

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church
Meeting at home of Leslie Giddings
June 16, 2015

Present: Beth Bretzlaff (Rector), Margaret Kasurak (Rector's Warden), Stephen Giles (People's Warden), Adrian Cloete (Chair), Linda Clippingdale (Secretary), Leslie Giddings (Treasurer), Audrey Starkes, Bryan Bondy, Quiller Graham, Mary Frances Marshall, Wendy Williamson-Scrim, Ann Chaplin, Michael Dowie.

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Adrian welcomed everyone and Beth gave the opening prayer. She also thanked Leslie for hosting this meeting and potluck at her house.

2. Regrets: John Lawford, Trevor Hammersley-Frazer, John Veenstra & Stephanie Symonds

3. Approval of Agenda

Approval was moved by Wendy, seconded by Ann and agreed.

4. Approval of minutes of May 19, 2015

There was an amendment to section 9 b) – delete last 4 words. Audrey moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Margaret. Agreed

5. Business arising from the minutes

Nothing specific but some items may come up in Wardens' or Rector's reports.

6. Wardens' Report

Wendy (Deputy Warden) announced that she has agreed to be the point person in discussions with Gordon about the music program. Stephen spoke to the issue of financial management. The Wardens are examining options for clearer reporting. Previously most of the work by the Treasurer was done by hand and was very labour-intensive. Leslie added that she hopes the system will be fully automated by Sept. She will work on this with Kim. We have the soft ware program but it wasn't used for its full purposes. Margaret added that the wardens have been looking at numerous outdoor signs including the one outside the Christian Science building. People have been asking about our sign and wondering when it will be replaced. We also need to put up a handicap sign outside the Church.

7. Rector's Report

- > Beth reported that she had prepared a new brochure just before **Doors Open Ottawa**. There was some feedback re the Five Marks of Mission and a suggestion that the handicap sign be included.
- > Glen Robinson, Rick Clippingdale and Yves Lafortune have all expressed an interest in working on the history section of any new handout. Adrian passed on an example given to him by Myra Clowes from Christ's Church Anglican Cathedral in Niagara. **Note:** It was agreed that from now on we would refer to St. John's as St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church. It is important that the church be identified as Anglican.
- > Beth commented that there are a lot of new people in the Church and at least six have contacted her directly. These people are 'intentional seekers' and we should notice and welcome them. In the fall we may develop some course under Christian Education specifically aimed at such people.
- > Beth has been very busy lately with Diocesan responsibilities. She is very involved in one of the goals for *Embracing God's Future* which is Life-long Learning. She is also in the group looking at Buildings and Properties, doing an analysis of where the 'hot spots' are for the next 1-5 years. A second stage will be asking people to do an analysis of their ministries etc. There will probably be a special synod next year to deal with all these challenges – it should be an exciting year for synod delegates. Leslie added that she will be looking for a youth delegate (age 16-24) to attend the provincial synod in Toronto.
- > Beth reported the 'Good News' that a couple of substantial donations have been made recently to the Parish.
- > Mike Scrim has volunteered to take over supervising the Duty Wardens.

8. Treasurer's Report

Leslie handed out two documents 1) A Balance Sheet and 2) a Comparative Income statement. She admitted that there have been challenges over the transition. Beth added that she and the wardens have a lot of work to do as well. Audrey moved a **motion** suggesting that Leslie need only supply a summary report each month to Parish Council rather than a detailed income statement and that the Corporation would oversee financial matters until January when a new year begins. This motion was seconded by Mary Frances Marshall and agreed by consensus.

9. Reports from Committees

- a. **Stewardship** – Ann reported that the committee was working on a first draft of a campaign for the fall. They discussed the idea of a guest speaker (possibly the Dean) as well as having testimonials on particular ministries from people whose lives have been impacted by such

ministries. Possibilities would be RAG, Affordable Housing and Open Doors. Another idea would be a Parish Event, the date etc. to be determined. The committee will also work towards targeted stewardship letters. Another idea is to feature "God the Giver" program 5 or 6 times in the parish bulletin.

- b. Communications** – Our new tagline is: 'St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church – Where Doors and Hearts are Open'. The draft logo did not work well in black & white, so it will be re-worked over the summer, possibly to incorporate the eagle from a previous church logo. Adrian will develop a communications resource sheet that all groups and ministries can use.
- c. Property and Building** – Stephen reported that the focus in the past month has been the Well and air quality. The monitoring system didn't work because someone unplugged it. The Well had someone look at the fan over the stove and dishwasher – it has been running non-stop for 9-10 years! The technician consulted said there is no reason to leave the fan running - it is putting moisture in the air and walls. It was also discovered that there are many space heaters in the Well which are left on all winter. The consultant is pretty sure there are no health-related issues but mold and asbestos issues exist as in all old buildings. They are looking into installing some huge dehumidifiers to deal with the moisture situation. We need the Diocese to get on with renegotiating a new agreement with the Well. (agreement should be with Diocese, not the Parish)
- d. Christian Education** – no meeting this month
- e. Pastoral Care** – Mary Frances reported that the committee had met and is working on a document outlining a way forward for the next year. There is a very positive feeling in the group and relief that Marietta is back. They are addressing mission but not governance other than succession planning. Leslie suggested that the youth ministry could have a role in this and Bryan noted that there is a new training program being planned for the fall.

10. Updates from Working Groups

- a) Community Shop** – Quiller met with the shop people and learned some of the history of the shop. They need some help with some of the physical things (shelves, signs etc.). They also need help with publicity. He has planned another meeting for next week.
- b) Governance** – Stephen reported that Mike Scrim has joined the group. Stephen will be speaking with each of the committee chairs re their budgets, any planned events etc.

- c) Community Events** – Linda and Adrian reported on **Doors Open Ottawa**. Over 300 people stopped in to admire the beautiful architecture and stained glass windows. Many also took up Beth’s offer to ring the bell! We handed out cookies and lemonade and in the afternoon people enjoyed a concert by a quartet of singers from the St. Cecilia choir. (Carol Alette, Joyce Lundberg, Patsy Royer & Huguette Voyer) . Many also enjoyed listening to some students practicing for a concert the next day. The Shop stayed open an extra 2 hours and made over \$300.00 . A donation basket gathered enough to pay for more than half the refreshments. The team of volunteers from the Open Door sitters and Parish Council did a great job of welcoming people to the Church. Adrian drew everyone’s attention to the first ever **Wine Tasting of communion wines, breads and olive oil** on Sunday June 21 in the Church. He has received donations of wine, bread , olive oil and flowers.
- Note:** it was agreed Open Door Sitters should ring the bell at Noon to announce the doors are open.
- d. Welcome/Hospitality** – Bea Robertson, John Veenstra and Karen Clark have agreed to join this group.
- e. Social Action** – the group has not met.

11. New Business

- a) Ryan Boivin’s report** – will put near top of agenda for Sept. meeting.
- b) Congregational Resource Day Feedback and Follow-up** – Beth suggested that if anyone learned something they want to share, just go ahead and do it.

NOTE: Bryan Bondy will be starting at St. Matthias in September. His last day with us will be Aug. 9th. Everyone is sorry to see him go but wishes him well as he proceeds to ordination.

Another NOTE

Beth noted that Synod is OCT. 29, 30 & 31st We will have to make sure we have 2 delegates. Let Beth know if you are interested.

NEXT MEETING: Sept. 15 at 7 PM Volunteers needed for coffee and prayers. Since Linda will be away in September someone else will need to take minutes.