicles in question.
- c. We are in the process of calling contractors to get quotes on changing bulbs in spotlights on a regular basis
- d. Rummage sales: Lorne and Connie Bowerman, who have conducted these for the past 11 years, have asked to be relieved of this responsibility. Corporation is looking into finding replacements.
- e. Judy Corbishley is unable to attend Synod. Wanda Bowman who was elected alternate at the last Vestry has been registered in her stead.

Brian offered a motion of thanks to Lorne and Connie for the leadership in the rummage, a wonderful example of fun and fundraising.

Approved (Brian, Jenny)

7. Treasurer's Report

The financial picture is not pretty. Our current year's expenses are \$24,000 more than our current year's income. This is even more than expected amount of \$19,000. The difference is not in our spending. Our spending is within \$500 of the budgeted amount. Our collections income is \$12,700 below expected. During the first three months of the year, we actually received more than the expected amount of collections income. During the next quarter, we slipped but held steady at about \$3,000 below the expected income. During the third quarter, we have dropped behind by almost \$3,000 per month. We cannot continue in this pattern. Current expenses are met out of the reserve funds.

8. Parish Council Property Report

We have had a lot of outside work this past month. Russell Wilkins did a major trim of our cedar hedges. He left the cuttings in the ditches and on the parking lot. The large branches were cut out and tied for yard waste; the smaller branches were piled for cedar recycling. However, both recycling firms went out of business so we were left with bundling, tying, or bagging a lot of cedar. It was done over two weeks. Les, Allen, Connie, Trevor, Vaughn and Lorne beavered away until it was done. That is it for this year. It was exhausting.

We have picked up apples every week and put them out for yard waste.

We were given 70 plastic chairs from the Barrhaven Kiwanis. They are more comfortable than our wooden chairs, some of which we have had since 1954. About 30 of the new chairs needed chair tips and some other tips were badly worn. Lorne searched in the area stores and nothing was found except

the slip-on rubber ones and they were very expensive. After an Internet search and asking for a sample, Lorne found the needed replacements. He ordered the minimum order which was 313 tips. The bottom line is that we will have good “new-to-us” chairs for about \$2.50 each. They will last another 30 years. They need a good scrubbing. Lorne plans to make dollies for them like the upholstered chairs

Joy & Trevor painted their garage floor so Lorne took the opportunity to paint the basement alcove by the stage, and the workshop. It is a two solution mixture that time expires in two hours. Allen, Vaughn, & Lorne move out the “stuff” that was in the alcove and put it back after the paint was dry, except for the tables. There was a lot of damage being done to the floor with the tables being stored upright in the alcove and users kept forgetting to secure the pile with safety straps. The tables were moved and stored on their long sides against the purple storage box for books. They are behind the screens and safe. They will be certainly easier to take out and put back. Many thanks to Allen and Vaughn for the heavy lifting.

The Corporation is considering advancing the new Church roof to 2011 and living with the possibility of leaking water above the altar. While the contractors are on the roof, the fascia will be finished and the old vent at the peak, where the leaking is probably occurring, will be taken out, filled, and sealed against the weather.

The water heater in Church basement furnace room quit working. It was installed in 1992. At the suggestion of Corporation, Lorne looked at replacing the water heater with an “on demand” one. The electrical ones are not practical because they required 50 or more amps. The gas ones are expensive coming in from \$3000 to \$4000. A tank water heater with gas would be about \$2000. A replacement electric would be \$800 installed, or a tank can be bought for \$400 and Lorne can installed it with help from Allen and Vaughn. All the wiring and plumbing is there.

9. Membership

The Generation to Generation workshop has been deferred to 2011 because of the number of bazaars. There is however a workshop on October 15-16 on ministry with children and families at Cityview United Church.

10. Choir

There is an Evensong in October on October 24 at 4:30, followed by a potluck. A signup for the potluck is in the hall.

11. Outreach

There is a Youtube video about Debra-Dynes. A local MP sang their praises in parliament. Marilyn Benn did take the harvest food to Debra-Dynes on Tuesday.

Best Start Hub. Nepean Osgoode Community Resource Centre has hired their own development officer. We will now be working with the local officer.

12. New Business

- a.** Open Table is a ministry that is trying to engage a new population in a new way. It is in partnership with United Church Presbytery, St John's, Elgin St, Church of the Ascension, All Saints, Sandy Hill, among others. Parish sponsorship costs \$250. There is a satellite one in Stittsville. You have your meal, can have discussion afterward. IT would not change our relationship with Carleton. Andrew Stephens-Rennie considers that there is a possibility of

setting one up in our area in the future.

Motion: We become a sponsoring parish of the Open Table Ministry.
Approved (Brian, Janis) 4 abstentions.

- b.** The cost of Forward Day by Day is being reduced due to the strength of the Canadian dollar. However, the shipping costs will increase. Large print copies are not being taken. Wanda suggests that she will discontinue ordering large print copies. Wanda will inform the congregation on Sunday.
- c.** The cost of Forward Day by Day is being reduced due to the strength of the Canadian dollar. However, the shipping costs will increase. Large print copies are not being taken. Wanda suggests that she will discontinue ordering large print copies. Wanda will inform the congregation on Sunday.
- d.** Great Chapter was held on October 6, 2010
 - 1. ECOPS- equalized cost of priestly services. This will be voted on at synod. Cost of priestly services will be split into portions. One basic rate which everyone will pay and the second portion is related to Fair Share. Riva expressed concern that the 5 year numbers were not available.
 - 2. Financial Development Initiative: Parish can buy into the campaign and proceeds will be split evenly. The diocese and the national church split 50% of the proceeds and bear the cost of the campaign.
 - 3. There was also a nominations subcommittee report which expressed difficulty is getting people for positions.
- e.** The Senior's Residence Exploratory Committee meeting has been rescheduled to October 20.
- f.** Nominating committee
Brian asked David Matthews to remind us about the procedures for the nominating committee. The nominating committee should have been presented at electoral vestry
The suggested composition committee is as follows: Judy Corbishley as outgoing Warden, Coralie Sheehan as previous Warden, Wanda Bowman and John Hancock (both agreed to serve another term) and Gillian Morris offered to serve as the parish council member.

Moved that the 2011 nominating committee be composed as above. Approved (Judy, Riva)

- g.** A proposal is being considered to eliminate the electoral vestry.

Moved that this be referred to the nominating committee for discussion. Approved (Judy, Brian)
The congregation should be made aware of this proposal.

- 13.** Next meeting November 10, 2010.
- 14.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 with the Grace.

Approved (Wanda, Gillian)

Submitted by Joy Bowerman