

St. George's Anglican Church, New Hamburg

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – February 6, 2018

In Attendance: Margaret Bennett, Kay Cairns, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Marg Cassel, Janice Holst, Bob Kostash, Gail Kostash (Recording Secretary), Kathy Richmond-Cox, Rev. Margaret Walker, Calvin Williston.

Regrets: Paul Ditner, Erma Godber, Carol Massel

1. Opening Prayer – Council Members shared in the reading of liturgy.

2. Review of Minutes from January 9, 2016

a. Review of Action Items

Action items from the previous Council meeting were reviewed. Items 2 to 8 will remain on the Actions list. Note: No. 5 will be done in the Spring, No. 6 is awaiting feedback from the Lioness, No. 7 is almost complete. Out-of-date items are being replaced, No. 8 no report as Paul Ditner was absent.

A small amendment to the Minutes was needed. The January meeting was on Jan. 9, not Jan. 8.

Approval of Minutes as amended – Marg. Cassel moved to approve the amended January meeting minutes. Kathy Richmond-Cox seconded. Carried.

3. Rector's Report

a. No report from Clericus as February meeting has not yet been held. Our meeting is one week early because of the pancake supper next week.

b. Indigenous Education

Rev. Margaret reported that the play committee met again. The play which deals with the impact of the Doctrine of Discovery on indigenous history will be held in 4 locations:

May 31	Rockway Mennonite School
June 1	Conrad Grebel College
June 2	Steinman Mennonite Church
June 3	St. Benedict's High School, Cambridge (possible location)

The order for June 2 and 3 has not yet been decided. Although the play is American, it is being revised to reflect the Canadian reality. The Mennonite Church of Eastern Canada has contributed the deposit of \$3200. We must encourage our people to attend the play. It is a good way to learn about Indigenous history.

4. Warden's Report

a. Land acknowledgement

Some public organizations including churches are noting on newsletters, bulletins, etc. the history of the ownership of the land on which their building stands. Gail Cuthbert Brandt read out such an acknowledgement from Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterloo.

"We acknowledge that Knox Waterloo is located on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Neutral Peoples. We seek a renewed relationship with our

neighbours, one that is based on honour and deep respect. We give thanks for the ability to gather, work and worship here.

The sacred land on which Knox Waterloo is situated has been home to various Indigenous Peoples for thousands of years. Beginning in the 19th century and continuing until the late 1960s, the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) partnered with the Government of Canada in running Indian Residential Schools. It is clear that these schools, in policy and practice, were an assault on Indigenous families, culture, language and spiritual traditions, and that great harm was done. The Confession of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (1994) seeks forgiveness from our Aboriginal neighbours. We continue to lament and regret our part in that legacy.

We cannot change the past, but we continue to share in the work of healing and reconciliation, respectfully following the leadership of Indigenous communities and leaders.”

Our Wardens and Rev. Margaret suggest that we do a similar statement in our Newsletter or in our Bulletin. We will have to verify that the history of the land on which St. George’s stands is the same as that of Knox Waterloo.

Motion: Moved by Gail Cuthbert Brandt that St. George’s start by having a land acknowledgement statement in our Newsletter and on our website. Seconded by Kay Cairns. Carried.

Gail has been in contact with the Rev. Roslyn Elm to see if we might either study a book along with the Six Nations church or visit the Six Nations, or both. We will wait to see what her church would like us to do.

b. Adult Learning Series

Gail Cuthbert Brandt suggested that there is a need for adult learning opportunities which St. George’s could help fulfill. She suggests doing a series of lectures in the fall called “1918 – a Memorable Year”. The series would be based on the Third-Age Learning model but these lectures should be offered to all people. The cost would be \$5.00. They could be held over 5 or 6 weeks on a Tuesday or Friday afternoon. Gail has contact with Professors from the University of Waterloo who would probably agree to do one lecture. Each speaker would be paid a gratuity.

c. Parish Council Retreat

We decided the retreat will be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday March 24 from 9 to 12.30.

5. Congregational Development Committee

a. Sunday School

Kathy Richmond-Cox reported that Kay Cairns has agreed to be Sunday School co-ordinator. It is hoped that more of the children on our Parish List will attend.

b. Lenten Devotions

St. George’s is offering Lenten devotions through the study “Meeting with Jesus in the Gospel of John”. The study will be Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday evening throughout Lent.

PWRDF also has a Lent study. Kathy will send it to us.

