

St. James Advisory Board Meeting
November 10, 2009

Present: Karen Carley (chair), The Rev. Wendy Moore, Ruth Sowrey (secretary) Diane Allengame, Bruce Neville, Heather Sabbagh, Michelle Jones, Dee McEnaney.

Wendy opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the October 6, 2009 Meeting

- Bruce Neville moved acceptance of the minutes.
- 2nd Ruth Sowrey.
- Errors – St. Nicholas dinner is December 5th, not 6th.
- All in favour.

Business Arising

- The Seniors have repaired their piano so no longer have need of the one in our basement.

New Business

- We must consider the possible impact of the government policy of all day kindergarten. This would affect Daycare with declining enrollment. Our major tenant would not be as secure as in the past. It was pointed out that the policy is to be phased in gradually and may not take place in Caledon East immediately.
- Donna Davies would like a clear indicator of the budget for communications, advertising, printing etc. This should be clear from the budget figures presented at vestry. Ruth will send an email to all committee heads re: their monetary needs for the next year and plans they may have for funds raised. It would be helpful to have last years budget and actual figures included.
- Bruce would like to see additions to our website providing the opportunity to donate and a “wish list” of items that we need or would like that we cannot afford.
- Thank yous: Diana Cooper for set up and take down of OMB with an over and above effort.
- Rhoda Cochrane, Marjorie Wilkinson and Bruce Neville for the hours put into the organization and operation of catering for the Bridge Tournament.

Warden’s Report

- When the wardens met on Sunday a great deal of time was spent on thinking of protection for us from the downsizing of Daycare. The possibility of selling the rectory to pay off the mortgage was raised. It needs to pass Vestry and the Diocese. There are new people in place (Bishop Poole and Diana Finch) at the Diocese since the last time this was raised and maybe they will have a different opinion than four years ago. We do have two rectories so we could always fall back on St. James House if there was a need. The rental from St. James House and Daycare easily cover the Rector’s housing allowance. A presentation by the Financial Committee will be made to the Diocese. The rectory won’t be sold unless we can put the proceeds towards the mortgage.
- Locking in the mortgage was discussed. It has been very advantageous to have a variable rate this year but we should consider that inflation would cause a rise in rates.
- There will be a letter and phone call in December from the wardens asking for givings to be brought up to date and if possible additional gifts to help our financial position. We are not sustainable by our givings. We have to depend on our other income.
- The meggaring of the electricity after the fire is finished. Just a few minor things were discovered. We are ready to proceed with the reconstruction. Because the fire was believed to be caused by lightening the deductible may possibly be waived.
- Restructuring was discussed. Because we are so focused on property and finance there is no time to spend on stewardship. It was suggested that each warden could take on a particular area:
People’s Warden - property and finance.
Deputy People’s Warden - environment, safety, signage, thinking green.
Rector’s Warden - worship, a safe place, sanctuary.
Deputy Rector’s Warden - mission, communications.
The Deputy Warden positions will prepare for their full warden duties. The various committees will come under one of these four headings.
- Christmas dinner is planned for Christmas Day after the 11:00 am. service. People who are alone in the parish or community are welcome. Bruce has already invited a neighbour who was delighted to accept.

Treasurer’s Report

- See report submitted by Neil.

- Thank you to Neil for the clarity of his report.

Ministry Areas

Social

- A great time was had at the first Theatre Night . February 27 is the next.

Communications

- A flyer for Christmas will go out to the parish in the mail with an invitation to the St. Nicholas dinner. (in place of a blitz)
- Wendy will make up an invitation to come to our Christmas Services to hand out.
- Bruce would like to see a Christmas flyer go out in general delivery to the Caledon East area.

Hospitality

- St. Nicholas Dinner on December 5.
- Sherry and Shortbread will be served after the lessons and Carols service on December 13.
- On Christmas Eve, instead of the Carol Sing, there will be a Dickens Café in the Gathering Space before the 11 pm service.
- Baking will be needed for the 5th, 13th and 24th. This should be put in the bulletin.
- Christmas dinner will be served on Christmas Day after the 11 am service.

Christian Education

- A trip to see the display of crèches at St. James Cathedral was suggested.
- Because of the invitation by the Pope to Anglicans an interest has been shown in a study of Anglicanism and Anglican History. A course run in the New Year could include where we are in relation to other faiths.

Outreach

- The vegetables and fruit from Harvest Thanksgiving went to Choices. A donation of \$100 will be made at Christmas to help with special needs.
- We have also helped one of our own.
- The Advent Tree will go up soon and a reminder is in the bulletin of the weekly gifts.
- Thank you to Neil for transferring funds for Outreach use.
- Wendy has been in touch with Rob of the “Jeremiah Project” a “fresh expression” of church at St. Anne’s in Toronto. He is keen to come out and see if there is an opportunity for a food co-op and for producing fresh produce.

Youth & Young Families

- The day to refurbish sports equipment was very successful. A picture will be forthcoming of all the bikes and skates readied to go to the inner city.

Sidespeople

- Sidespeople were made aware of the needs of the elderly for large print books.

Fundraising

- The Bridge Tournament is to be held in the spring again. We need to be included in the advertising and promotion in the future so that people know there is homemade food.

Bulletin Board

- **November 29 – first Sunday of Advent & Healing Service**
- **December 5 – Advent Dinner – Feast of St. Nicholas**
- **December 6 – Breakfast in the Gathering Space and the Service of Sabbath Rest**
- **December 13 – Service of Lessons & Carols followed by Sherry & Shortbread**
- **December 20 – Sunday School Pageant**
- **December 24 – 7:00 pm. Holy Eucharist, Dickens Café in the Gathering Space, 11:00 pm. Holy Eucharist**
- **December 25 – 11:00 am. Holy Eucharist followed by Christmas Dinner in the Parish Hall**
- **December 27 – 11:00 am. One service only today. The Service of Memories and Dreams.**

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 7:00 pm.