

**ANGLICAN PARISH OF SALT SPRING ISLAND  
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES  
THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2020, 2:30PM**

***NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC, MEETING WAS HELD BY ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE***

**CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYER**

Chair: Gyllian Davies, Incumbent

Secretaries: Dale Storm & Eva Lam

**PRESENT:** Dovene Steele (Incumbent's Co-Warden)

Judy Tyson (Incumbent's Co-Warden)

Walter Stewart (People's Warden)

Doreen Davidson (Retiring Warden)

Elizabeth Van Akker (Chair, Finance Committee)

Sue Savage (Alternate Synod Delegate)

Anne Clapham

Joan Dickenson

Gloria McEachern

John Metzger

Jim Smith

Absent/Regrets: Elaine Hunt.

Note that the members present make up a quorum (the chair, a churchwarden and one-third of membership [3])

**READING & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of 26 MARCH 2020**

**MOVED** Walter Stewart

**SECONDED** Sue Savage

**THAT the minutes be approved as read. CARRIED.**

**REPORTS**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Email from Noreen Davies requesting that the funds remaining in the Parish account for "Housing for the Homeless" (\$1,790.60) be donated to the Salt Spring Island Community Services' Kilner project. Only one tiny home was built. The Kilner project will renovate a 2,200 square foot home on Salt Spring Island to house the homeless and \$35,000 is needed for the renovations.

**MOTION**

**MOVED** Elizabeth Van Akker

**SECONDED** Joan Dickenson

**THAT Parish Council approve the donation of the remaining funds for Housing for the Homeless to the Salt Spring Island Community Services' Kilner project. CARRIED.**

- Email from Hugh Ainsley in the UK regarding his donation to the Parish of two small paintings done by his close friend, Caroline Hamilton, including a self-portrait, after his death. The donation was accepted with thanks.

## **FINANCE**

### Update – Elizabeth Van Akker

- Income has dropped significantly but this shouldn't be a problem once things are back up and running.
- Walter Stewart advised that \$1,800 has been received via CanadaHelps and this amount has not yet been reflected in the current income statements.

### Government Assistance to the Parish

- Discussion mostly centred on the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy program offered by the federal government. Walter Stewart informed Parish Council that the Diocese is looking into applying as it is the Diocese that pays Parish staff. Applications are not accepted until Monday, April 27. It was noted that Gillian Pierson (cleaner for All Saints) has not been working, however, Bill Morrison (our building manager) has been working and taking care of many things that normally are difficult to attend to with the church being open.

### **ACTION: WALTER STEWART WILL FOLLOW-UP WITH THE DIOCESE ON THE APPLICATION PROCESS.**

- Parish Council's previous decision to continue paying staff salaries for the first few months will need to be revisited if government assistance is not available after that period and All Saints needs to remain closed. Doreen Davidson mentioned that all churches may not re-open until after summer.

### Donation Alternatives Follow-Up – Walter Stewart

- Setting up bill payment option with CIBC. After many hours of being on hold and many hours speaking with technical support staff three weeks ago, Walter Stewart has not heard back from CIBC.
- The Parish is now fully registered with CanadaHelps and funds received are directly deposited into the Parish bank account. It costs 3% to use the service.
- The best way to receive donations is still the Diocesan Electronic Collection Plate as there is no cost to the Parish.

### **ACTION: WALTER STEWART WILL SPEAK TO GAIL GAUTHIER, THE FINANCE OFFICER AT THE DIOCESE, ABOUT REGISTERING WITH A BANK SO WE CAN BE SET UP AS A PAYEE.**

## **BUILDING AND LANDS**

### **ALL SAINTS**

#### Heating Update – Walter Stewart

- Installation of the heat pumps has been completed and duct work is being completed. One worker was potentially exposed to Covid-19, so work took longer than planned. Once all work is complete, Walter Stewart and Bill Morrison will get a tour of the system.

### **ST. MARK'S AND ST. MARY'S**

- To comply with their insurance policies, Walter Stewart is regularly walking through and checking on both churches while they are closed due to Covid-19.

### **CEMETERIES**

#### Storm Damage Insurance Update – Doreen Davidson

- The Parish has received a cheque for \$6,474.26 from the insurance company, which means that our portion of the cost was \$2,407.86. The fencing for St. Mark's Cemetery still needs to be done.

#### Grounds' Maintenance with Fernwood Landscaping and Proposal from James Leslie – Walter Stewart

- The original contract with Fernwood Landscaping was for grounds maintenance of the cemeteries and then All Saints was added. The grounds of All Saints have been maintained very well, whereas the cemeteries have not. A couple of meetings were arranged with Fernwood Landscaping last year to discuss the cemeteries maintenance but nobody showed up for one and only a staff member was

sent to the second one.

