

Minutes

Vestry Meeting – December 15, 2019

Present: Mara, Maryanne, Theresa, Stephanie, Jo-Anne, Alex, Lesley, Marion W., Marion J., Marj, Penny, Norma, Barb, Nicky, Duncan (minute-taker).

Regrets: Max

Opening Prayer: Marion J.

- 1. Minutes of November 23, 2019:** Theresa moved, Stephanie seconded that minutes be accepted as read, with following corrections: a) Mara's name was left off the minutes; b) Regarding item (3) of Business Arising: New Rector's housing preference should include "rent to own."
- 2. Business Arising:**
 - a) Signage: Alex reported on behalf of Max that new signage on sandwich boards has been created for parking in the lane.
Marion W. reported on her discussion with the City regarding the use of the loading zone on Water Street: suggestion that persons put a note on the windshields of their vehicles to indicate why they are parked in the loading zone and for how long (e.g. 20 minutes).
 - b) Alex reported that an information handbook has been forwarded to our new incumbent (Rebecca). Thanks to Stephanie for this.
 - c) Evensong: Alex met with Lenard and clarification around Evensong's status as a service of St. Alban's was made. Sandwich board signage has also been created for Evensong. Lenard gave Alex some information regarding Millennials' interest in service formats such as Evensong and is available for all to read.
 - d) Induction Service: At the behest of Bishop Woodcroft, a full day Deanery event is planned for February 22, 2020, celebrating the induction of our new rector (Rebecca Graham). A 'Generations' workshop is planned for the morning, facilitated by Rev. Heather McCance of Winnipeg. The afternoon will include a ceremony welcoming Rebecca, followed by a reception hosted at St. Alban's. The Bishop will be present throughout the weekend, and preside at the service on Sunday February 23rd. Alex requested help for facilitating the weekend: Jo-Anne/Penny will look after Saturday lunch; Duncan/Nicky/Norma will coordinate workshop planning with Heather. Clergy to clarify whether a joint service on the 23rd would take place vs. two services.
 - e) Liability Insurance: After consulting with AON (insurance broker), Alex clarified that if any activity is being conducted as part of the business or ministry of St. Alban's, coverage is assured by the Cathedral's policy. Other outside activities or ministries taking place within St. Alban's require their own insurance coverage. Many thanks to Lesley for her hard work.
- 3. New Business**
 - a) Wardens' Report: Jo-Anne noted that Maryanne had completed plans for the administrative office (e.g. new desk). Maryanne added that electrical work has yet to be completed after installation of the desk. Many thanks to Maryanne for her work! Jo-Anne also noted that

Alex had procured a desk (for the rector's office) and a book case from St. James. Thanks to Alex and others for looking after this.

Jo-Anne also updated Vestry on the Refugee Support Committee's help with a new Syrian family coming to Kenora. She had received word from the Diocesan coordinator that the family could be arriving as soon as the early New Year. Housing is a priority, but not critical as yet, as extended family in Kenora can provide immediate housing. Longer term plan is for the two families to secure housing that accommodates them both.

To date, efforts to fundraise sponsorship of the new family has met the half-way mark (goal is \$40,000). A fund-raiser is planned for February, 2020 – with profits from an MTC production at T.A. going to help the family.

Twice as Nice update (Alex): A quote from Sierra for both water drainage issues at the front door and back stair case re-design to the basement (\$6300.) was presented.

February/March 2020 is a likely time-frame for completion of these tasks. No motion for action was presented.

Jo-Anne moved and Alex seconded acceptance of the Wardens' Report.

b) Finance Report

Alex noted that general offering revenue has been in slow decline over the past year.

Preauthorized giving (PAR) has not been a significant factor in changing this trend. Finances are still healthy due to off-sets provided by bequests (individuals) and grants (e.g. Bridges Out of Poverty, Twice as Nice).

Alex moved, Barb seconded, acceptance of the Finance Report.

c) Draft Budget

Alex stated that the proposed 2020 budget is a balanced one, with no room for contingencies. Although bank accounts are healthy, St. Alban's is reliant on rental and business income to keep afloat.

Alex tabled the draft budget for consideration by Vestry, as the budget requires approval from the church membership at the next Annual Meeting.

d) Gift from Knox Church: Alex opened a gift (Chimes for the lower hall) from Knox thanking St. Alban's for opening its doors to Knox while the latter was transitioning to its Shelter program.

e) Bridges Out of Poverty: Penny noted a request from Jim Dugan to receive financial support in order to complete training to be a facilitator for the Bridges program. Cost is \$1299 (USD) and are available through remainder of funds through the 'Every Person in Community' (EPIC) program. Penny moved, Barb seconded acceptance of this request. Marion W. would like a review of the insurance coverage for Bridges to be discussed at a future Vestry meeting.

f) Annual Meeting: Slated for February 09, 2020. Alex requested that Annual Reports be handed in ASAP. He also requested that those who are not standing for Vestry this coming year, please advise him soon.

- g) Clergy Report: Penny noted that the Hamper program is going well. There is a group of volunteers coming to pack hampers on December 20th. The hampers will be distributed to families through the Minto Family Resource Centre. Penny also highlighted the Document of Discovery video presentation that will be available for viewing on January 08th, 2020 at the church. Invitations have gone out to Indigenous elders, Ministerial members, as well as St. Alban's members and Vestry.

Marion J. made a 'shout-out' to all who have supported her over the past months since Jim retired, noting the heart that St. Alban's has shown to her.

4. Other stuff:

Jo-Anne acknowledged how Alex has provided a steady hand over the past year and thanked him for his work.

Barb called for us to pray for Rebecca and Remi as they are facing housing challenges.

5. Next Meeting:

January 19, 2020