

Parish Council Meeting March 1, 2005

Present: Rev. Dr. John Stephenson, Bruce Neville, Dee McEnaney, Ruth Sowrey, Peter Sabbagh, Cobina Price-Jones, Alan & Jennifer Whike, Diane Allengame-Kuster.

The meeting was opened with prayer by John Stephenson.

Minutes of February 1, 2005

- Bruce moved the adoption of the minutes and Jennifer seconded. All were in favour.

Business Arising

- The parking lot lights have been repaired and new bulbs installed.

John announced that because Bruce is taking over responsibilities as Deputy Warden, we will have a new chair of Parish Council – Kim James. Unfortunately she is unable to be here tonight but will start next month.

Incumbents Report

- Vestry went well. There were no contentious issues. Arising from Vestry, John checked with the Diocese and established that gifts for flowers are tax receiptable.
- Ash Wednesday was a good time with the Children. We had a larger crowd here for the service in the church than last year.
- Choral Evensong was held in the afternoon. There was a lower crowd. Some people have expressed a preference for an evening service.
- In education our Anglican Vision course is drawing between 18-20 people.
- John commented on the recent Primates Meeting in Ireland which is held once a year. There was no warning of what was to happen. In reaction to same sex blessings and the consecration of an openly homosexual Bishop in the U.S., it was spearheaded by the African Bishops. They wanted the Canadian and American churches declared out of Communion. The concession was reached to merely ask them to withdraw from the Advisory Council. They want us to give an account of why we have done what we have done. Others believe we are acting in direct opposition to scripture. There will be a public dialog in the Deanery in the coming few months with well versed speakers for both sides.
- Alan asked whether catered food for Vestry encouraged people to come out or made the meeting any better. To what advantage is this expense? Alan moved that the question of catered lunch at Vestry be reexamined and we should return to providing our own lunch. Bruce seconded. All in favour.
- John introduced Diane Allengame-Kuster as the chair of the newly formed Heritage Committee and invited her to report on the Committees activity. There have been two evening and one Saturday meeting. The mandate is to respect and augment the structure and worship articles. A three part action plan has been decided on.
 1. Refurbishment of the altar. This will entail refinishing and repair of the letters. The plywood on the inside is not original. When the altar is being dismantled we intend to put fabrics in where the panels are now to judge the effect. This Saturday at 10 am. the altar will be removed. It will have to be out for one Sunday. The Wardens have approved all three projects.
 2. Replace the white antependia. We had hoped to have new antependia for Easter. It must be a careful decision and not rushed. We may not have it in time.

3. Rector's wall. Diane is working on a new acid free scrapbook. She has an interesting idea of mixing the Rector's pictures with other church pictures of the appropriate time frame, rather than hanging them on their own. It would make a far more appealing display.
- We would like to have a brochure for the pews encouraging people to think about memorials

Wardens Report

- There are issues to be looked into with Daycare and Insurance.
- A new monitor for the office computer has been approved.

Treasurers Report

- The deficit is larger than counted on for this time of year.
- PAG should be explained to the congregation. Also people should be told how to increase their PAG givings.
- A Memorial Fund has been set up to accrue from year to year.

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 4 World Day of Prayer
- Mar. 6 Jazz Vespers
- Mar. 12 Grief Workshops
- Mar. 20 Beginning of Holy Week – schedule as handed out.
- Apr. 3 Claire Wade's Ordination at St. Phillips, Weston.

Sunday School

- A different curriculum is to be tried for the older children. Wendy McLeod will work on this.

Property

- The taps and leaks that existed have been repaired.

Outreach

- Alan Whike has accepted the position of Chair of the Outreach Committee.

Hospitality

- Dee reported that cleaning has been done in the kitchen.
- She will continue to keep the kitchen supplied with cookies, purchasing them when on sale.

New Business

- Area Ministry Day is April 9 at St. Brides, Clarkson.
- In the area of Pastoral Care, Jean Reed is exceptionally low. In the time since her operation she has not rallied and shown any improvement.
- John presented a plan for the restructuring of Parish Council. The Canons state that the council is to advise and help the wardens and incumbent. There was discussion about naming the Council "Advisory Board" in the future. The Canons also state the suggested membership of the Board. John presented this list. It includes David Finch, who is now the chair of Adopt-a-Road.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

**Next Meeting
April 5, 7:30 pm.**