

## St George's Anglican Church, New Hamburg

### Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – November 14, 2017

**In Attendance:** Margaret Cassel, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Paul Ditner, Erma Godber, Janice Holst, Bob Kostash, Gail Kostash, Lori Laurette (Recording Secretary), Carol Massel, Kathy Richmond-Cox (Chair ), Rev Margaret Walker, Calvin Williston.

**Regrets:** Charles Jenkins, Margaret Bennett

1. **Opening Prayer** - Council members shared in the reading of “Liturgy – Justice for the World and its People”
2. **Review of Minutes** from October 10, 2017
  - a. Review of action items  

Action Items from the previous Council meeting were reviewed. Items 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 to continue on the Action Items list. Items # 9 is completed.

**Approval of Minutes** – Amendment request - Warden’s report under #4 bulletin points need to be redone in alpha order.

Gail Cuthbert Brandt moved to approve the amended October meeting minutes. Seconded by Bob Kostash. Carried.
3. **Rector’s Report** – Rev Margaret
  - a. Apportionment will go down for 2018 and is based on our expenses for 2016. The Pension plan investment did well this year. The deanery council meetings did go into detail about finance and the budget will be released on the website for public review.
  - b. The Land/property committee meeting drafted a set of guidelines for all parishes on how to maintain property. It is a good starting place but it is geared toward larger parishes and needs some revision.
  - c. From clericus – deanery dues and therefore apportionment will go down in 2018.
  - d. Will attend the workshop: Leading the Church Through Transformation, Change and Renewal, London, Nov 21-22.
  - e. Parish Twinning with Indigenous Parish. Gail drafted the letter to go to the Bishop however we will continue informally as we have a contact, The Rev Rosalyn Elm, rector at Six Nations, who co-led the blanket exercise. Rev Rosalyn suggested that we might participate in a book study with a parish from Six Nations. Council discussed this and agreed.
4. **Warden’s Report** – Marg Cassel
  - a. **Mission and Ministry Plan** – Council presented the Mission and Ministry Plan at the Congregational meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup>, with 25 people in attendance. Council agreed it’s been stressful trying to prioritize the numerous tasks/budget but everyone is glad that the rest of the congregation understands the complexity of the situation. It was agreed that some decisions need to be made by council before vestry. Council noted that as an operating parish without the building issues we are doing well. Rev Margaret suggested that the scope of the property work may be placed outside of the operating budget. The building can be looked at in the capital budget and then we would hold another vestry meeting in 3 months to specifically deal with property. Right now, we need some additional quotes and some technical advice on the urgency of dealing with some of the structural issues so that we can prioritize the issues we have listed. Paul indicated that the tower issues may be the deciding factor in how we move forward.
  - b. **Hall Rental** – no report