6. Worship Committee

a. Lent and Easter

All Lent and Easter services and events are on a yellow sheet which Rev. Margaret passed out to members of Council who did not have one. She said that the books for the Lenten Study will be out next Sunday, Feb. 11. On March 21 St. George's will be doing lunch along with Trinity Lutheran for the noon Soup, Sandwich, Sermon and Song at Trinity. On Maundy Thursday there will be a Seder Supper at St. George's at 5 p.m. The band has been set for the 6:45 am Easter Sunday Sunrise Service. Throughout Lent there will be Lent Evensong services on Thursdays at 6:30 pm preceded by a soup supper at 5:30. Both St. George's and Trinity plan these services.

7. Outreach

a. Refugee Family

Kathy Richmond-Cox commented on our new refugee family. Husband and wife have both started ESL courses. The older child, a daughter, as started school. The family is settling in well.

b. Pancake Supper

Gail Cuthbert Brandt noted that a few more volunteers are needed. The volunteer sheet will be put out again on Sunday. There is some concern about ticket sales as Dorothy has not received as many calls as usual at this time. However, some who come to the supper simply show up on the day.

c. Huron Church Camp

Kathy will find out how much it costs for each camper. The thought is that St. George's would pay for a young person from St. George's to go. Carter might be interested. It is also felt that we should donate to the Huron Church Camp as part of our Outreach.

Motion: Moved by Gail Kostash that \$200 from our Special Bequest Outreach fund be sent to the Huron Diocese for the Huron Church Camp. Seconded by Calvin Williston. Carried.

8. Communications

a. Lent Newsletter

Items for the Lent Newsletter, which will be a small one as our Secretary is away until mid-March, should be into the office by March 1st.

9. St. James

No report as Carol Massel was absent.

10. Social/Fundraising Committee

Margaret Bennett noted that there has been a slight complication with regards to our Dinner and Movie event on March 17. The funeral for Ada Stanley will be that morning with a lunch. We will need volunteers to set up at 9:30 am. Since only 30 are expected for the funeral, the hall should be ready by 2 pm to allow us to set up for the evening dinner.

11. Building and Property – Storm Sewer Connection

No report as Paul Ditner was absent.

12. Finance Committee

a. Treasurer's Report

Gail Kostash reported that she had been unable to do the report as her computer was in for repairs. The bank balance on Feb. 5th was \$8,015.66. No unusual or unexpected transactions had taken place.

13. New Business

a. Cushions on Pews

It was noted that our church looks somewhat messy with the variety of pillows that are on the pews. Should we get full length pillows for the pews? Janice Holst will work with the Wardens to get ideas for getting pillows.

b. Bulletin Boards

Janice Holst asked if we still had approval to check into getting a cork wall covering to replace the 4 individual cork boards currently in use. She was given approval.

14. Adjournment

Gail Kostash moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:35pm.

Upcoming Events:

Feb. 11 – Men’s Breakfast Study Group, 8:45 am

Feb. 13 – Pancake Supper, Wilmot Recreation Complex, 5 – 7 pm

Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Feb. 17 – Funeral for Ada Stanley, 11:00 am

Feb. 17 – Dinner and Movie, 6:00 pm

Feb. 18 – Service at Nithview, 1:30 pm

Feb. 20 – Deanery Council, St. James Cambridge, 7:00 pm

Mar. 13 – Parish Council, 7:15 pm

Action Items

#	Responsible Party	Due Date	Details
1	Parish Council	?	<p>Read over and consider all of the options</p> <p>Reducing clergy from 75 to 50% and look into linking with other parishes – Leader, Kathy Richmond-Cox</p> <p>Selling the house – Leader, Carol Massel</p> <p>Selling house & church – Leader, Gail Cuthbert Brandt</p> <p>Rent the entire house up & down. Wholly or into 2 separate apartments – Leader, Bob Kostash</p> <p>Stewardship campaign – Leader, Gail Kostash</p> <p>Partnering/Amalgamating with another church –Leader, Marg Cassel</p>
2	Rector/Lori		Review hall rental process

#	Responsible Party	Due Date	Details
3	Rector/Wardens	Jan.	Follow up with Rev. Roslyn Elm re book study with Parish of Six Nations
4	Margaret Cassel	Spring	Rework parking sign
5	Margaret Cassel	Spring	Continue to investigate possible funding for defibrillator
6	Wardens	Feb.	Replace some contents in the first aid box.
7	Paul Ditner	Sep.	Research dishwasher requirement
8	Council	Spring	Create a Land Acknowledgement statement for St. George's
9	Gail Cuthbert Brandt	Fall	Organize an Adult Learning Series
10	Kathy Richmond-Cox	March	Check out cost per camper for Huron Church Camp
11	Rev. Margaret	March	Lenten Newsletter
12	Wardens/Janice Holst	March	Check into full length pillows for pews