

**St. James Advisory Board Meeting
December 4, 2007**

Present: Cobina Price-Jones (chair), Ruth Sowrey (Secretary), the Rev. Wendy Moore, Heather Sabbagh, Bruce Neville, Robin Holder, Debra Quarrington, Deirdre Fowler.

Wendy opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the November 6, 2007 Meeting

- Bruce Neville moved acceptance of the minutes.
- Heather 2nd.
- All in favour.

Business Arising

- About 45 people attended the Hymn Sing. It was a good start thanks to Irene Stephenson and Irma Proctor who did a wonderful job as M.C. People seemed to enjoy it and stayed for refreshments and socializing.

New Business

- Wendy wondered whether we would consider presenting “A Christmas Carol” another year. This is a reading of Dicken’s work in conjunction with C.B.C. radio. We could combine the hymn sing with the reading. This seemed a possibility.
- This month thanks were due to the following:
Irene Stephenson & Irma Proctor for the Hymn Sing.
The Finance Committee, particularly John Swinden, for their work on reducing our allotment.
Gordon Morton for overseeing the work completed at the rectory.

Incumbent’s Report

- Wendy pointed out the chart on the wall made up of parishioner’s comments on their vision of St. James’ in 2017.
- Wendy would like to form a Task Force made up of a number of areas: Young Families/Youth, Communication, Worship, Christian Education, Spiritual Growth, Evangelism. She has already some names to work in various areas.
- She would like this task force to be in place before Christmas.
- This would be in preparation for a seminar on January 19th - “Hospitality in the Kingdom.”
- The general feeling was that this was needed and would be worthwhile.

Warden’s Report

- There has been a request from Gordon Morton. He has a chamber concert on February 9. He would like to have the piano stored in the Gathering Space from the middle of December. It was felt there were many cautions to consider, such as insurance. It must be made clear that it can’t be guaranteed that it won’t be touched. Other than that, there is no objection.
- This year the appeal for funds will be within a Christmas letter from Wendy. She read this portion of the letter and it was approved.
- Wendy asked for the financial figures to be taken out of the bulletin. No objection.
- Bruce spoke about audits. We have never had a full audit. The wardens intend to move to this by 2009.
- There will be a Special Vestry this coming Sunday. We need authorization from Vestry for the dispersment of shares that are being donated to us.
- An account has been set up at Digica for computer supplies.
- The repairs to the downstairs bathroom at the rectory have been completed.
- The Financial Committee met with the Diocese. We had \$493,000 in capital expenditure that hadn’t been deducted. Our allotment will be re-adjusted and we will save \$5,500 each year for the next 3

years. Being allowed to deduct our mortgage for 2007 and later will reduce our assessable income so that the \$5, 500 will grow to an excess of \$10,000 by 2009.

- Diane has repeated her request for parishioners to come to the first two services on Christmas Eve to be welcoming to the number of visitors.
- We must be mindful of the ice on the driveway and walkways. There is salt at every door and if ice is noticed the salt should be spread. Maybe we should have sand in a box on the ramp up from the parking lot.

Ministry Areas

Social

- The pot luck dinner and theatre were well attended and enjoyed.
- The movie night with “The Nativity Story” was attended by about 20 and well received.

Service

- The Advent Tree was put up with many gifts placed under it for the 1st Sunday.
- Wendy has \$100 donated by an Ida parishioner for a needy family. She will contact CCS to search out an appropriate recipient and co-ordinate with the Sunday School to disperse the gifts.

Finance

- See report received from Neil.
- The report was discussed and again Heather expressed thanks to Neil. This is an excellent report and easily understood.

Worship

- Heather expressed sympathy for Carl because of the difficulty of finding people to fill positions.

Pastoral Care

- Wendy needs to know who needs to be visited and who needs a home Eucharist.

Communications

- Wendy has worked on a Christmas Brochure. It will be printed soon and distributed to the Caledon East area.
- The Newsletter format was changed according to some pointers learned at The Magnetic Church Seminar. Donna has not received any feedback on the changes.
- The website had 2500 visits in November.

Bulletin Board

- Service of Lessons and Carols and Sunday School Pageant – December 16
- Service of Memories and Dreams – December 30
- Workshop – “The Hospitality of the Kingdom of God” – January 19, 2008
- Mystery Dinner – February 16, 2008
- Bishop Poole’s next visit – April 20, 2008

The meeting closed with the Grace at 8:40 pm.

Next Meeting
Tuesday, January 8, 2007
7 P.M.