- c. **Heritage Designation** – Subcommittee met and would like to meet with the Archdeacon to discuss how they feel about a heritage designation. Council agreed that it may be beneficial to have Tracy Loch or Nick Bogaert there to respond to questions.
  - d. **Defibrillator** – no report
- 5. Congregational Development Committee** – Kathy Richmond-Cox
- a. **Sunday School** – A new schedule has been sent out.
  - b. **Prayer Group** – is meeting every Tuesday afternoon with 4-8 in attendance. Please talk to Gail Kostash if you have prayer requests. Only first names are shared.
- 6. Worship Committee** – Rev Margaret
- a. Blessing of Animal/All Saints/Remembrance Day- all went well.
  - b. Advent events information will be documented and put into the bulletin.
  - c. Christmas dates and times were reviewed.
  - d. Ushers- council agreed that ushers may be needed when there are a number of guests in the congregation. Council discussed the pros and cons and decided take the front pew out on both sides in order to have enough room for communion when the front of the church is decorated.
- 7. Communications Committee** – Margaret Cassel
- a. Advent Newsletter – Deadline for submissions is Nov 16. Distribution deadline is 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 8. Outreach** – Kathy Richmond Cox
- a. Blanket Exercise, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm. Rev Rosalyn Elms, Rector of Parish of Six Nations was co-leader. The Exercise was planned by a committee of 5 churches in New Hamburg. Approximately 80 attended the exercise including 14 from St George’s.
  - b. Refugee family- arrival of the new family is delayed. The parish will give Christmas gifts for one refugee family (2 adults) by a free will offering.
- 9. St. James** – Carol Massel
- a. Council met November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cemetery bylaws have been finalized and will be sent into the Bereavement Authority of Ontario.
- 10. Social/Fundraising Committee** –Margaret Bennett
- a. Lessons and Carols - The Quintet has been booked and the liquor permit received.
  - b. Christmas Bazaar – Nov. 25th, 120 baskets sold so far. Guys will come in to set up on the 23rd. Several young women are helping to serve lunch. Plans are going well so far.
- 11. Building & Property** –Paul Ditner
- a. Storm sewer connection – Water Management plan. Kevin (K. Smart Associates) has provided engineering estimates. As already discussed, the initial engineering drawing will be \$10,000.  
 Option 1 (sump pump directly to street) is \$3,800. plus taxes.  
 Option 2 which is recommended by Paul (sump is directed to the catch basin and street and allows future expansion) \$4,700. plus taxes.  
 Option 3 (includes drainage between the church and house and runs the water back to catch basin) \$10,950. plus taxes.
- 12. Finance Committee** – Gail Kostash
- a. Treasurer’s Report. Reviewed by Parish Council.

Gail noted that offerings are down, the deficit is up compared to this time last year, the house budget has gone up because of the water bill and our expenses are higher than our operating income.

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

### 13. New Business

- a. Water bill has gone up and it appears that the Parish house toilet needs replacing. It will be approximately \$400.

**Motion:** moved by Gail Kostash and seconded by Calvin Williston that the house toilet be replaced for up to \$400.00. Carried.

- b. Nominating Committee- Gail Kostash volunteered for committee. Council suggested Gwen Tye, Kay Cairns, Janet Dawson Brock be on the nominating committee.
- c. Pancake supper – Council agreed that we would participate in the Pancake supper held on Feb 13, 2018 and have yet to decide where the proceeds will go. Volunteers will be needed on the day and will be requested in the bulletin.
- d. CLAY – Youth Ontario. We will be asking our teens if one or more of them is/are interested in going to CLAY. (Emily, Carling, Cassidy). Sending two so that they can go together in August is ideal.
- e. Music- Glory to God is a difficult piece of music for both the choir and congregation. Rev Margaret indicated that she would talk to Amanda and then look to another piece that would be easier.
- f. Gail Kostash indicated that Wardens and Rev Margaret need a budget meeting.
- g. Bulletin board. Janice will put up outreach information. Janice and Paul will look into this further.

### 14. Adjournment –Council adjourned at 9:30 pm.

#### Upcoming Events:

Nov 19 – ACW Breakfast meeting, 8:45am

Nov 19 – Service at Nithview, 1:30pm

Nov 25 – Bazaar, 11am – 2pm

Nov 25 – Safe Church Workshop, Trinity Cambridge, 2:00pm

Dec 2 – Quiet Day, Renison

Dec 7 – Evening Prayer

Dec 10 – Men’s Breakfast Group, 8:45am

Dec 12 – Parish Council, 7:15pm

## Action Items

#	Responsible Party	Due Date	Details
1	Parish Council	Nov. 16	Deadline for Advent newsletter
2	Parish Council	?	Read over and consider all of the options. <b>Reducing clergy from 75 to 50% and look into linking with other parishes</b> – Leader Kathy Richmond Cox <b>Selling the house</b> – Leader, Carol Massel <b>Selling house &amp; church</b> - Leader, Gail Cuthbert Brandt <b>Rent the entire house up &amp; down. Wholly or into 2 separate apartments</b> – Leader Bob Kostash <b>Stewardship campaign</b> - Leader, Gail Kostash <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.