

PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting of
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
Bishop Reed Hall
MINUTES

In attendance: John Hancock, Joan Hounsell, Joy Bowerman, Gillian Morris, Janis Perkin, Mike Duval, Rev. Julian Campbell, Michael Perkin, Joseph Amuah, Cynthia Greer, Pauline Adams, Bill Barber, Georgia Roberts, Suzanne Bisson

1. Opening the Meeting

a) The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Joseph Amuah

b) Father Julian Campbell offered a prayer

c) Regrets: Carolyn Findlay, Joan Grayer

d) Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda was moved by Joy Bowerman and seconded by John Hancock. *CARRIED*

2. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of June 11, 2024

Errors and Omissions- Errors and Omissions- add Georgia Roberts to the attendance. Approval was moved by Joan Hounsell and seconded by Mike Duval. *CARRIED*

Approval of the Minutes from the September 24, 2024 Meeting

Errors and Omissions- remove Suzanne Bisson from the attendance. Under Property : regarding the removal of the Chinese Elms, add thank to Russell Wilkins. Approval was moved by Pauline Adams and seconded by Gillian Morris. *CARRIED*

3. Business arising from previous meeting (s)

Lighting-Bishop Reed Hall

Lighting in the hall has been an issue and there has been a request from several parishioners to see if anything can be done to brighten it up. Mike Duval has offered to investigate different possibilities and will report back to council.

4. Regular Reports

a) Rector's Report

Rector's Report October 8, 2024

1. Due to vacation the speaking engagement at St. Paul's University on Thursday 24th October has been cancelled.
2. Vacation: October 15th to 30 and November 10 to 22nd. In my absence, Fr Ken Spear will officiate at all services and address all pastoral matters.
3. Bishop Shane Parker made his official episcopal visit to the parish on October 6th during the 10 a.m. mass. As a result, there was no 8 a.m. mass. We encouraged all parishioners to attend the later service. At the service, Bishop received 20+ new members. A few others weren't able to participate due to various reasons. The bishop and his wife remarked how beautiful the service was and the augmented Coffee Hour in the hall.
4. Gratitude is extended to the wardens, Cynthia Greer, Joy and others who assisted in sorting out all the names of the new members.

5. Gratitude is extended to Georgia and the team who organized all the events so far. I also extended gratitude to her sister who came along and ably assisted in the kitchen.
6. Baptism will be held on All Saints Day on November 3rd 2024. So far, there are 2 candidates from the Ojo family.
7. A parishioner reached out to me to assist with a Sunday School. I need to talk further with this person before I disclose further information. At the moment we have the Ojo children, Dari's children and Anne Matthew's grands.
8. On Monday, September 30th, at 9:15 a.m., Carleton University's architecture students visited the church to learn more about its architecture. They were led by their Professor, Janine Debanne.

Diocese

1. ADOy: Anglican Diocese of Ottawa Youth Ministry

ADOy (Anglican Diocese of Ottawa Youth) is a vibrant new ministry that brings together young people across our diocese, offering a safe and creative space to grow in faith, build relationships, and explore leadership.

Rooted in the local parish ministries, ADOy connects youth, aged 12 to 17, from all regions to deepen their relationship with God and each other.

ADOy provides opportunities for youth to come together on a seasonal basis, with events and activities that focus on experiential learning, leadership development, and having fun!

Parish clergy play an essential role in fostering these connections, drawing youth into meaningful and trusting relationships within our church community.

We will also be launching ADOy+, a space for young adults aged 18, 19 and in their 20s to connect, gather, and self-organize, ensuring the journey of faith continues beyond adolescence.

We are committed to supporting those who you serve in youth ministry offering tools and guidance to nurture young people in their spiritual journeys.

Saturday, October 19, 10 AM to 2 PM, Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

2. We are excited to be planning Synod. It begins with a special Eucharist at Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa, starting at 7 pm on Thursday, November 7, 2024.

The business portion of Synod begins at the St. Elias Centre with check-in starting at 7:30 am, Friday, November 8, 2024.

The meeting begins at 9 am and ends at approximately 4 pm on the same day. Synod reconvenes at 9 am on Saturday, November 9, 2024, and ends at approximately 12 pm.

Lunch will be provided at our Friday, November 8, 2024, session.

We will also be hosting an informative online pre-Synod meeting at 7 pm on Tuesday, October 29, 2024. Open to all Synod members, alternate members, and churchwardens. More information on the meeting and sign-in details are coming soon.'

Further to the report: Cynthia Greer has volunteered to provide an activity for children on Sunday morning during the service. They will leave at the Psalm and return at the Lord's Prayer.

