

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
MINUTES – JANUARY 20 2022 (4:45PM)

Attendance: Rev Alastair Hunting, Rev Marion Edmondson (**joined 5:05pm), Cary Davis, Bob Worbets, Timothy Ray, Marcia Haley, Doug Shantz (*left at 5:25pm), Chris Widner, Linda McAnsh, Lynn Gray

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

Guests: none were expected

Regrets: Rev Michael Booth, Peggy Tribe, Peter Walker

1. Welcome Scripture Reading, Reflection and Prayer:

Rev Alastair Hunting opened the meeting at 4:45pm with a prayer for displaced persons, especially children, facing fear and loneliness asking God to give them strength, dignity and love.

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

Moved by: L Gray Sec'd by: M Haley

That the Agenda be adopted as amended by adding the following items as 6(c), (d) and (e) respectively: Groundskeeper's Contract, Rev Willemar's Stole and Meeting Schedule.

Carried

3. Guests

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

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 November 17 2021 meeting of Parish Council be approved as circulated.
- b. That the Treasurer's Report for November 2021 be accepted and approved as presented.

5. Business Arising out of Minutes

a. Appointment of Examiner for 2021 Financials: B Neid

The Treasurer has been working recently with K Bell, who had also been the Church's bookkeeper in previous years, and recommended her as Examiner.

Moved by: M Edmondson Sec'd by: L Gray

That Kathleen Bell be hired as Examiner to review the 2021 Financials for the Vestry meeting.

Carried

b. COLA for Lay Staff (3): B Neid

The Treasurer noted annual cost of living adjustments (COLA) allow an employer to keep pace with salaries offered thus avoiding significant, irregular increases to the budget. The Rector's increase is automatically imposed by the Diocese; Parish Council has the option to apply an increase or not. The COLA recommended for 2022 is 2% or \$600 increase in the budget. It was noted all lay employee salaries are paid by the Diocese then the amount is deducted automatically from each parish.

Moved by: T Ray Sec'd by: D Shantz

That a 2% COLA be applied to the rate paid to the Administrative Assistant, Musical Director and Cleaner.

Carried

6. New Business

c. Groundskeeper's Contract: B Worbets/C Widner

The Groundskeeper has requested a small increase and a meeting is to be held January 21 2022 to discuss challenges and opportunities. Feedback was provided with a number of possibilities for change discussed.

Moved by: T Ray Sec'd by: C Widner

That the duties in the contract be reassessed, with a fresh list and bids from the current provider and others to be brought forward to the next meeting for consideration.

Carried

In addition, C Widner suggested the light-duty snowblower be replaced with one more suitable for wet snow. Rev Hunting will also approach a neighbouring business about ongoing assistance in sidewalk clearing. Both issues were referred to the Treasurer for budget consideration. C Widner was also asked to revive the St Andrews painting project and report its status at the next meeting.

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d. Rev Willemar's Stole: Rev A Hunting

Rev Jules Xavier Willemar was the first Rector of St Andrews Church and his stole has been stored in the Sacristy vault. The Courtenay Museum has expressed interest in displaying the historically significant artifact. Although display within the Churches has been considered, sharing it with the wider community would offer exposure for St Johns and an opportunity for residents to appreciate it's value.

Moved by: B Worbets Sec'd by: T Ray

That Rev Willemar's stole be loaned to the Courtenay Museum for display provided:

- *the arrangement is in writing,*
- *the historically significant religious artifact is properly preserved, protected and insured while in the Museum's possession,*
- *the language of signage used in any display is pre-approved by the Rector, and*
- *the stole is returned, immediately and unconditionally, upon notice from the Rector.*

Carried

e. Meeting Schedule/4:00pm Start Time: Rev A Hunting

This item was tabled.

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a. Appointment of Deacon to Executive Committee: Rev A Hunting

Rev Hunting suggested Rev Edmondson would add knowledge and value to the Executive Committee, currently comprised of the Rector, Wardens and Treasurer.

Moved by: T Ray Sec'd by: B Worbets

That Rev M Edmondson be appointed to the Executive Committee.

Carried

b. Warming Centre Proposal (att #6): Rev M Edmondson

Referring to her report, Rev Edmondson clarified that the Friday night street outreach group and the CV Coalition to End Homelessness have arranged for warming centres on an ad hoc basis; opening in varied locations, as needed with staff, security, supplies and refreshments provided. Other organizations have limited capacity and a fixed location, for this group, is being sought. The Diocese has waived their requirements for proof of vaccination and kitchen closure recognizing the BC Provincial Health Order exempts organizations providing food, health and social services to persons in need. Concerns raised included how and who determines "inclement" weather and when to open, off-site storage and cleaning requirement, conflict with other evening renters, distinction as an "emergency" warming centre and opportunity to review after short term.

Moved by: M Edmondson Sec'd by: C Davis

That, when not otherwise in use, St John the Divine Church be opened by Nikki Morrison as an Emergency Warming Centre during inclement weather between now and April 1 2022.

Carried

7. Round Table – Areas of Interest

Communications: Suggestions to raise profile were supported, eg, inclusion of service dates/times in the newspaper, articles in the Diocesan Post, budget allocation for messaging (Facebook), consistency in look and language to facilitate community recognition, early themed

messaging around advent, lent, etc. All members to consider people who may have skill and interest in this ministry.

In Reach: Rev Hunting to ask parishioners needing transportation to and from in-person services, as well as parishioners willing to drive, to provide their names to the Administrative Assistant for co-ordination.

Worship: need to meet soon regarding Easter services

Outreach: Pastoral Care group discussing training in cultural awareness, decolonization discussion deemed credible.

8. **Closing Prayer and The Grace:** Rev A Hunting
All joined Rev Hunting in the fellowship prayer.

9. **Adjournment:**
On mutual consent the meeting adjourned at 5:54pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY FEBRUARY 17 2022 (time to be confirmed)

VESTRY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27 2022 AT 11:30AM

Attachments (6)

Recommended Motion for February 17 2022 meeting of Parish Council:

That the minutes of the January 20 2022 meeting of Parish Council be approved as circulated.

Approved by Consent: FEB 17 / 2022



KATHY COX-THART-DEWEY Rector
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