

St George's Anglican Church, New Hamburg

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – November 8, 2016

In Attendance: Margaret Bennett, Margaret Cassel (chair), Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Janice Holst, David Korell, Marion Korell, Bob Kostash, Gail Kostash Carol Massel, Kathy Richmond-Cox, Calvin Williston Rev. Margaret Walker, Lori Laurette (recording secretary)

Regrets: Paul Ditner

1. **Evening Prayer** - read by Kathy Richmond Cox, Margaret Bennett, Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Carol Massel.
2. **Visioning** – The topic of visioning will be part of the Parish Council meeting going forward. The seventh item for discussion is Outreach. Bob Kostash indicated that by year end we will have provided about 1000 lbs of food for the foodbank. Currently, the refugee families don't use the foodbank but as they come into the end of their sponsorship, they may have a need to access it. Christmas Hampers are ramping up. Samaritan's Purse -Christmas boxes for children are not being done this year. There were no requests for this from other churches this year. People enjoyed filling these. It was noted that boxes do get repacked and there are guidelines for what goes into the boxes. Perhaps we can check to see what happened to the area organization first. There was a suggestion about looking at this outreach program to ensure that this is something that we want to support on a yearly basis. If everyone put this money into SCAW or something for World Vision, then we could accomplish a lot for a community. Typically, we donate to PWRDF, Monica Place, Sleeping children Around the World on a regular basis.

WFRC include foodbank..... 5
Respond to families in community in need 5
Refugee family - alone or with others..... 4
SCAW..... 4
Yearly assessment of focus 3

3. **Approval of Minutes – Date on the minutes is incorrect and needs to be amended to read October 11th. Bob Kostash moved to approve the October meeting minutes once amended. Seconded by Calvin Williston. Carried.**
4. **Rector's Report – Rev. Margaret**
 - a. Rev. Margaret read a card from Michael's parents, Phil and Anne Haylock providing thanks and blessings to St. George's.
 - b. Safe Church – there is a requirement to get new police records checks and training. As ethical Christians we need to do this and for insurance reasons, we need to show that we offer a safe place for children etc. Video training will be scheduled for the congregation and all high risk positions.
5. **Warden's Report - Kathy Richmond Cox**
 - a. Report of teams investigating options- pause until Jan 2017. Until then, parish council can talk to the congregation about the options and discuss openly.
 - b. Paid employees – music director, custodian, bookkeeper, admin assistant. Shannon is on sick leave. Creating a bookkeeper position which sees the admin assistant hours and wages increase by 25% per month. We will still have a treasurer. There is an interview set up for a new choir director. Rev. Margaret, Kathy Richmond Cox, Marg Cassel, and Gail Kostash will interview. There will be a one month probationary period to ensure that it is a right fit between the choir and the music director.
 - c. Beavers – Will asked to return to meeting at St. George's on Thursday nights from 6:30-8pm. Linda Parker has signed a keyholder agreement. They will not be joining us for the Remembrance Day service as they have other obligations.

6. Congregational Development Committee – Kathy Richmond Cox

- a. Sunday School – Carol Massel has joined as a new teacher and a retired Kindergarten teacher may begin in the New Year.
- b. Bible Study – Council of the North is going well.

7. Worship Committee –

- a. Remembrance Day this Sunday. Andrew Loch, Robin, Wayne Simpson may be here to read the poem. David Knarr will be playing. He is available until Christmas (except Sunday November 20th). There was a suggestion to speak with David about doing something with the choir for Christmas.
- b. Advent Evening Prayer – joint service with Trinity Lutheran on Thursdays, Dec 1, 8, 15, 22 at 6:30pm
- c. Nine Lessons and Carols – Dec. 11th 7:00pm. Carol will put it on the sign.
- d. January 1st service will be BCP morning prayer.

8. Communications Committee – Margaret Cassel

- a. **Newsletter** – Advent. Submissions by November 14th. Newsletter out by end of November.

9. Outreach – Kathy Richmond Cox

- a. Sponsorship of refugee family- Dad has just purchased a car. He has a G2 license. Kathy Richmond Cox shops with the 2nd family still. The mother is excited about learning English and is using it when she can.
- b. Monica Place – Open house on November 30th. Everyone is welcome.
- c. There was an insert in the last bulletin outlining invitations to the Renison and Indigenous events happening in the area.

