

St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Monday June 9, 2025

Present: Brian Bradford, Sandra Fraser, Mike Moloney, Brent Anderson, Deb Walker, Peter Langille, Sherry De Jonge, Aruna Anderson, Susan Halliday, Brian Fogg.

Regrets: Leslie Grieve, Ingrid Schmid, Brenden Fraser; Sandy Dawson; Kathy Morris.

Scribe: Deb Walker

Opening – Sherry opened with a prayer.

Reviewed previous Minutes, (no corrections)

MOTION to accept by Sandra seconded by Susan PASSED by all.

Business arising from the minutes.

None.

Rector's Report

Rev Sherry had a wonderful 2 weeks away in Ottawa with her children and grandchildren; as well, she covered a service in Grand Bend this past Sunday (which was previously committed to).

On August 16/17 weekend Rev Sherry will attend a wedding – Sherry will speak with our lay readers as well as Amanda on coverage.

Sherry and our pastoral care team have a service at each of Afton and Vision in June.

Sherry said she so enjoyed her first month with us.

Wardens' Report

Thanks to Sandra Fraser and her team for a very successful plant sale. Thanks to parishioners and community members for donating plants and garden art and for purchasing plants. This is a wonderful outreach; and we raised \$1,007.

Peter and Deb discussed keeping track of annual insurance certificates for our church/hall. We have a system for maintaining them.

The Lambton Presbyterian clergy are meeting in our church hall for a day in June.

Property Committee – Brian B.

The trenches from our Big-O were roto-tilled today by Kyle Straatman – thank you Kyle! We will check on them again in a couple of weeks.

The church hall floor will be cleaned June 10 by members of the Property Team.

Plans are in place for the property committee members to clean our red carpet, complete the duct work in the furnace room, paint the handicap sign on the cement pad, complete insulation of pipes in the northwest bathroom, and several other items.

Plans are in place to repair the rot in our front burgundy door and improve the locks. Replacing some wood, maintaining the colour; Brent and Mike are looking at this.

ACW Report

The ACW lunch earlier in June was a wonderful gathering of 16 women. The food and the company were great.

Treasurer's Report

In May we collected 99% of the budgeted operating revenue – a good month, thanks to our parishioners. Year-to-date we are 3.7% under budget.

Our operating expenses were below budget, due primarily to having a part-time fill-in priest as we search for a new Rector.

The income statement was presented by Brian Fogg.

Apportionment payments will occur in June, September, and November – these will be \$8,500 each.

Our GST rebate cheques have arrived.

MOTION to accept by Brian F seconded by Mike PASSED by all.

There was discussion on shifting to use of a separate deposit slip for some special items such as fundraising and GST rebates. Brian Fogg to discuss with Ingrid Schmid, who leads our Counters, on potential/thoughts.

We submitted our charitable donation status to the CRA this month.

New Business

Peter Langille put forth the following MOTION: Be it resolved that St. John in the Wilderness Parish Council approves the following names to form the Selection Committee for the next Rector of the parish:

Churchwarden Deb Walker
Churchwarden Peter Langille
Leslie Grieve
Mike Moloney
McKenna Carroll
Bob Halliday

Seconded by Brian B. PASSED unanimously.

Handicapped parking:

Aruna has had a couple of families approach her on the church having a few more designated spots for mobility challenged parishioners. We are reluctant to put in another formal sign as that creates challenges as it is a fineable infraction if anyone uses it without proper identification.

We agreed to put up signs up that say something like: "Consider leaving this spot for mobility challenged drivers". Peter to make up 3 signs and laminate them and put in the southwest parking lot (the 3 spots the church owns). We will also consider putting an announcement on this in the bulletin periodically.

We do realize that the message needs to get to parishioners as well as community members (who sometimes use the spots for a variety of reasons).

Correspondence

None

Other Business

None

MOTION to adjourn by Deb.

Closing

The meeting was closed with the grace.