

Minutes St Marys' Metchosin Parish Council Meeting

April 7, 2021 -9:15 am

Held on line with Zoom

<u>Chair</u>	Blaine Thauberger
<u>Present</u>	Sharleen Thompson, David Leigh, Loretta Deutscher, Ed Bennington, Blaine Thauberger, Rev. Wally Eamer Regrets: Scott Dolff, Russ Mitten
<u>Opening Prayer</u>	Loretta
<u>Call to Order</u>	Blaine

Minutes of Previous Meeting Minutes of March 16th reviewed and accepted. There will be one set of minutes, without personnel issues included, to be posted on our website once approved in the next Parish Council meeting.

Discuss Agenda No changes

CORRESPONDENCE No material correspondence. Direction from public and Synod officials are dealt with in "Diocesan Advisories" and "Public Health Advisories".

OLD BUSINESS

Public Health Advisories and Diocesan Advisories: the church building and in person worship will remain closed until at least early May.

Office Administrator: approval to post the position by the hiring committee of the Rev. Wally Eamer and one to two members of Parish Council. [Ed Bennington and Loretta Deutscher subsequently agreed to join the hiring committee] and to offer the position to the best qualified candidate. Administrator is working at home due to pandemic restrictions.

Transition Planning: some general discussion. Key points:

- Pastor Aneeta reached 90% of pay for full time work.
- 2021 budget is insufficient for a full time priest. Can the congregation give more, and/or grow? Rectory trust fund is roughly \$140,000.
- General comfort with 3 or more years of full time ministry, which either leads to growth and sustainability, or the parish will contract/merge.
- Wardens brief congregation on status.

Church website: Wally is adding new material, and updating older material. We don't track user numbers, so can't know if this is making much difference to the community.

Order of Diocese of BC: Sharleen proposed St. Mary's Metchosin nominate Andrew Spray. Accepted unanimously.

Frequency of building cleaning other than preschool: new schedule of 5 to 6 weeks between cleaning, which reduces the cost; we will monitor affect on building and users. [The child care in the bottom floor do their own cleaning.]

Service Planning/Changes/Ideas: general discussion. Sense that current Zoom services are keeping the congregation engaged and together. Following suggestions from Bishop's letter to parishes, Wally will begin to explore with Westshore occasional sharing of services, and brief break for volunteers and clergy delivering the Sunday services.

Envelope Secretary — position responsibilities will change with the Donarious. The software takes the weekly and monthly responsibilities, except counting cash donations, from the Envelope Secretary, and electronic banking is simplifying donations.

PreSchool Contract – new contract negotiated by Scott and signed.

Invasive plants on Biliston Creek Slope - volunteers pulled daphne and some broom from the church property. This will reduce seed dispersion.

Small Group meetings/ Film Discussion Group – remains tabled, and linked to the Transition Planning.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

Reports as needed

Finance – reports from Blaine

Wardens — Sharleen reported on Messy Church and the Metchosin Challenge.

Buildings — a written estimate of \$12,000 received for the stoop [emergency exit from second floor]. This is significantly lower than previous estimates. The snow stops on the roof are not yet complete due to contractor health issues; no money has been paid yet on this contract. Northern Star Plumbing installed a sensor activated auto shut off valve on the hot water tanks supply line - Synod office will reimburse our cost. Wally Eamer to check the insurance implications of putting basketball hoop(s) in our parking lot.

Renters — no changes at this time.

Deacon Wally Eamer — ministry on behalf of the Nanwakolas Council with Coast Funds ends in April.

Updates as needed

Refugee family The Metchosin Refugee Sponsorship Group held a zoom meeting last week, but there were only 4 attendees. Those attending heard that Covid has almost halted the movement of refugees into Canada, so there is no way to determine when the Gills may arrive. I spoke to the family last week, and they were suffering through a bout of the flu, but overall seemed in good spirits. We raised more than \$3000 in the silent auction, and we are now looking at other possible fundraising ideas. Another car wash was suggested, but nothing was finalized.

Parish Giving — not discussed.

Messy Church — successful Zoom session in March

Metchosin Challenge Theme of Hope— Sharleen reported on the Challenge, all delivered through Zoom. Attendance was similar to 2019.

Other

- NEXT MEETING May 4th 9:15 am or at call of Wardens.

CLOSING PRAYER – Loretta led the Council in the closing prayer.