Rector Warden's Report

Warden's Report – October 8, 2024

1. Tool Shed Roofing Project

Corporation received a cost estimate of \$537 for the project from Russell Wilkins last week. Corporation made the decision to proceed with the work to replace the roof. There has already been at least \$300 in donations for the project.

Paul Greer has also agreed to provide his trailer to haul the waste away to be dumped. There will be a fee for dumping the waste, but we will not know until after the fact.

Thank you, Russell, Paul and all who will be involved in the work.

2. Black Sign facing Fisher.

The sign facing Fisher has been successfully removed by Mike Duval. Thank you, Mike, for doing such an excellent job.

3. External Light at the Choir Room Access

The external light at the choir room access area does not work and when it is dark, going down the stairs to the parking area is very unsafe. John Hancock has agreed to look into replacing the light asap.

4. The water cooler in front of the chapel did cause major spillage a few weeks ago. It has been dismantled and placed in the chapel. It needs to be added to the next garbage/recycle collection.

5. We have a problem with too many garbage bags being left at the curb. Given the recent restrictions in place, we will soon be contravening the rules. Part of the reason is that Rose uses small garbage bags instead of big ones. Suzanne has contacted Rose to inform her to ensure that the smaller garbage bags are put into a larger garbage bag before being left at the curb for pickup.

6. At the last Parish Council meeting, we discussed that we have contacted the diocese to cash our Memorial CTF 2534. This has been done and the cheque has been received and deposited in the bank account.

Further to the report: The Photo Directory planning is underway. Sittings will take place November 5-November 6 between 2:30pm and 8:30pm. Posters are up and sign-up sheets are available. Our hosts for each day will be Janis and Michael Perkin, November 4th, Suzanne Bisson and Joan Hounsell November 5th and Georgia Roberts and Joan Grayer on November 6th. Photos will be taken at the back of the church and previews will be done in the chapel. Margaret Lodge is designing the cover and a message from Father Julian will be included. Joy has agreed to collate everything and send it to the photo company.

c) Property Report

Property Report October 2024

Just a few items to report.

- Following concerns raised at the Corporation meeting about the darkness at the choir entry door and the need to see the stairs to the parking lot, I replaced the non-functioning motion detection lamp on Wednesday, October 3rd.
- The bulb at the office entry door was replaced on Friday.
- I checked the light over the Link door and the motion detection lamp on the wall. They are working, although they may soon need new bulbs
- I took several hours filling a yard waste bag with brush, weeds, dried grass cuttings and general debris to make the property look like it was being kept tidy.

Comment:

A number of advantages came together for me on Wednesday, the 3rd. I was able to set aside time on Tuesday evening, - after Corporation meeting - and all-day Wednesday. After searching the internet, on Tuesday, for the various styles of external motion lamp fixtures, I went shopping at the nearby Rona and Canadian Tire stores. Rona was having a sale on the items I wanted to get! And they had better light fixtures than I had seen before. At the church, no one was there - except for Russell on the shed roof. It allowed me to look for the appropriate circuit breaker, and tools and equipment without interrupting a meeting or other activity. Note: it is a long way down the stairs, or through the link to the hall to find an electrical panel, then back to the workspace. I got plenty of exercise.

Thanks to Russell for renewing the shed roof, and to Paul Greer for hauling the old roofing materials to the landfill site.

John Hancock

Further to the report: The pothole in the parking lot has been fixed. Thanks is offered to Trevor Dee who took this on. Francis HVAC was in to do the fall tune-up on the boilers etc. The needed bearing has finally been ordered. All bricks that were used to hold open various doors have been removed and another method will need to be devised. John Hancock is working on this.

d) Treasurer's Report

Financial Report

October 2024

Well, the news at the end of September is not any worse than the news at the end of August. During the month of September, the Memorials CTF was returned to the bank account so you will notice that there is no longer any Memorials CTF. This means there is enough money currently in the bank account to pay our bills.

In terms of where we are compared to last year, we are actually a little bit ahead. While our collections income is significantly behind where we expected to be, it is just over \$1,000 down from last year. Our user fees are up 18% so overall our general income is up about 3%.

Unfortunately, we had the major expense in April of unblocking the drains in BRH and that has significantly coloured our bottom line. The number below the net income on the budget comparison shows that our expenses would have exceeded our income by \$23,267.39 if we had paid our full share to the diocese in August. Note that last year at the end of September, our expenses had exceeded our income by \$27,800.

Further to the report: We have applied for the PST and HST refund as well.

e) Membership

Membership October 2024

On Sunday Bishop Shane welcomed about 30 people to the parish. Some had been with us since just before Covid, when we had organized a welcome, but which didn't take place. Most people showed up this past Sunday and stayed for lunch. It was good to see such a large congregation. (80 people)

Cynthia Greer

f) Stewardship Report

Michael Perkin shared the Stewardship Note that he has written for the newsletter etc. and will have it published in the bulletin as well. Michael will also talk at both the 8am and 10am services.

