

St. Mark's Parish Council

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

7:00 pm, BRH

Present: Jane Delroy, Cynthia Greer, Penny Miller, Janis Perkin, Brian Kauk, Laurie Slaughter, James Kelly, Gillian Morris, Les Cundell, Margaret Lodge, Gillian Martin, Michael Perkin

Regrets: Will Knight, Suzanne Wilkins, Sharon Walter

1 Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm.

2 Special Guest: We welcomed Marnie Jull who is with the Diocesan Peacemaking Centre. The Peacemaking Centre is committed to following the non-violent path of Jesus. In the first 60 minutes of the meeting Marnie helped members of council plan a meeting where options to sharing space with St. Mark and St. Mary of Egypt could be looked at, and suggested by the parishioners of St. Mark the Evangelist. It is hoped that it may provide us with a way forward. November 22, 2015 was the chosen date and it was decided that representatives from St. Mark and St. Mary of Egypt would be invited to share their story. A small planning group, Janis Perkin, James Kelly, Gillian Morris, Brian Kauk and Marnie will meet on Wed. November 18 to plan the flow of the meeting.

3 Approval of Agenda: Amendments to the agenda were added to other business. Acceptance of the amended agenda was moved by Laurie Slaughter and seconded by Michael Perkin.

4 Approval of previous minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes: moved by Penny Miller and seconded by Gillian Morris

5 Business arising from previous minutes:

-None

6 Rector's Report: Covered under Other Business

7 Wardens' Report:

Suzanne Wilkins has taken a 2 month leave of absence from work to visit and spend time with her sister, "who is losing her battle with cancer" Our thoughts and prayers are with you Suzanne.

The boiler was replaced last week, over a three day period and is now heating the hall. There was no disruption of the regular events in the hall, while the work was done.

The furnace replacements have not been scheduled yet, as we are waiting for a revised quote.

8 Treasurer's Report

9 Outreach:

The Debra Dynes' fundraiser "Soupalicious" was a great success. St. Mark's outreach support was in evidence as Georgia Roberts, a member of the D. D. board, was very involved in organizing and working at the event and two members of P.C. were there decorating tables and even ladling soup through the evening. There were a few St. Mark's parishioners in attendance enjoying a very happy event. As always, our support is acknowledged and very much appreciated.

Outreach proposals:

1. The idea of a "Welcoming and Sharing Sunday" to be held in 2016, has been favourably received by the Vitality Working Group. Brian Harrison reported to me that the group are willing to work on this outreach. This is a project that all members can participate in.
2. The opportunity to host an Open Table supper one month at Trinity Anglican in Old Ottawa South is one that would work well if St. Mark's partnered with another church group (eg. St. Thomas the Apostle).
3. Sponsoring or supporting a refugee or refugee family has been an idea that Outreach has been considering as an outreach initiative, again in partnership with another Anglican or any other religious group.

10 Other Business:

a) Father Brian has had a conversation with the members of Circle 2 regarding Parish Nursing.

b) There appears to be a lot of rumours and misinformation being shared among the parishioners of St. Mark the Evangelist regarding the letter from St. Mark and St. Mary of Egypt. The meeting whose details appear in the minutes above is planned to hopefully dispel some of this.

c) Advent Services- Dinners

So far no one has come forward to coordinate these meals. A lot of the usual helpers are in the choir and already tied up with the practice before hand and then the actual service. The first meal is a potluck and the other meal is soup and chili. P.C. members were asked to think of people who might help. Penny Miller with approach Georgia Roberts about helping.

d) Refugees

The following request came from Georgia Roberts by e-mail:

Hello everyone.

As you are likely aware, the situation of Syrian refugees - and other refugees - was discussed at Synod last week. There were also two motions passed related to action for refugees. And all parishes were encouraged to consider how that they might be involved.

I am asking that this topic be introduced at the next parish council meeting, for people to start thinking about it. And, since the encouragement of collaboration was emphasized for so many things at Synod, I am encouraging that folks think about how we might collaborate with others

on refugee action. I know that Carleton Memorial United Church has sponsored many refugees over the years, with the latest family arriving from Eritrea just a few weeks ago. Why don't we, as one way to get more information, talk to Carleton Memorial about their experiences? In fact, I know that Ruth Loomer is on their refugee committee and would be happy to tell us what they have been doing. Of course, the diocese will also be another source of info, but why not explore this source on our doorstep? The funding for a refugee family is only one part of sponsoring; caring for the family once they arrive is also a big commitment and is also something that can be done collaboratively. Trusting that I am not too late in my request
Georgia

There is a feeling that the timing is good for St. Mark's and that partnerships may be a possibility. Financing is not that difficult and it may be good to have a conversation with Trinity's refugee group. The Diocese has a long list because it is heavily involved. There is a need to set up a group. P.C. members who showed an interest: Laurie Slaughter, Michael Perkin, Penny Miller and Cynthia Greer

e) Parish Vitality Working Group

Laurie Slaughter and Maria Padin are new members of the Working Group. The group now consists of Laurie and Maria, along with Cynthia Greer, Penny Miller, Kate Greer-Close, Bruce Lodge, Margaret Williamson, and Brian Harrison.

St. Mark's Movie Night

We are organizing an outing to a movie that will take place on November 25th. The movie is The Imitation Game and it will be shown at All Saints Westboro. The evening will include dinner (6 p.m.), the movie (7 p.m.), followed by discussion. The cost is \$10. The outing will be advertised at the church over the next two Sundays. We will gauge the amount of interest in this type of event and, if there is sufficient interest, we will consider locating a movie night at St. Mark's.

Survey of Parishioners

The proposed survey was revised and tested on several parishioners to ensure that it is understandable. It was reviewed by Corporation and concerns were raised that will be addressed before proceeding.

Pasta Supper

We are planning to serve a pasta dinner for parishioners and friends. We have not yet established a date for this event.

Music Events

Garth Hampson, well-known singer in the Ottawa community, will be attending the November meeting of the working group to discuss concert possibilities at St. Mark's. We continue to investigate the possibility of bringing storytellers and the NorthWinds Brass Quintet to St. Mark's (Tales & Tunes). It is likely that such an event would take place in the spring.

Summary prepared by Brian Harrison

11 The next meeting will be the Budget Meeting December 9, 2015 7:00 pm. in BRH.

12 Motion for Adjournment: moved by James Kelly and seconded by Gillian Martin.

Respectfully Submitted by Janis Perkin, Recording Secretary