

St. Mark's Parish Council
Draft until approved by next meeting
Bishop Reed Hall
December 11, 2013

Present :

Les Cundell, Brian Kauk, Michael Perkin, Jenny Morphew, Gillian Morris, Georgia Roberts, Jane Delroy, Suzanne Wilkins, Joy Bowerman, Cynthia Greer and Audia Barnett,

Apologies :

Pamela Rogers, Gale Deering, Allen Deering, Coralie Sheehan.

1.Call to Order : 7 38 p.m.

2. Opening Reflections

Georgia read a poem on behalf of Allen who was attending a candle light vigil in memory of his Grandson: My Christmas Prayer, by Linda Wincher. The Prayer was dedicated to persons who at this time remember a loved one who passed.

3. Approval of Agenda (Michael, Georgia)

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of November PC meeting, were approved. (Georgia, Jane).

5. Business arising from November Minutes

Parish Directory – Cynthia reported that 45 have been distributed to date.

Snow Removal contract – Georgia reported that in response to complaints made about dirt being tracked in from the walkway, the contractor has agreed to continue to use sand and salt on the parking lot and to replace the sand in the box with salt for the walkway.

Animate Series – higher numbers of participants than anticipated. The program has been favourably received. Amount budgeted for providing lunch, was inadequate.

6. Budget

The 2014 draft budget was presented by Joy, who explained the statements of Income, Expenses and Balance Sheet. Although the financial performance for 2013 has been good, with a Net Income to the end of November being - \$1664.00 (compared with budgeted amount of -\$5944), it was noted that

factors such as not needing to pay the full salaries budgeted for staff members contributed to this result. It was also pointed out that the amount of \$6300 to be transferred into the 2013 operating budget from the GIFT reserve fund for the Parish Nurse has not been done yet. Joy explained that other GIFT allocations would be spent directly from the reserve fund –i.e. not be part of the operating budget.

For 2014, total income is budgeted to be very similar to the 2013 budgeted amount. With regards to expenses, staff costs (for the Priest, Organist and Secretary) are budgeted to increase, as is our contribution to the Diocesan Fair Share. Also up is the expenditure on water, which has reflected a significant increase recently. Father Brian suggested that Projects for 2014 could include lighting the entrance of the parking lot as well as security lighting at the back. The Property warden will review for follow-up. It was noted that, apart from diocesan fair share, no other expenditures in the outreach category are in the draft budget, although outreach is important. The budget projects a net income of -\$15K for 2014, which is a concern. The consensus was to present this to Vestry and to make efforts to manage and reduce this deficit where possible. The draft budget will be finalized and presented to Vestry for a motion.

7. MAP Consultations

Father Brian summarized activities in three categories :

- a. Conversations (facilitated by Rev. Box)
- b. Comments and Questions from Parishioners
- c. Discernment Process

a. Conversations

Rev. Allan Box facilitated 2 conversations with the parish (on November 19 and December 8). In advance of these meetings, Rev. Box was provided with the written comments from the parishioners as well as information about MAP that is on our website. The conversations were felt to have been helpful as persons were able to express themselves and be heard. Appreciation was expressed for Rev. Box's ministry. A report about the meetings is to be prepared by Rev. Box for the congregation shortly. The Parish Council's role regarding open and transparent communication was stressed. Further parish conversations may be held.

b. Comments/Questions from Parishioners submitted to Parish Council

It was agreed that the MAP team should address the questions by individuals, checking for any trends which could also be addressed through a Q & A. Michael expressed willingness to work on the

acknowledgement of comments. The congregation is to be advised that a response will be forthcoming.

c. Discernment Process

The Discernment Team has met twice. At the second meeting, held on December 1, the main issues and concerns raised at the first St. Mark's parish conversation were revealed to the group. During the rest of that meeting there was strong evidence that St. Mark's concerns were being taken into consideration. The Discernment team did not wish St. Mark's to be "left behind", and, as such, a more flexible timeline was agreed on. A third (and final) meeting is scheduled for January 2014.

8. Other Business

a. Request for funds

Father Brian Kauk moved that PC approve a further \$150.00 from the GIFT fund for purchase of a new Missal Stand. Michael seconded the motion, passed by PC.

b. Joint Celebration

Centre 454 will be celebrating 60 years of service in 2014 and requested consideration by St. Mark's for a joint activity. Ideas should be sent to PC.

c. Ecumenical Service

The Ecumenical Service will be held on January 19, 2014. PC agreed to a 12 Noon service, with refreshments after.

d. Parish Breakfast

Brian Harrison is working with January 26 as a possible date.

e. Bishop's Visit

Bishop Chapman will be worshipping at St. Mark's on February 9, 2014 at which time the following activities were proposed by Father Brian and approved by PC:

-Confirmation

-Reception to Anglican Church (St. Richards has an interested candidate)

-Reaffirmation – for recommitting selves. (This would be offered to the Animate group and other interested persons).

The suggestion was made for this to be a joint service with St. Richard's and St. Michael's, with the theme of a Festival of Faith. This was approved by PC.

9. **Date of Next Meeting** : January 15.

10. **Adjournment** at 9:25 p.m. (Suzanne, Joy)