- James Leslie, formerly of Hayward's Funeral Services, has written to the Parish with a proposal to provide general groundskeeping services for the cemeteries through his company Griffon Enterprises Co. James' hourly rate is higher than that of Fernwood Landscaping but not by much.
- Noted that James Leslie's contract would be a year-round contract. Notice will need to be given to Fernwood Landscaping.
- It was confirmed that Fernwood Landscaping would continue with grounds maintenance of All Saints.

#### **MOTION**

**MOVED** Walter Stewart

**SECONDED** Doreen Davidson

**THAT Parish Council authorize Andrew Peat, Treasurer, to determine if the current cemeteries fund budget is sufficient to have James Leslie maintain the cemeteries instead of Fernwood Landscaping. CARRIED.**

#### **RECTORY – FAMILY PLACE**

Rent to be raised from \$725/month to \$750/month

- Lease has not been sent to Salt Spring Island Community Services yet because the Incumbent's Co-Wardens have not signed the lease yet. April rent has not yet been received; we will expect rent to be paid once SSICS (Rob Grant) signs the lease.
- A discussion took place regarding whether Family Place was still being used during the current Covid-19 restrictions (there have been cars spotted outside the building) and whether Parish Council may want to consider delaying the rent increase.

**ACTION: THE INCUMBENT'S CO-WARDENS WILL GO TO THE CHURCH OFFICE TO SIGN THE LEASE.**

**ACTION: GLORIA McEACHERN WILL FIND OUT IF THE FAMILY PLACE PROGRAMS ARE RUNNING AND TO ASK IF THEY ARE UNDER ANY FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS.**

#### **MISSIONS & OUTREACH**

##### M&O Report

- It was noted that the \$1000 we approved to donate to SSI Foundation for their COVID-19 Relief Fund does not necessarily come out of the M&O Budget since we didn't have time to discuss with the committee. They can decide at their next meeting.

**ACTION: GYLLIAN DAVIES will take this to the next M&O meeting to discuss whether it should come out of the M&O Budget.**

##### Smile Cards

- The need for these are higher than ever before. Some donations earmarked for Smile Cards continue to be received by the Parish.

#### **PARISH LIFE & GROWTH**

##### Report from Incumbent (Gyllian Davies)

- Gyllian Davies has been working a lot, but unfortunately not much pastoral care is possible except through mostly phone calls.
- Very good feedback has been received for the e-Church Services on the Parish website and on YouTube. There has been an average of 120 "hits" for the YouTube services but this doesn't mean that all viewers watch the whole service/video. Analytics show which parts of a service are accessed more than others. Closed captions were available starting April 19 and accessed by a few households. YouTube services lasting for about 30 minutes (as they currently do) are a good length and this should be maintained. Possibility of future video recordings taking place in the Sanctuary, but it could possibly be depressing for viewers seeing nobody in the building.

- David Storm was commended for his hard work in preparing the music for the weekly services, which includes meeting with different singers/musicians and then piecing all the music together at home. Thanks was also given for all the readers and it was mentioned that it has truly been a “liturgy of the people”.
- Ten Thrifty Foods gift cards have been purchased (each in the amount of \$50) and Gyllian Davies can be contacted if someone is in need of one.
- On April 21, a 51-person Zoom videoconference took place with the Bishop and it was mentioned that:
  - the soonest the Diocese may reopen churches is the end of Sept 2020
  - Safe Church training may be proceeding with online training
  - security of church computers and home computers doing church work was addressed (including the start of using Vimeo as a safer mode of video recording)
  - election of new Bishop has been moved to the end of Sept 2020 and all corresponding dates related to the process have been moved accordingly. Archbishop Melissa Skelton of the Diocese of New Westminster will also be retiring at the end of February, 2021.

#### Star of the Sea – Online Events

- Star of the Sea events are now online. On April 22, 22 people participated in the very successful online Earth Day celebrations, with the majority of the attendees staying for the whole two-hour Zoom session.
- Next event is “Poetry in Time of Trial” on April 28.

#### Transforming Futures Update – Walter Stewart

- Peter Elser’s first draft of the budget for the All Saints’ plans for renewal was received last week.
- ACTION: WALTER STEWART, JOHN METZGER, AND DAL BRICKENDEN WILL MEET TO GO OVER THE DRAFT.**

### PASTORAL MINISTRY

#### Pastoral Care

- Gale Hingston has been diagnosed with a terminal brain lesion. Her family are all here with her and her pain is being managed.

#### Adjournment

Meeting ended with the Grace at 4:04PM and nobody moved to adjourn.

**Next Parish Council meeting – Thu 21 May 2020, 2:30pm** by Zoom video conference.

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These minutes were approved by Parish Council at a subsequent meeting:

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Judy Tyson,  
Incumbent's Co-Warden

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Dovene Steele,  
Incumbent's Co-Warden

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Walter Stewart,  
People's Warden