

## St George's Anglican Church, New Hamburg

### Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – January 8, 2018

**In Attendance:** Margaret Bennett, Margaret Cassel, Paul Ditner, Erma Godber, Charles Jenkins, Bob Kostash, Gail Kostash, Lori Laurette (Recording Secretary), Carol Massel, Kathy Richmond-Cox (Chair ), Rev Margaret Walker.

**Regrets:** Janice Holst, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Calvin Williston

1. **Opening Prayer** - Council members shared in the reading of “Liturgy – Justice for the World and its People”
2. **Review of Minutes from** December 12, 2017
  - a. Review of action items  

Action items from the previous Council meeting were reviewed. Item 1 is complete. Items 2 to 8 will continue on the Action Items list.

**Approval of Minutes** - Marg Cassel moved to approve the amended December meeting minutes. Seconded by Carol Massel. Carried.
3. **Rector's Report** – Rev Margaret
  - a. Mission and Ministry Plan – No update until after next meeting
  - b. Bishop's letter. Read to Council by Rev Margaret. It will be included in the Vestry report. Parish discussed items listed in the letter and it was noted that St. George's is already undertaking many of them. Are there any other Bible studies that we would like to do besides Lent? Council agreed to consider sponsorship of the Church Camp.
  - c. Changes to Marriage Canon - There are two conversation forums and dates are listed in the bulletin and were shared via email notification.
4. **Warden's Report** – Marg Cassel
  - a. Grace Mennonite – Marg Cassel called Mr. Dolman to let that church know we would be interested in talking to them about sharing our facilities. We are waiting to hear back from them.
5. **Congregational Development Committee** – Kathy Richmond-Cox
  - a. Sunday School – no report
  - b. Lenten devotions – This year's Lenten series is “Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John” Council discussed the best times to offer the study. Tentatively we are looking at Tue. 2:15pm and/or Wed. at 7:00pm.
6. **Worship Committee** – Rev Margaret
  - a. Christmas – Weather affected the service numbers. Council members noted that there was a good turnout for coffee hour afterwards despite the weather.
  - b. Lent and Easter. Ash Wednesday will fall on Valentine's Day and Easter will occur on April Fool's Day this year. Rev Margaret indicated that Evensong is a very lovely service and encouraged council to attend. A Deanery Easter Vigil, March 31<sup>st</sup>, will take place at St George's Forest Hill. The band has been booked for our Sunrise Service. Breakfast will be held after that and then the Easter Service will occur after breakfast. Parish council agreed that they would be holding Seder Supper on either Wednesday March 28<sup>th</sup>, or Maundy Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup>.
7. **Outreach** – Kathy Richmond Cox
  - a. Refugee family – The family arrived a little later than expected but things are going well. There is a Muslim family, Mum, Dad, 4 yr old girl and 2 yr. old boy. They are doing an English assessment. Kathy put together a picnic basket for them to have in the hotel room, which was most appreciated. Kathy accompanied the family to shop for winter clothes/accessories and groceries. She has learned that the

people of Ethiopia are very oppressed. i.e No school, internet, lands are taken, people are killed everyday and the news from that country is suppressed.

- b. Pancake Supper – Committee will have a meeting tomorrow. Supper at 5-7pm at Wilmot Rec Complex. Volunteers will be needed day of. Lori will put a notice in the bulletin this week.

**8. St. James – no report**

**9. Social/Fundraising Committee –Margaret Bennett**

- a. Sat. Feb 17<sup>th</sup>- 6:00pm supper. Film to be shown is “Born in China.” There will be steak pies and some steak and kidney pies. Tickets are \$15.00, \$8.00 for children. ACW will complete the food license form at their meeting and will provide the poster to the office for January 21<sup>st</sup>.
- b. Lori will get a needs list for Monica place and put a notice in the bulletin for Jan. 21st service when Rev Margaret will be speaking about Monica Place.

**10. Finance Committee – Gail Kostash**

- a. Treasurer’s Report. Reviewed by Parish Council. Noted items are that the operating fund is on the plus side. Outreach from bequests is 10% of the undesignated bequest and equals \$2,479. Building fund has been moved from the operating budget to Capital/Designated Funds. We had a donation from a previous parish member to be spent on Altar Guild. Gail added a new report indicating the value on Diocesan Investments. Thank you Gail!
- b. Budget – Parish council discussed the proposed budget.

**Motion:** moved by Gail Kostash and seconded by Margaret Bennett that the December financial report be accepted. Carried.

**11. Building & Property –Paul Ditner**

- a. Storm sewer connection – The drainage pipe has now been placed on the Township’s official plan. There is an immediate need to pay for the engineering plan. Option 1 will have the T pipe capped which will require future expansion (digging up the driveway again). However, it makes sense, (budget wise) to do all of the work at the same time. Option 2 (putting in the catch basin) rather than digging up the driveway etc. twice. Paul will ask Kevin what impact the Township Plan will have on Options 1 and 2. Rev. Margaret will alert the Diocese immediately about the possible request for the funds. Paul will require ½ hour at Vestry to explain the plan options for a Vestry vote.

**12. New Business**

- a. Vestry reports due tomorrow
- b. Date of next parish council (same day as pancake supper) –Council tentatively agreed that Tuesday Feb 6, 2018 at 7:15 may work.
- c. Audit – In past years, the university students did the audit for St. George’s. Should we consider another option? Rev Margaret will look into the requirements of CRA and the Diocese. Gail K to ask Michael Haylock if he would consider doing the audit for the parish.

**13. Adjournment –Council adjourned at 9:50 pm.**

Upcoming Events:

Jan 13 – Deanery discussion on changes to Marriage Canon, Trinity Cambridge, 10:00am

Jan 17 – Deanery discussion on changes to Marriage Canon, St Andrew’s Kitchener, 7:00pm

Jan 21 – ACW Breakfast Meeting

Jan 21 – Service at Nithview, 1:30pm

Jan 28 – Vestry, 12:30pm  
 Feb 4 – Induction of Parish Council  
 Feb 6 – Parish Council, 7:15pm  
 Feb 11 – Men’s Breakfast Study Group, 8:45am  
 Feb 13 – Pancake Supper, Wilmot Recreation Complex, 5-7pm  
 Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday, 7:00pm  
 Feb 18 – ACW Meeting, 8:45am

**Action Items**

| # | Responsible Party | Due Date | Details  |
|---|-------------------|----------|--|
| 2 | Parish Council    | ?        | Read over and consider all of the options.<br><b>Reducing clergy from 75 to 50% and look into linking with other parishes</b> – Leader Kathy Richmond Cox<br><b>Selling the house</b> – Leader, Carol Massel<br><b>Selling house &amp; church</b> - Leader, Gail Cuthbert Brandt<br><b>Rent the entire house up &amp; down. Wholly or into 2 separate apartments</b> – Leader Bob Kostash<br><b>Stewardship campaign</b> - Leader, Gail Kostash<br><b>Partnering/Amalgamating with another church</b> - Leader, Marg Cassel. |
| 3 | Rector/Lori       |          | Review hall rental process.  |
| 4 | Rector/Wardens    | Jan      | Follow up with Rev Roslyn Elm re book study with Parish of Six Nations.  |
| 5 | Margaret Cassell  | Nov      | Rework parking sign  |
| 6 | Margaret Cassell  | Oct      | Continue to investigate possible funding for defibrillator.  |
| 7 | Wardens           | Oct      | Replace some contents in the first aid box.  |
| 8 | Paul Ditner       | Sep      | Research dishwasher requirement.   |