Please Read

STEWARDSHIP - OUR WALLET IS EMPTY



We are celebrating 75 years as an active and vibrant church. Over our three quarters of a century we have seen many years of prosperity and growth yet we have also experienced periods of decline and challenges. Coming out of the pandemic we find ourselves in one of those low periods. We are currently seeing more people come and we are truly thankful for our financial and volunteer contributors and look forward to our renewed ministry. Yet we find ourselves lacking funding to do our regular upkeep and pay our bills on time; to put it in real

world terms, we are existing pay cheque to pay cheque with more month than we have money.

At our March vestry we approved a deficit budget of over \$15,000, we are scheduled to come in below the expected amount by carefully watching our expenditures and reducing wherever possible, but we are still coming up short. In this our 75th year we are endeavoring to maintain our facilities but, like any 75-year-old, things are wearing out and don't always last (at least two members of our congregation have had knee replacements in the past 6 months). Our plumbing

had to be unplugged at a cost of \$3,000 which was not budgeted for and we are not seeing so well in the dark because out outside lighting need replacing. The list goes on but the bottom line is we need your help.

We have some opportunities coming up, at the Bazaar consider purchasing some items or buy some Dollar for Dollar coupons, they are good for buying your groceries or donating to places like the Food Bank and since the church has already paid for them the money comes back directly into our budget. We ask you to take this time to pray about a love gift or sacrificial giving to help us through this shortfall. Remember you can give by cheque or cash, through electronic transfer or through Canada Helps.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

May you be enriched and blessed by your generosity.

If you have any questions please contact any of the wardens or myself. Michael Perkin Stewardship

g) Outreach Report

OUTREACH REPORT October 2024

There is not much to report since our last meeting.

1) I made weekly food deliveries to Debra Dynes

2) Stamps were delivered this week to Oxfam.

Joan Hounsell

h) Choir Report

Choir report October 2024

Just as we thought we were off to a solid start last month with Elaine Graham but we had our relaxation knocked from under us when Elaine reported a compound fracture of her right wrist, just on the week the Bishop was visiting. We were very fortunate that Frances McDonnell was willing and able to supply at the last minute .Elaine will be able to attend practices, and tell us what she wants and how, but we'll need a replacement for approximately a month, depending how the wrist heals, and if physio is needed before she plays. We'll cross that bridge at the end of October.

Cynthia Greer

i) 75th Anniversary Committee Update

Report of the 75th Anniversary Planning Committee for October 8 PC

Since our last parish council meeting on September 24, we have had two more of the activities. in celebration of St Mark's 75th anniversary, with just one more to go. Here are some details of where we stand on all three.

Aged in Harmony concert

The Aged in Harmony concert on September 28 was well attended by parishioners and friends, who all enjoyed a fun-filled hour of song and music and the occasional good joke. Most folks stayed for a variety of refreshments, which were served in the dim light of Bishop Reed Hall since our electricity did not come on until close to 4 pm.

As planned, donation boxes were set out both at the back of the church and in Bishop Reed Hall, since there was no charge for the concert and the reception. People were VERY generous with donations.

Special Anniversary Celebration with our Bishop

The special anniversary service took place at 10 a.m. on Sunday October 6, which included the welcoming of new parishioners. After the service, there was an informal lunch in Bishop Reed Hall, which approximately 65 people attended. Donation boxes were set out and announcements were made encouraging people to contribute.

A short reminder of the celebration was emailed out in the first days of October to some clergy with special connection to St Mark's in the past. The event was advertised in our weekly newsletter and on our Facebook page and as part of Sunday announcements. Leigh Ann Williams attended the service and luncheon and took photos for the Nov issue of

CrossTalk. As well Leigh Ann had added this event to the calendar listings for the October CrossTalk, which was published toward the end of September.

Many accolades were heard about this celebration event. Many thanks to the committee members and many other volunteers who made the day so special.

The last event that is being planned by the 75th anniversary planning committee is the following:

Parish Pictorial Directory, containing some material re 75th Anniversary events

Suzanne Bisson is taking the lead on organizing this event. Announcements are being made on how and when parishioners can have photos taken in early November. The published directory will also contain pictures and material about the 75th Anniversary activities. Suzanne will be looking for more volunteers for this event to be successful.

Georgia Roberts

New Business

There was no new business discussed at this meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date will be November 12, 2024 at 7 pm.

Adjournment

Joy Bowerman moved to adjourn the meeting, and everyone agreed. *CARRIED*

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m. with the saying of the Grace.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Perkin

