

St. Mark's Parish Council

Draft until approved by next meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

7:30 pm, BRH

Present:

Joy Bowerman, Kathy Chu, Les Cundell, Jane Delroy, Cynthia Greer, Brian, Kauk, James Kelly, Margaret Lodge, Penny Miller, Gillian Morris, Georgia Roberts, Pam Rogers, Suzanne Wilkins

Regrets: Will Knight, Janis Perkin, Michael Perkin, Coralie Sheehan

1. **Call to Order** at 7:30 by Les Cundell.
2. **Opening Reflections** by Brian. He read the passage Phillipians 2:5-11
3. **Approval of Agenda**
Move MAP consultations to after Business Arising
Amendment approved (Georgia, Suzanne)
Approved as amended (James, Gillian)
4. **Approval of minutes.**
4 Michael Perkin (remove s)
8 Letter from Archdeacon
12 Congregational Resource Day is May 3
16b Heavy cleaning is done before Saturday mornings,
Approved as amended (Penny, Jane)
5. **Business arising from previous minutes**
None
6. **MAP Consultation**
A brief discussion was had on the MAP process. Georgia Roberts, a member of the MAP leadership team, expressed what a privilege it had been to work on MAP and that she was very proud of the team from St Mark's. There was appreciation expressed for the amount of work that was put in by the team members from St Mark's. Some questions were raised about whether it would still be possible to work with the other churches in the process.
7. **Rector's Report**
 - a. Registration for the Money, Values & Me Stewardship Conference is now open.
 - b. Embracing God's Future is an initiative of Diocesan Council Individuals can participate online, or a group can get together to provide input. If anyone else is interested in being trained to facilitate a group, a training session will take place in Carleton Place the week after Easter. <http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/Conversations.html>
 - c. The Feast Day of St Mark the Evangelist will be celebrated on Sunday April 27 at both services. A corrected liturgical roster will be sent out some time this week.
 - d. Clergy from the three churches involved in MAP process will continue to work together until Linda's retirement.

- e. The best way to reach Brian is to email first thing in the morning. Voicemail is also a good way to reach him.

8. Warden's Report

- a. Following the February 23rd motion at the Annual Vestry that a review be undertaken of the existing cleaning contract, Parish Council appointed a Review Committee. The Committee, which comprised of Georgia Roberts, William Knight, Gillian Morris and Suzanne Wilkins met on March 17th, to review Rose's cleaning contract and discuss the plan by James Kelly, Property Chair, to use volunteer services instead of the current contractual arrangements.
- b. Upon reviewing the cleaning services offered by Rose, the Committee felt that the continuation of the cleaning contract was essential to the regular upkeep of the church and that a significant volunteer component was already being provided to the Church cleaning and maintenance. It was agreed that this should remain so for the time being. James as the new Property Team Leader was encouraged to become familiar with the tasks of his new position.

9. Treasurer's Report

- a. The reports are cumulative to the beginning of the year.
- b. The bequest from Sheila Vaudrey is included in the income and as a result the numbers look much better than they actually are. If you subtract the \$18,000, we are almost exactly on target for a \$14,500 deficit.
- c. Because of the flow of income and expenses through the year, we always tend to be in a negative net income situation until December, even in a year we break even.

10. Property

- a. James has been establishing teams, organizing the basement. He has cleaned the workshop and installed new shelves. The rummage room will be cleaned after the sale. He has dusted and de-cobwebbed the hall and the hymnal holder on the back pew has been repaired. He has checked fire extinguishers, cleaned behind radiator covers in the hall and experimented with the lighting in BRH. He is looking at scheduling a spring cleanup.
- b. The date of the rummage will likely be moved because Eileen Holt's funeral

11. Membership

The following report was provided by Cynthia Greer.

- a. The new people attending and joining St. Mark's are in the older category, retired, but with plenty of energy. As Brian Harrison pointed out, this is the group at home, retired, more time, more money, want to be involved.

I am hoping to hold a newcomers party for early May, if there's nothing on. It will be simple and not very big.

We cannot rely on the young families to take over, because they are both working, and too busy. Our old people can still be useful, and made to feel so, although they cannot lift heavy things like kettles. They can phone, pray, sew, and be partnered with a younger person.

