

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST

PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of

May 19, 2021

7:00 pm, Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

In attendance: Rev. Julian Campbell, Georgia Roberts, Bill Barber, Karen Barber, Gillian Morris, Pauline Adams, Suzanne Bisson, Michael Perkin, Janis Perkin, Cynthia Greer, Terry Frederick, John Hancock, Joan Hounsell

1. Opening the meeting

Call-to-order: Suzanne Bisson opened the meeting at 7:08 pm

Opening Prayer: Offered by Rev. Julian Campbell

Regrets: Judy Life, Gillian Martin

Approval of the Agenda: Approval was moved by Joan Hounsell and seconded by Pauline Adams.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting

Approval was moved by Georgia Roberts and seconded by Michael Perkin.

3. Business arising from previous meeting

Livestreaming

Merge9 reported to Corporation that all of the equipment ordered has been received by them. An additional set of special microphones is needed for the organ costing \$451.00 plus tax and Joy has ordered and received them. Several people have come forward to be trained on the streaming system. It was asked if we would need an extra plug at the back of the church and Merge9 has said that an extension cord would be sufficient. Cynthia Greer pointed out that there is an outlet that is located near the Stalter Bell next to the Peace Chapel.

Solar Panels

John Hancock reported that Mike who is maintaining the solar panels is concerned about the steepness of the church roof. It will mean increasing the crew by two people in order to work on the solar panels safely. The inverters themselves are covered under warranty and there is no cost for the units but there will be labour costs. From the stewardship perspective it might be an idea to have a small campaign to cover those costs when the final cost is determined.

Website

Website Construction Motion May 2021

Corporation has approved the motion to accept the flat-fee quote of \$1500 from Matthew Handy to construct a new secure website for St Mark's. This includes the training of people who would be responsible for website administration. A yearly maintenance fee of \$100 is ongoing for hosting our website on Matthew Handy's servers, which includes file storage, data bases, backups and the domain costs and name. (Motion put forward by Suzanne Bisson, seconded by Pauline Adams and approved by all members of Parish Council). Matthew's process of creating the new website includes:

1. Discussing with church representatives (see note below) our requirements for the new site and what headings do we need, and what can be grouped together, e.g., calendar of upcoming events, clergy, parish groups, history, etc.
2. Taking an inventory of the current site including all of the content - copy, images, PDFs, etc.
3. Downloading a backup of everything on the current site so nothing is lost.
4. Creating a brand-new site using Wordpress - (Think of Wordpress as the foundation/wood in a house, and the rest of the website is all the furniture and things that go inside the house to make it look how you want it).
5. Porting over all existing content from the old site into the new site in a clean/pleasing new design.
6. After the initial new site is built on Matthew's testing server, he will send a link for the church representatives to review and request any updates/ changes.
7. Make any requested changes, and send to us again for final approval.
8. Update the <http://www.stmarksottawa.ca/> domain to point at his servers and publish the site live so the public can access.
9. Provide any post-launch support as well as instructions for website.

4. Regular Reports

a) Rector's Report

Stephanie McWatt who did a placement here as a theological student has been approved for ordination in the diocese of Ottawa.

The St. Mark's bible study will move to Wednesday evenings for the next session.

The Cathedral is offering to send their incumbent priests to serve in parishes which only have one priest. The cathedral would continue to pay their salaries and there would be no charge to the hosting parish.

The youth service was really enjoyed by those who viewed it on Youtube. The youth will also be involved in the presentation of the Pentecost service.

b) Warden's Report

Wardens/Property Report May 19, 2021

(via e-mail)

Hi,

The lawn has been mowed and the edges trimmed including around the parking lot.

Margaret Blakeney has done a fine job in planting and having the church look attractive for whenever we can reopen.

This is John Hancock's report on the current status of the solar panels:

"I spoke to Mike this afternoon (Tuesday). He assured me that he has the micro inverters to replace the failed ones. However, he needs an extra 2-person crew to work on the steep roof and expects to have the needed manpower in 2 to 4 weeks.

Electric power production (at the panels) was 41.2 kWh on Monday and 31.6 kWh up to 3 p.m. today, May 18. Last week, May 10 – 16, power production was 267.4 kWh.

