



Parish Council Minutes

April 26, 2023

7 p.m., in-person

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, Smiths Falls

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m. by Chair, Paul Howard

Recording Secretary: Karen Bryan

Regrets: Linda Coleman, Terry Dillabough, Pat Lee, Garry Rodford, Bob Theoret

Scripture Reflection (Ephesians 2:17-22): Selected by Thomas to illustrate that in Jesus Christ there is no “us and them”. We are commissioned to bring together those who are “inside” with those who are “outside”. True church is to be a place of welcome with no exclusions. The church’s foundation consists of the prophets and apostles while its cornerstone is Jesus. Those committed to Jesus are the structure atop the foundation, forming God’s dwelling (the church).

Notice of Business and Declaration of Reports: no additions

Adoption of Agenda: Motion to adopt the agenda as amended to reflect the current date: moved by Tammy Mulrooney and seconded by Dawn Dunlop. Carried.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2023: moved by Linda Denham and seconded by Dawn Dunlop. Carried.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes (not included below): none

Reports:

- *Incumbent*
 - Thomas plans to promote community events with themes combining aspects of the arts and Christianity. He presented one such flyer and plans to post details in the bulletin.
 - Thomas distributed a revised version of his document, “Walking together into the Newness of Christ” which has been discussed at previous Parish Council meetings. He described the 8 quality characteristics of Natural Church Development (NCD), emphasizing that all 8 are essential for church growth. Overlaying these qualities on the four directions/dimensions of growth (discussed last month) helps congregations to frame their thinking/decision-making with respect to parish growth.
 - Thomas suggested a congregational meeting to discuss parish growth, possibly in the fall.
 - Thomas outlined upcoming absences. He will attend Clergy Day in Ottawa on May 03 and will be in Edmonton between May 16 and 24. Jim Roberts will cover services and pastoral emergencies during these absences.
 - Holy Baptism will occur on Sunday, May 28, coinciding with the onset of Pentecost.
 - Thomas noted that two new families have joined our congregation within the past few months. He further stated that Sunday School attendance (per Emily Duberville) has doubled. Both are positive signs of growth.

volunteers will be announced on April 30 with a notice in upcoming bulletins (if necessary). The committee will be struck at the May meeting of Parish Council.

- The subcommittee will be tasked with narrowing (accessibility) project priorities based on parishioner input. Recommendations for action based on these priorities and other factors (e.g., cost, feasibility) will be made to Council.
- 2 George Street North (adjacent to St. John's)
 - This property will be for sale in May. Currently, the asking price is unknown. Because of its proximity to the church, its availability may merit some discussion when more information becomes available.

Announcements/Reminders:

- Parish clean-up, Saturday, May 6 (rain date – May 13) at 9 a.m.
- Pentecost service with Holy Baptism, Sunday, May 28 at 10 a.m.

Announcement of Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Moved by Dan Willis at 8:21 p.m.

The Grace: led by Thomas