- b. All this brings me to another part of membership. :- how to use our parishioners wisely, and check up on how they are doing their job. That in essence is a big problem with volunteers anywhere. If they aren't doing the job how do you tell them, or persuade them to do that job or choose another they are better at.

We need to be very intentional and choose our volunteers carefully, with regard to their abilities. No good comes from letting a person fail, while we all stand around and let it happen. Don't put me near anything artistic, I can't even curl the antenna on a butterfly well. If I can't cook, don't let me bake pies or make dinners. Let me do dishes, or buy supplies or set tables, or I and the project are doomed to failure.

Use someone to get volunteers who has a smile, a pleasant way of asking, and knows who can do what. Expect a yes answer, and make the person feel honoured to have been asked.

What we frequently do, wrongly I believe, but with the best intentions, is to take on another job, because it is easier than asking, and finding someone else. We call in our spouses, or a relative, rather than a parishioner, because it is more expedient, but it doesn't help the parish. No-one is aware that jobs need doing, so they think the church mysteriously runs itself, and they volunteer outside the church.

Or they say, oh so and so does all those things, they don't need me. That kills volunteering. Then if that person moves elsewhere, especially suddenly, we are stuck, because the information is also gone. That struck home for me when Paul was close to death on our way home from Florida.- how do we pay bills on line, how to get into Paul's computer, where is our money? Who do I call?

It is the same in a church. We need proactive people capable of the tasks. We have to decide tonight if we want to revitalize the parish, or if we are going to let it die a slow death. Then we need to find more people than us, hopefully those with energy and vision, and the willingness to make those visions reality. Rather than us say oh I'm already too busy, we have to say, yes but we will find people to work with us, or instead of us. The church cannot run on parish council members.

Everyone has to be seen as part of the solution. Otherwise we are the problem.

We then have to give them ownership of the job, and trust they will do it, but encourage them along the way to keep them focussed. I am a procrastinator, and I need to be reminded or pushed, and encouraged.

- c. Also as part of membership. We need an all member visitation, and regular phone calls. We have the GIFT list, and Jane's list. Those names are a good place to start. I believe Margaret had an information sheet which came from Bells Corners a few years ago, asking basically how can we help you, and how can you help us and be part of us? We should look at that and change things where necessary.
- d. Les sounded desperate on Sunday. He is a willing hard worker, and has probably taken on yet another job. Most of us don't offer if someone is doing the job. That is a cry for help. We need a person who can get volunteers, and likes doing it, and hasn't become jaded. That would help Les. We have to be intentional in all we do, so that people see the positive side of community, and are happy to serve.
- e. This is the last thing. M.U. along with membership, is planning a tea party at the beginning of June. When Betty Caughlin's sister-in-law died. Betty approached me about having something which would make money, and help her to use all the cups and saucers, around 50, that Diane had, for a good purpose. We thought of a tea, where you went home with a cup and saucer, but paid say \$10 or whatever to eat. Betty suggested the Grannies for Africa charity. Report to come

12. Stewardship (GIFT campaign)

No report at this time

13. Choir

The damage to the choir stall has been taken care of. There is still a problem with the direction of some of the lights. The light over pulpit will be replaced. The choir hoping to have a concert May 24 3 or 4 pm/

14. Outreach

Nothing to report at this time. Announcements about Bales for the North and Mother's Day at Debra-Dynes will go in the bulletin. Bales are being packed May 21.

15. Other Business

a. Opening Reflections: Brian will do the reflections in May and June.

b. Estate of Sheila Vaudrey

Motion: It is resolved that parish council recommends that the bequest from the estate of Sheila Vaudrey in the amount of \$18,000 be withheld from deposit in the consolidated trust

fund to be used for parish nursing services. Approved (Georgia, Penny)

16. Parish Council Notes:

- a.** Money values and me
- b.** Embracing God's future
- c.** Early in June, we are looking at having a general inside and outside cleanup. Please speak to James Kelly to volunteer.
- d.** Application to withhold request of Sheila Vaudrey

17. The next meeting is May 14 in BRH.

18. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 with the Grace. (James, Gillian)

Submitted by Joy Bowerman