10. St. James – Carol Massel

- a. Cemetery by-law-no report

11. Social/Fundraising Committee – Margaret Bennett

- a. Supper & Song. Sat November 5th. Was successful. Gail Kostash requested the receipts. Fundraising has gone over the goals. There will be a meeting in January to set goals for 2017.

12. Building & Property – Paul Ditner

- a. Steps –Carol received a quote for \$2456.00. It is quite a bit higher than the previous one. Carol and Paul will need to discuss the quote details with each vendor to be able to compare them fully.

13. Finance Committee – Bob Kostash

- a. **Treasurer's report** - Gail Kostash provided Council with a detailed financial report with the following explanation.
 - 1. Bank balance is up. (-\$16,499)
 - 2. Offerings are a bit higher than the same time last year.
 - 3. Phone bills have not been refunded by the Diocese as yet.
 - 4. General fund balance -28,396.74

Margaret Bennett moved to accept the September financial report. Bob Kostash seconded. Carried.

14. New Business

- a. Carol Massel met with Tracy Loch from the Heritage Society. She is willing to work with the Parish Council about the logistics making St. George's a heritage building. She has worked with a church in Baden and

Petersburg as well. There are grants available to repairs for Heritage buildings. However, there have been words of caution from the Chancellor. For example, there could a loss of control over what we can do to our buildings and it may hamper the ability to sell the building in the future. There are differences between provincial and municipal designations. Marg Cassel also has some contacts that have experience with heritage designation if further information is needed. Carol will have Tracy come in February or March to make a presentation to the Parish Council so we can learn more.

Motion for Carol to speak with Tracy Loch, ? moved to accept, Seconded by ? Carried.

- b. Bob Kostash would like to put up a notice board for his poster. Gail and Bob will donate the poster board.
- c. Big item garbage day, is on Thursday. Everything from the shed will be put out.
- d. Rev. Margaret has asked for input on Lessons and Carols.

15. Adjournment – David Korell moved to adjourn. Carried.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov 9 – Bible Study, 7:20pm
- Nov 13 – Men’s Breakfast and Book Study, 8:45am
- Nov 13 – Bible Study, 9:10am
- Nov 13 – Remembrance Day
- Nov 15 – Deanery Refugee Committee, St George’s FH, 7:15pm
- Nov 20 – Nithview Service 1:30pm
- Nov 26 – ACW Bazaar, 11am - 2pm
- Nov 26 – Enthronement of Bishop Linda, St Paul’s Cathedral, 2:00pm
- Nov 27 – First Sunday in Advent
- Nov 30 – Monica Place Open House, 2pm – 6pm
- Dec 1 – Advent Evening Prayer, Trinity Lutheran, 6:30pm
- Dec 8 – Advent Evening Prayer, Trinity Lutheran, 6:30pm
- Dec 10 – ACW Christmas Lunch, noon.
- Dec 11 - Men’s Breakfast and Book Study, 8:45am
- Dec 11 – Lessons and Carols, 7:00pm
- Dec 13 – Parish Council, 7:15pm

Action Items

#	Responsible Party	Due Date	Details
1	Kathy Richmond Cox	Nov 14	PWRC in the Advent newsletter.
2	Wardens	Nov. 14	Look at writing up some of the job descriptions within the newsletter in an effort to have others consider their strengths and what role they may play within the church.
3	Parish Council	Postpone until Jan.	Read over, and consider all of the options. Reducing clergy from 75 to 50% and look into linking with other parishes – Leader Kathy Richmond Cox Selling the house – Leader, Carol Massel Selling house & church - Leader, Gail Cuthbert Brandt

			<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>
3	Parish Council	Nov. 14	Submit newsletter articles
4	Lori	Nov	Request gently used costume jewellery in bulletin
6	Rev. Margaret	Nov	Speak with David about Christmas services with the choir
7	Carol Massel	Nov	Will talk to Paul about quote for the concrete steps as the 2 quotes are quite different.
	Rev Margaret	Nov	Talk to brass band and Michael Haylock for Dec. 11 th Lessons & Carols.