

Holy Trinity Church Advisory Board Meeting Minutes (not yet approved)
January 21, 2025

We are a vibrant, welcoming Christian community flourishing in God's love through fellowship,
outreach, worship and spiritual growth, in an atmosphere of compassion and mutual respect.
Good things are happening here.

Present: Cathy and Ed Bauman, Bro. Reg Crenshaw, Cassandra Culpepper, Nancy Cutler,
Jacqui Getfield, Susan Hogeboom, Bonnie Kennedy, Leanda Kirwin, Rev. Maria Ling,
Sharon McNelles, Hazel Ogilvie, Linda Robertson, Malcolm Shiner, Marlee Tolhurst,

Regrets: Osdario Aigebede, Pat Burton, Neda Dalir, Hillary Irving-Brown, Glenville Simpson

Guest: Eric Preston –(on Zoom)- Endowment Fund Proposal

Welcome call to order: 7:07

Opening Prayer: Rev. Maria Ling

Devotional: Linda Robertson

Devotional for next meeting: Susan Hogeboom

Agenda Approval

Moved by Marlee Tolhurst and seconded by Hazel Ogilvie. CARRIED

Minutes Approval of November 19, 2024

Moved by Bro. Reg Crenshaw and seconded by Bonnie Kennedy. CARRIED

Matters Arising

Will be discussed – In Other Business

Church Warden's Report: - Nancy Cutler

*Budget for 2025 is still being worked on. It is likely to include a 50K deficit.

Actual Dec Financials show income was 20K over budget. Reasons are: money from the Eva Rae Memorial Foundation and the ACW, and several one time donations from parishioners. Expenses were up however, mostly because of the technical upgrades by Starport.

*Efforts are continuing to find a part-time parish nurse. The advertisement for the position is on the website site.

*Efforts are continuing to stabilize the WiFi on the South side of the building. Later we will tackle improvements to the Virtual Chapel. We will be seeking Gov't grants for this, and for security cameras.

Endowment Fund Proposal – Eric Preston

Eric reviewed some proposed changes to the Endowment Fund which would allow greater access to Fund capital.

Recommendations to Vestry included: *Amendments to the Trust Deed that would create more flexibility in using net income;

*the establishment of a second internally restricted fund tentatively named the Legacy Fund, which would be governed by Guidelines rather than a Trust Deed. This would allow for modifications to be made to the Guidelines as circumstances dictated, and for capital donations to be accessed more

readily;

*A committee be established comprised of appropriate representatives to develop these Guidelines, which would include a provision for the use of capital as well as income. Such Guidelines would go as recommendations to Vestry.

Members of the Advisory Board expressed support for the Endowment Fund Committee proposals with the proviso that the Guidelines would need to identify a cap on the amount of capital that could be accessed in any given year.

Incumbent Report-- Rev, Maria –(see attached document for a brief draft of her upcoming goals)

*Planning for Lent has started--

Ash Wednesday – services at 11:00 and 6:30 pm

For 5 weeks on March 12, 19, 26 and April 2 and 9 –there will be a simple” soup and study”- 5:30 -7.30, ending with evening prayer.

*At the moment 17 parishioners have signed up to attend the meeting on January 25, 2025 regarding how to plan a Christian funeral.

*There will be 3 services in the Lenten series. Rev Maria will preach march 9th at 4.00, at the Baptist Church.

*Someone, (unknown), sent an invitation to our Federal MP inviting her to attend our church service. She is willing to attend, and has been communicating with Nancy about a date. It was pointed out that we should not “blind side” the Corporation like this, but should discuss invitations to VIP’s with Maria or the Wardens first.

ACW – Marlee Tolhurst

*The AGM (Annual General Meeting) on Sunday after the service and was well attended.

*Sunday, January 26, 2025 will be In-Gathering – Mary Asbil will be our guest speaker.

*The date for the Festival of Christmas in November of 2025 will be decided at the upcoming ACW exec meeting, Feb 4th.

*Coffee hour – groups are responding well – the parishioners do enjoy coffee hour-food ,fun, fellowship. **NOTE-Volunteers from the Advisory Board are needed for coffee FEB 23.**

Vestry Meeting—23 Feb, after the service which will be at 9.00 instead of at 8.00 and 10.00

*A volunteer is needed to be Vestry Clerk.

* volunteers are still needed for Advisory Board next year. Speak to Maria or the wardens.

Rummage Sale – Date in April may not work. Leanda is looking for more people to help with the organization. In the next few days there will be a zoom meeting with Leanda, Nancy, Bonnie and Marlee to discuss the date. NOTE- date established- Sat May 3rd,

Photo Directory – Bonnie Kennedy-Hazel Ogilvie-Leanda Kirwan.

Bonnie has been in contact with the Photo Directory company. The dates chosen for photographs are February 25 & 26, and April 28 & 29. Sign up sheets with dates and times will be available at a later date.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Marlee at 8:45 after the Doxology.

Next Meeting is March 18, 2025 at 7.00pm.

Draft Ideas, January 21, 2025 by Rev. Maria Ling

Focus areas for the foreseeable future of HTC starting in 2025

(subject to change/adjustment as God leads us)

Christian Nurture and Formation – **intergenerational** discipleship and faith formation which is done through and resulting in:

Spiritual Growth through Christian/Spiritual Disciplines – prayer and devotional life, Bible study, generous giving, witnessing to our faith in Jesus Christ, service.

Using all means to help parishioners grow in their faith and understanding of God (age appropriate curriculum as well as differing levels of one's spiritual journey/maturity). In-house teaching, Deanery offerings, Diocesan offerings and beyond (resources available).

Worship and Liturgical Arts (our primary expression and work)

This includes understanding our role and responsibility as worshippers of God in Jesus Christ and what Christian worship is and using all our resources, gifts and talents to worship God and to help others to worship God, too. This goes beyond our Sunday liturgy and music. Everyone has a role to carry out.

Christian Mission and Outreach (the expression of our call to ministry and service as Christ's disciples)

Learning from God what our mission is as the Body of Christ in Thornhill and beyond. Realising we are called by Jesus Christ to go forth (expand this "go forth") and do God's will of serving the marginalized, the downtrodden and the oppressed and exploited, helping the powerless to find their rightful place in relationship with God and within God's creation. Of course, we need to also serve each other within the parish e.g. Lay Pastoral visitors, etc

"EVERY MEMBER A DISCIPLE, EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER" is my idea of what I'd like to see happen at HTC. Growth is something I'd like to focus on but it requires tilling the ground of our hearts, the sowing of good seed, the watering and weeding of the ground, feeding/fertilizing the ground of our hearts, waiting for the fruit/harvest, sharing the harvest and then starting the cycle again.

Advisory Board's priorities

- 1) Tech
- 2) Liturgical Arts
- 3) Family/kids
- 4) Seniors
- 5) Missional church