

**ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST
PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting of
December 15, 2021
7:00 pm, Zoom Meeting
MINUTES**

In attendance: Georgia Roberts, Bill Barber, Gillian Morris, Pauline Adams, Suzanne Bisson, Michael Perkin, Janis Perkin, Cynthia Greer, Terry Frederick, John Hancock, Joan Hounsell, Judy Life

Opening the Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

Opening Prayer

Prayer was offered by Fr. Julian

Regrets

Gillian Martin

Approval of the Agenda

The COVID Team report was added under Business arising from the previous meeting. Approval was moved by Pauline Adams and seconded by Gillian Morris.

Approval of the Minutes from the November 17, 2021 meeting

Approval was moved by Michael Perkin and seconded by John Hancock.

Business arising from previous meetings

Signage

See Rector's Warden's Report

COVID Team (Return to Worship)

The team is working at streamlining some of the procedures such as the sign-in for parishioners. Windows still need to be kept open due to the Omicron Variant and the need for a higher ventilation. It was suggested that perhaps lap blankets and shawls, which are available in the church be placed in the pews for parishioners to use. People attending the 8am communion service will now be asked to show proof of vaccination since it was noted that some were staying away due to the lack of this proof. However it will be emphasized that those who have proof of medical exemptions will also be welcome to come.

Regular Reports

Rector's Report

Father Julian expressed thanks to all who helped him with his application for Permanent Residency. He is now a permanent resident of Canada. Father Julian was also very thankful to everyone for their support during his trials in Fort Lauderdale.

It was noted that the website now includes a biography of the rector. Services have been posted on the site as well. The Christmas services are: Christmas Eve 7:30pm, Christmas Day, 10am and Christmas Sunday 10am. On December 19th there will be a shortened Nine Lessons and Carols.

Wardens Report

December 15, 2021

Website is launched. stmarksottawa.ca

SPMC Parish Profile

External Signage for St Mark's

In years past St Mark's looked into a new sign but this consisted mainly of looking at signs of other local Anglican and other churches. There are no records of any costs. Our external wooden sign is getting to be shabby. Wood signs that are properly and routinely maintained can serve their purpose for **up to a decade**. However, in adverse weather conditions, outdoor wooden signs are known to degrade quickly.

I contacted Ottawa Signs for some information and costs. The specifications are:

- . It is wireless up to 50 feet.
- . It does videos
- . Able to put as many different messages as we wish
- . Dimensions are 6' wide from outside post to outside post
- . Height is 8 feet
- . Installed in ground in concert sauna tubes
- . LED lit sign box
- . it is double sided digital display and double-sided lettered,

A non-digital sign with a section with changeable lettering would cost \$9000.

Proposal

To create a small committee to further look into signage and report to Corporation/PC

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Bisson

Further to SPMC- the diocese was very pleased with St. Mark's Profile Submission.

Further to the Signage report:

As our sign is in poor shape and needs to be replaced. It is proposed that a small committee come together to look at the needs for the sign and to report back to Corporation and Parish Council. The committee should contain members from both council and the congregation. The diocese wants churches to look at rebranding their image at the parish level. It was suggested that we also look for grants that might be available for this purpose such as the Anglican Foundation. Rob Mellon has been approached to consider chairing the committee.

Pauline Adams reported on the Nominating Committee for Parish Council. At the time of the December council meeting they hadn't met yet. The committee members are Bill Barber, Gillian Morris, Pauline Adams and Cynthia Greer. They will meet in January and report to the council at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Some comments for Parish Council about November 2021 Financials

Balance Sheet for 30 November 2021

No expenditures from the Reserve Account in November

Income

Collection income for November (\$20,236) was the highest November income in the past 5 years and was approximately double the collection income in many previous months in 2021. It is highly likely that the parish letter sent out in early November contributed to a considerable portion of the increase.

While no solar income was received in November, we are still approximately \$1200 ahead of budget and ahead of where we were at the end of November 2020.

Some rent was received from AEMMA. And more renters are organizing to get started back.

Most of the funds from the bazaar were not deposited by the end of November. Income from this category will be considerably higher by the end of December.

Total General Income from January 1 to the end of November (\$143,895) was \$20,972 higher than at the end of October, about **\$14,000 less than budgeted** and \$3621 less than January to November 2020. This is much better than at the end of October.

Total Directed Income from January to November was \$2,314.

Expenditures

Reminder: The amounts paid for ECOPS, clergy housing, lay staff salaries, Fair Share, and Insurance from January to November are approximately \$14,000 less than budgeted since we did not know that we would have a one-month Jubilee gift when we passed our budget.

Total expenditures from January until the end of November (\$178,690.83) were **\$18,433.81 below budget**, mainly due to the one month of Jubilee but also due to keeping other expenditures in check.

Bottom Line

From January to November, our expenditures exceeded income by \$31,938, which is much better than the \$35,656 excess that we saw at the end of October. Our great November collections, our 1 month of Jubilee and keeping other expenditures in check all helped with this bottom line.

