

DEC meeting Jan 25, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Present: Maryann Amor, Tammy McKeachnie, Brian Vance, Stan Berry , Rose Howell, Don Thompson, Peter Clarke, Candace Mahaffey, Leon Cadsap, Willi Whiston, Cheryl Anderson, Bishop David Greenwood

Regrets: Gail Shewchuk.

Absent: Jamie McIlvenna.

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:03 by Bishop David.

MOTION: Stan / Cheryl: approve DEC minutes from Dec. 14 2023 as distributed  
Carried

Management Committee:

- Update: 2024 Budget sent out to all diocesan officers in the parishes
  - Don received a question clarifying the format of the budget.
- Update: 2024 Insurance – premiums and deductibles increasing
  - Needs to be a deadline for the parishes to inventory their property and assets.
  - Coverage decision(s) need to be at the parish level, though they need to remember that the diocese is ultimately responsible if they are under-insured.
  - Need to be pro-active with decision on rebuild or not BEFORE a disaster happens to a building – what is the most beneficial / appropriate path: rebuild? Take a cash settlement?
  - Still awaiting bottom-line break-out per congregation from Lloyd-Sadd.
  - Need to be encourage the parishes to be more pro-active on mitigating possible disaster incidents (sewer backflow prevention, fire alarms, flood alarms, security systems, etc.) with our property.  
*Comments: we need to be safe, but the priority is the gospel. Can inventory be incorporated with APR? Grants available for assisting with mitigation measures? Parishes need to understand the various levels of insurance and their consequences (both for buildings and for contents).*

Property Committee:

- MOTION: Stan / Rose: DEC approve transferring Sturgeon Heights Cemetery land title from the Diocese of Athabasca to the Municipal District of Greenview. (If St. Anne's Valleyview objects, their objection to be brought back to DEC for consideration before executing this motion.) – Don / Cheryl moved (amendment) 10 in favour, 1 opposed.  
Full motion Carried unanimously.
- MOTION: Brian / Peter: DEC approve expenditure up to \$50,000 to complete the repair of St. Andrew's Lac La Biche, from the Property Replacement Fund.  
Carried. 10 in favour, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.
- Update: Fort McMurray sewer-backup rebuild. Putting in a backflow prevention valve and then planning to start rebuild next week. Hoping for good news nearing completion next meeting!

#### WHY Committee:

- Update: WHY Committee Focus (presentation)
- Committee of the Whole Comments:
  - Fairview ministry changed when they got out of their building and into the mall
  - People are looking for something
  - “Christmas book” is helpful
  - Look at what parishes shared at Synod and share that
  - Need to do contextual analysis on how society thinks of us, and what they want / need
  - Building relationship (not trying “to convert”) is important
    - Let the “outsider” drive the engagement with faith and God, not push it on them
  - Would like a narrower scope and focus (maybe on 3 things) for this year
  - We need to engage with people one-on-one, and be available for people. BE the church – be approachable, understanding, listening.
    - Once there is a relationship in place and people know you, then there can be an openness.
    - Don’t hide our faith, but focus on how we can be of use to them
  - Parishes can share what they are doing in our newspaper (and weekly email as well).
  - If the committee can stimulate us in how to share the faith and understand how we are the people of God.
  - The church is the people of God – full stop. Be mission-minded, not maintenance-minded. Support or facilitate parish activities which move us in this direction. Help guide diocesan activities so that they undergird (at the diocesan level) what is happening in the parishes. We need to think about what we can do differently – doing the same thing won’t cause changes. Every congregation has unique needs / context. It’s all about relationships.

A couple of future dates are in conflict:

- March DEC needs to move to Mar 21 (7 pm) (originally scheduled for Maundy Thursday)
- May DEC needs to move to May 21 (7 pm) (originally scheduled for when Provincial Synod is meeting)

9:05 pm adjournment with prayer