The system is reporting a peak power of 5.4 kilowatts. If new inverters would increase the output by 50% the peak power would be 8.1 Kilowatts. I am hoping the replacements will bring us closer to 10 kW peak power."

Bill Barber

Further to the report: the Ottawa Horticultural Society have moved their sale to June 5, 2021.

The Carleton Memorial Daycare will be using Bishop Reed Hall this summer. It was suggested that Penny Miller, our rentals coordinator, chat with the staff of the daycare to find out what the St. Mark's COVID team may need to do to ensure their safety.

c) Treasurer

Some comments for Parish Council Meeting about April 2021 Financials

Balance Sheet

GIFT Funds lower by \$93 during April to pay Alex and the program rental for the editing of the service videos.

The Memorials reserve account increased by \$475 in April

Income

Collection income from January to April was about \$6500 below budget, but very similar to the amount to the end of April in 2020.

In April we received \$374 in bazaar income from the sale of turkey pies, soup and hot cross buns.

By the end of April, our solar income was about \$500 over budget and about \$750 higher than end of April in 2020.

Total General Income to the end of April was about \$5000 less than budgeted and about \$3300 less than end of April 2020

Expenditures

In March we received a Jubilee gift from the Diocese, where we were free from paying ECOPS, clergy housing, lay staff salaries, Fair Share, and Insurance for one month.

Expenditures on items in the CHURCH category until the end of April were \$2261 lower than budgeted and \$1226 less than last year. Perhaps partly due to the timing of bills.

Bottom Line

From January to April, our expenditures exceeded income by \$5,235. which is a much better outcome than a net income of -\$18,251 that was budgeted for this point in the year.

d) Property

See Warden's report.

e) Membership

Membership Report May 19, 2021

(via e-mail)

Here are the changes that I am aware of, although I think there should be more who are not really parishioners.

On April 16th we lost Bruce to a heart attack, which damaged him beyond recovery. Margaret is coping presently as there are so many things to do.

Fran Jodoin who is 97, moved to Thunder Bay, this past month.

She was very happy to go to her son and his wife's home. She had managed to stay in her home very healthily.

Donna Evans had a fall in January, and will not be returning to her retirement home. All we knew was that she had to lie on her back and not move. Therefore, she couldn't receive calls, or make them. she is presently at the Bruyere St Vincent.

Most of the people I have called are fed up with COVID-19 lockdowns, but managing.

Cynthia Greer

f) Stewardship

There have been no volunteers come forward yet to serve on a stewardship team.

I will be participating the next TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) workshop and the theme is Recruitment.

Michael Perkin was wondering if there had been any investigating done on the use of e-transfers or automatic deposit for tithes or donations to the church. Georgia Roberts reported that automatic deposit hadn't been offered by the bank last year and in a follow-up this year was told that it wasn't possible to do. Georgia and Suzanne Bisson will check with Joy about asking again regarding both options.

g) Outreach

No Report

h) Choir

Choir Report 18 May 2021

On April 16, 2021, the choir lost a most valued and stalwart member, Bruce Lodge. The Choir President, Katherine Greer-Close, remembers:

Church choir and Bruce. They go together. Fifty years of song at St. Mark's and many years of song before he came to us. Bruce in his tuxedo shirt hosting hymnathons and Christmas Eve carol singing. Bruce leading practice. Bruce singing tenor, no, bass, no, baritone! Bruce singing solos, and cat duets! Bruce helping out with pronunciation of German, Italian, Latin... Bruce mentoring.

We remember, and are so grateful for the many years and the memories. Sing with the angels, Bruce.

Grateful, as we all have been, to be associated in song with him.

As pandemic protocols continue, choir gatherings remain on Zoom.

Karen M. Barber, Choir Representative

5) Other Business

Shape of Parish Ministry

We are beginning stage 1. The interview questions will be distributed to parish members starting with the members of Parish Council. All Answers will be sent back to a special e-mail address.

6) The next meeting

The next meeting will be by Zoom 7pm, Tuesday June 22, 2021

7) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm with the saying of the Grace.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Perkin, Recording Secretary