

Financially, we are off to a good start for the year. In January our offerings were down slightly compared to budget, but we received over \$5,600 in bequests, interest income and Rites of Passage. A \$2,000 bequest was received from the estate of Nona Butts, and due to a calculation change by the Diocese, we receive an additional \$2,000 in interest related to 2010 on our rectory funds. Our spending was right on target – so we ended January with a net income well ahead of budget.

For February – our offerings were right on target and our spending was 2% below budget. Again this gives us a net income above budget.

Also during the month of February, we received word that we will be receiving a sizable bequest from the estate of George Haslett. The bequest is for \$127,000.

Bequest and Gift

The treasurer advised the council of a **significant bequest** to the parish from the estate of the late George Haslett in the amount of approximately \$130,000.00

Upon deposit this will immediately and entirely **eliminate our line-of-credit**. We need to devise both a **short-term and long-term plan for this money**. While we all have wish lists the **benefits of an endowment** are considerable, especially as interest rates will eventually rise. Skip suggested we ask rector, wardens and treasurer to **gather ideas for long term expenditure**

After discussion:

**We considered a MOTION: To place these funds upon receipt in a short-term investment after restoring our bank balance to zero
Barney Pratt/Dianne Langdon CARRIED**

The treasurer advised of a gift of \$500.00 for outreach in December 2010. He invited our suggestions and after some discussion:

**We considered a MOTION: To make an immediate contribution to the PWRDF marked for Haiti
Lydia French/Pat Leonard CARRIED**

Concerning the above financial reports:

**We considered a MOTION: To adopt the financial reports as presented
Barney Pratt/Vincent Eisenhower CARRIED**

Stewardship

In relation to **2011 Stewardship Campaign**, some folks continue to update their PAR commitments. More are joining the programme which is encouraging.

The campaign aimed to create a sustainable giving pattern which has not yet occurred.

With no new chair coming forward Skip will remain at interim chair until the position is filled. Ken needs to get busy with acknowledgements to those who have submitted pledges.

Maintenance

Barney first gave an overview of recent activity.

Furnace baffle repairs will proceed shortly, more cost is involved.

He plans a **work party to clean up are under trees in parking lot**, for which he requires 5-6 people with some trucks

We considered serious concerns raised by Ed in relation to some members of the Scout/Cub/Beaver programme. Pat explained her difficult “he said” / “they said” situation. Pat proposed a probationary period to the end of June on a trial basis. An approach similar to “In case we haven’t been clear . . . “ will be attempted. She will communicate our concerns by letter and in person. Otherwise we will discontinue our relationship with some or our traditional partners. This situation has reappeared in these minutes and discussions too many time now.

The **re-design of the parking lot to accommodate Handicapped Parking** will move ahead upon better weather as will the various signage projects. The reflective tape on the front tree will be re-designed as well.

Ladies Guild

Lydia French reported on recent successful lunch events. One raised \$550 for Christchurch Quake relief which the guild topped up to \$1,000. Likewise the pancake luncheon was well attended which combined with the bake table grossed over \$1,000.

There was no Youth report from Carol Denton.

Facilities

Pat updated the council on recent expressions of interest in facility use. Usage remains high and apart from matters mentioned above, things run smoothly.

In light of the above:

**We considered a MOTION: To accept all non-financial reports as presented
Donna Brandle/ Jose Pereña Pratt CARRIED**

Matters revisited

Lent 2011

Rev. Ken Gray updated the council on a number of Lenten initiatives, some old, some new

- **God’s Great Adventure**, our storytelling outreach is off to a great start
- The **Uncommon Gratitude** Book Study has garnered significant interest and launches a day following this meeting.
- The **Labyrinth Workshop** will likely proceed but Ken is aware of many conflicting programmes. That said, it has been postponed many times already and is a valuable opportunity.
- Ken will seek more direction about **Christians and Israel**, a dialogue with a Middle-Easter visitor in April. This is again a wonderful opportunity for us to glimpse the strained world of middle eastern Christianity.
- Both services on **Ash Wednesday** were well subscribed, especially the evening service which follows a non-traditional format with 28 participants who spoke emotionally of the experience.

Financial Gifts Secretary

After much discussion this past month, we have agreed that Monica Gurzinski will staff the Financial gifts secretary role for a period of two years.

Parish Anniversary

Bob and Donna Brandle have agreed to lead the parish 25th anniversary development process for us and will report of the next meeting of council with plans and options.

Police Chorus update

Barney and Jose advised that the net profit from the Police Chorus - concert from over \$2,000 and that a date has been booked for next year. It was a very enjoyable evening.

Garage Sale

The Garage Sale working group has met and continues to plan for our annual event. Boxed items can now be stored in the garage.

New matters

Concerning lay distributors of the chalice:

**We considered a MOTION: To add Irene Ferguson's name to a list of those we will invite the Bishop to license as distributors for the coming year
Dianne Langdon, Donna Brandle CARRIED**

Ken is working with Bonnie Anderson on two **Emergency Measures Workshops** - Thursday April 7; 10:30 and 6:30 p.m. these will be advertising on the Noah's Ark Sunday event.

COTA will host part of the **Selkirk Region Addictions Series** which will feature Dr. Martin Brokenleg on Tuesday evening, March the 29th. Lydia French and others will provide a light meal for 20-25 participants.

We turned our attention to the needs of the **Memorial Garden** as suggested by Barbara MacDowell's generous offer. The Garden overwhelms our volunteer base and is out of control. We have received an offer from a parishioner to provide funds to hire a gardener. Many now feel that a total we-working should be considered. Roses are difficult to maintain and manage. Issues to be considered include fencing, the scope of garden development, the landscape design, irrigation, placement of tools and outbuildings, more benches, a less symmetrical design.

The letter was received, and the **wardens will meet with Barbara to discuss options as soon as possible**. We have also met with a local garden consultant with whom Ken has worked. a couple of weeks. This gives us two options to consider at our April meeting.

We adjourned on a pro-forma motion at 8:26 p.m. with the short doxology.

Next Meeting – April 19 – 7 p.m.
Lydia is unable to attend in April