

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
MINUTES – OCTOBER 28, 2021 (4:30PM)**

Attendance: Rev Alastair Hunting, , Cary Davis, Bob Worbets, Marcia Haley, Doug Shantz, Chris Widner, Peter Walker, Lynn Gray

Resources: Barb Neid (Treasurer), Marion Edmondson (Deacon), Kathy Coulthart-Dewey (Sec)

Guests: none expected

Regrets: Rev Michael Booth, Timothy Ray, Peggy Tribe, Linda McAnsh

1. Welcome Scripture Reading, Reflection and Prayer:

Rev Alastair Hunting opened the meeting at 4:35pm with a message regarding stewardship; encouraging everyone to recognize and explore the abundance of gifts created by God. We share and are interdependent with these gifts. Good stewardship honours God and all of His creations.

2. Adoption of Full Agenda (att# 1):

Moved by: P Walker Sec'd by: M Haley

That the Agenda be amended by adding 6b. Musical Mosaics and 6d. Blessing Boutique then adopted as amended.

Carried (2021-10-001)

3. Consent Agenda Items (att# 2-5):

In response to a question B Neid, Treasurer confirmed a deficit is anticipated for 2022 with further discussion to be had under Agenda item 6a. Parish Annual Grant/Stewardship. B Worbets asked that all members take responsibility for clearing the Blessing Box of inappropriate items when they visit the church.

There being no objections, Rev Hunting announced all items listed were approved with consent, including the motions contained therein namely:

- a. That the minutes of the September 23 2021 meeting of Parish Council be approved as circulated.*
- b. That the Treasurer's Report for September 2021 be accepted and approved as presented.*
- c. That up to \$1,000 be authorized for necessary repairs to the Rectory, most significantly the cleaning of gutters and extension of the hearth and brickwork for the woodstove.*
- d. That no increase be imposed in 2022 for rental of the Rectory.*

4. Guests

Although not a guest, but rather a valued resource, Rev M Edmondson described how St Peter's Comox is collecting, storing and offering clothing and various items, 2 to 3 times a week, in what they call a free Blessing Boutique. Given the community need and St John's stated desire to work collaboratively, perhaps this could be mirrored here in Courtenay. The population and

therefore need is greater here and locals cannot always afford transportation. Storage of items was identified as an issue and others offering similar free/minimal cost services were identified. The soup kitchen offers a small table but food distribution is their primary ministry. North Gate Four Square Church offers a free store and another on Lake Trail Rd asks for \$2/item.

5. Business Arising out of Minutes

a. Areas of Interest – Moving Forward (att #6): Rev A Hunting

At the February Vestry meeting, Rev A Hunting introduced 6 Areas of Interest around which Parish Council and its ministries might structure their efforts. Members were then aligned with each Area as follows:

In-Reach (pastoral care, phone tree, bible study, etc.)-L McAnsh, D Shanz, Fr Booth

Outreach (reconciliation, soup kitchen, etc.)-L Gray, Rev Hunting

Building (property, gardens, etc.)-C Widner, B Worbets

Worship (greeters, readers, altar, etc.)-P Walker, P Tribe, T Ray

Communication (web, facebook, etc.)-D Ropp

Finance (revenue, envelopes, etc.)-M Haley

Rev Hunting asked if the Areas of Interest are an appropriate, helpful, effective initiative. A question arose on whether the Worship group could/should explore complimentary expressions of Anglican faith and Rev Hunting confirmed the groups flexibility to do so. Rev Hunting is currently filling the gap on Communication, given D Ropp's resignation. It was suggested the Areas of Interest be posted/distributed to parish members. There being no other comment, it was suggested the structure be allowed to build as a beneficial way of working together.

6. New Business

a. Parish Annual Grant (att #7): B Neid

A preliminary 2022 draft operating budget projects a \$20,000 deficit. The Diocese has opened its annual grant program to all parishes that may be challenged in 2022. It is proposed an application for \$7,500 (1/3 of the shortfall) be submitted, hoping the Diocese recognizes this Council's acknowledgement of its responsibility to raise the balance through increased offerings and fundraising. The application deadline is October 31. The waning of COVID restrictions, active pursuit of rental income, soliciting parish wide buy-in, tapping into small pockets of excess savings due to reduced activity/travel during COVID and seeking out bequests were noted as possible avenues to pursue.

Moved by: D Shantz Sec'd by: P Walker

That a Parish Grant Application be submitted for \$7,500 to help offset operational expenses in 2022.

Carried (2021-10-002)

b. Musical Mosaics: P Walker

P Walker asked how funds raised are distributed. B Neid confirmed a previous Parish Council motion directs 10% of fundraising to monthly mission focuses. The balance is taken into general revenues to cover operating costs.

c. Blessing Boutique

No objection was offered to further exploration of the idea. It was suggested a small group (perhaps Rev A Hunting, C Davis, B Worbets, Rev M Edmondson, M Misner) be established under Outreach to discuss and report back on interest and logistics.

d. Other

It was explained that small refunds have been received from the City and Diocese as part of the Renovation Project accounting.

7. Closing Prayer and The Grace: Rev A Hunting

The Rector lead the group in a prayer of fellowship.

8. Adjournment:

On mutual consent the meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2021 AT 4:30PM


Attachments (#7)

Recommended Motion for November 18, 2021 meeting of Parish Council:

That the minutes of the October 28 2021 meeting of Parish Council be approved as circulated.

Approved by Consent:

Nov 18, 2021



KATHY COULTHART-DEANE For Rector
P.C. SECRETARY