The draft 2022 Budget is usually done by this time but there has been no communique sent from the diocese as yet. This information is necessary in order to crunch the numbers for our 2022 budget.

Terry Frederick asked if there had been an evaluation done on the church building and property to establish its monetary worth. It would give us an understanding of what we need to do in an effort to maintain its value. It was pointed out that St. Marks is actually owned by the diocese. It should also be noted that it is architecturally significant in the City of Ottawa due to it being a project of the architect James William Strutt (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Strutt).

Property Report

December 2021

I have called the roofer several times re: the roof leaking again and I am still waiting for a reply. It is not leaking currently but we will see after the lovely weather starting today (Dec. 15) and into Thursday (Dec. 16). The only good news is that so far it is not leaking into the sacristy. Thanks go to Georgia and Russell for bringing over their wading pool to provide a better catchall for the water dripping in.

Similarly, I am waiting for a reply from the company that did an inspection of the water coming into the basement.

He is to send me a proposal and also with pictures of what would be done.

Bill Barber (via email)

Further to the report:

The resident of the former rectory has been concerned about the amount of snow which is moved to the end of our property. He feels that it could possibly cause flooding in his basement. It needs to be noted that as of 2019(?) we are no longer moving snow onto his property.

He is requesting the use of our parking lot in order to access the back of his property while he brings in supplies etc. for a building project. Due to diocesan regulations concerning the use of church property for non-church business we have had to deny his request as our insurance doesn't cover this kind of use. Due to the nature of the continuing interactions between members of Corporation and the homeowner Michael Perkin suggested that everything be documented and that we remain respectful at all times.

Stewardship Report

Michael Perkin reported that he hoped to meet with Father Julian to look at the time from January to August 2022 which might allow for stewardship "moments". Hopefully this would lead to a stewardship campaign in the fall.

Membership Report

Membership Report December 15, 2021

Membership remains the same, except for where we have been unable to find phone numbers and sometimes addresses for people; also there are a few others whom we couldn't contact.

The new parish directory will be available soon.

Leave your name on the office phone if you would like one, and if your name is in the directory.

Georgia and I are going to go over the list of phoners from the beginning of the pandemic, to ask them to contact their list of parishioners, or to find out if it they would like help. This will be after Christmas.

Cynthia Greer (via email)

Outreach Report

OUTREACH REPORT for DEC 15, 2021 PC Meeting

Covid is still rearing its ugly head and is impacting our fund raising efforts in Outreach. However, thanks to the generous parishioners of St Mark's I was able to deliver on November 24 another carload of food, egg cartons, and lots of knitted items to the Family House. The lovely Doreen Matweow delivered a trunk full of handmade items to DDFH at the beginning of December. The delivery included 19 scarves and 18 toques that she had knit herself, baby quilts, a duvet and assorted toiletries. Thank you, Doreen!

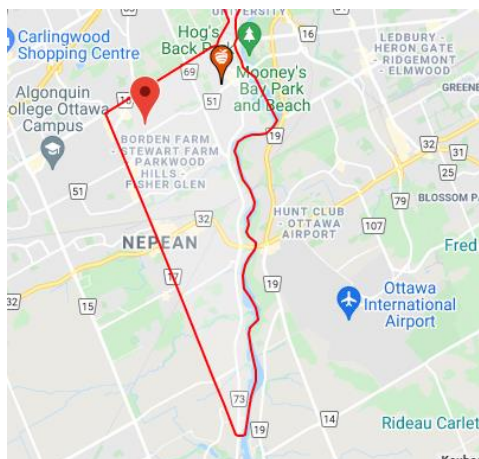
A little information on DDFH, as requested at last PC:

“The Debra Dynes Family House (DDFH) is committed to improving the quality of life for multi-culturally diverse families, children and youth who are low income and working poor, through a range of services and programs that are community driven and meet their needs.”

DDFH is located in the midst of the OCH community of Debra Dynes, which consists of 178 townhouses. But DDFH provides services to many more people. One of the Ottawa Food Bank's community food programs is run out of DDFH five days per week and serves the large area bounded approximately by Merivale Rd. Baseline Rd and the Rideau River. A map of this area is shown below.

There are other services at DDFH that also involve food, including formula and baby food in the emergency baby cupboard, healthy snacks for kids in the after 4 program and the emergency school lunch program. For more information about these and the many other services and programs at DDFH go to their website www.debradynesfamilyhouse.com. As well, a recent short video describing how DDFH is functioning during the pandemic can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDJNYBj0rEE>.

I hope to invite Barbara Carroll, Executive Director, to speak to CCC in the near future.



Area served by the DDFH Food Bank

Joan Hounsell, Outreach Coordinator

Choir Report

Choir Report December 2021

We are still waiting to sing as a whole choir. This coming Sunday we are looking forward to the Lessons and Carols for Christmas and hope it will brighten up everyone's hearts.

Cynthia Greer (via email)

New Business

There was none.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 7pm via Zoom.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm with the saying of the Grace lead by Father Julian.