

**St. John the Evangelist Church  
Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis  
Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting  
February 25, 2024**

The Annual Meeting, chaired by warden Bill MacKenzie, opened at 12:15 pm with prayer led by The Ven. Paul Ranson.

**Nomination of Vestry Clerk** – Nominated by Ruth Lawrence, seconded by Jeanne Sayre that Carol Jones be vestry clerk. Carried.

**Approval of Minutes of Annual Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2023** – moved by Dennis Williams, seconded by Roger Schwartz that the minutes be approved. Carried.

**Review of Annual Reports**

**Rector's Report 2023** – no questions

**Rector's Discretionary Fund** – Paul explained how the fund is utilized. Martha's Pantry has lessened the need to buy groceries for people.

**Wardens' Report** – There was a question re shelter availability. Bill explained that an out-of-the-cold shelter was not possible because of dissent from the business community and the school.

**Cemetery Committee Report** – We are close to having a full survey of the cemetery.

**Chancel Guild** – New members would be welcome. Contact Susan Baldwin.

**Willing Wonders Report** – The committee has done several fundraising events. \$2,000 was earmarked toward the heat pumps. New members are always welcome.

**Lay Readers' Report** – New members are welcome – contact Paul. York Care Centre is now allowing services again.

**Audit Report** – No questions. Michael Greenbank will not be reoffering.

**Treasurer's Report** – Maintenance and Improvement Fund will be set up. A bequest from Linden Smart of \$140,000 helped repay the loan from the Rectory Fund of \$75,000, which was used to help pay off our mortgage and loan. \$10,000 has been allocated for music ministry. A 3% salary increase for staff was approved. The heat pumps working well. We are looking forward to more comfort in the summer. The 2023 financial statement can be viewed on the Annual Report. Ben thanked Josh for his excellent work contributions.

**Questions** – Roger Schwartz asked how \$4,000 additional income would be utilized.

Moved by Ben Mersereau, seconded by Roger Schwartz that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Carried.

**Election of Wardens** – Bill called for nominations for warden three times. There were no additional nominations. Moved by Eva Morton, seconded by Judy Jones that Bill MacKenzie and Nancy Stephens remain wardens. Carried.

**Election of Vestry** – Vestry is currently comprised of eight people. Those currently on vestry are willing to serve another year. Dennis Williams moved that vestry be increased to nine members, seconded by Steve. Carried with two dissenting votes. Heather Storey is willing to serve on vestry. Bill called for additional nominations three times. There were no additional nominations. Moved by Dennis, seconded by Cynthia Gullison that the following names be on vestry – Ben Mersereau, Carol Jones, Donna Price, Jeanne Sayre, Stephen Hart, Michael Clark, Dennis Williams, Joan Dunphy and Heather Storey. Carried.

**Election of Synod Delegates** – the upcoming synod meeting will be program orientated. In September or October there is a meeting to advise what is included in synod meetings. The synod meeting is held at the Cathedral.

**Nominations for Youth Delegate** – Paul nominated Chase McLean to be a youth delegate, seconded by Steve Hart. Carried.

**Nomination for Two Synod Delegates** – Paul Ranson nominated Nancy Stephens to be a synod delegate, seconded by Cliff Humble; Eva Morton nominated Jeanne Sayre to be a synod delegate, seconded by Carol Mercer. There being no additional nomination for synod, the motions for Nancy and Jeanne were carried.

**Nomination of Alternates for Synod Delegates** – Eva Morton and Carol Jones offered. Dennis Williams nominated Eva and Carol as alternates for synod delegates, seconded by Carol Mercer. Carried.

**Appointment of Auditors for 2024** – Judy Jones nominated John Baldwin and Dick Burgess as auditors for 2024, seconded by Donna Price. Carried.

**New Business** – Dick asked for an update on the stone church. The cost of demolition is excessively high. We have contacted another religious group to see how we could facilitate use of the stone church. The Orthodox church is interested, if they are able to finance renovations. We would like to see if we could access the Stone Church Fund if the building were sold. If this goes ahead, we would need a working group to facilitate all aspects. Roger Schwartz, Dick Burgess, Bob Thomas and Clifford Hay are willing to work on this.

GoGo – we are envisioning where to go with property, outreach, etc. Roger feels that leasing land to GoGo for additional playground space voids an agreement made in 2010. Bill explained how allotment of parking spaces works – one space for every four people.

**Other Business** – a chapel/prayer space has been set up in the former office. Rev. David Peer donated an altar. Eva mentioned that creative gifts would be welcome.

### **Questions**

Pat MacKenzie – are there any plans for Sunday School? No one has stepped forward to facilitate this. Vivian Osborne suggested having the children in a room together doing crafts, etc.

Dick Burgess – have we looked into having a working group to investigate setting Sunday School up again. Bill suggested we put an announcement in the bulletin to get this going.

Barb Hughes – could vestry discuss helping out some of the elderly members of the congregation with transportation issues. Jeanne suggested touching base with people who haven't been attending to see if we can be of help.

Moved by Carol Mercer that the meeting be adjourned at 1:25. Carried. The meeting closed with prayer and the grace.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Jones, Vestry Clerk

Attachment: Attendance List

## 2024 Annual Meeting – Attendance List

1. Roger Schwartz
2. Eva Morton
3. Sherman Nielsen
4. Carol Sue Nielsen
5. Gerry Russon
6. Steve Hart
7. Barb Hart
8. Sharyn Nicholls
9. Sharon Cote
10. Kathy Donelan
11. Barb Hughes
12. Marjorie Boone
13. Judy Jones
14. Darrell Jones
15. Carol E. Mercer
16. Keith Osborne
17. Olive Harris
18. Bruce McKenna
19. Laurel Lawrence
20. C. Ruth Lawrence
21. Dick Burgess
22. Donna Price
23. John Baldwin
24. Susan Baldwin
25. Chase McLean
26. Patricia Brown-MacKenzie
27. Karen Burgess
28. Natalie Reid
29. Bob Thomas
30. Mary Wilson
31. Ruth Ann LeBarron
32. Philip Pain
33. Joan Pain
34. Cliff Humble
35. Clark Wilcox
36. Patricia Wilcox
37. Nancy Stephens
38. Jeanne Sayre
39. Cynthia Gullison
40. Ken Connell
41. Dennis Williams
42. Marilyn Thompson
43. Vivian Osborne
44. Clifford Hay
45. Carol Jones
46. Ben Mersereau
47. Bill MacKenzie
48. Paul Ranson