

**Parish of the Northern Lights
Parish Annual General Meeting
Sunday, February 14, 2016**

1. **Opening Discussion/Exercise:** Chris Boyce opened the meeting with prayer at 12:45. Lesley introduced an exercise where she broke up the attendees into groups to discuss the three *Athabasca Discipleship Training School* sessions which Terry Leer led in 2015. In addition, Lesley asked the groups to suggest what they feel to be the greatest need in the parish at this time.
2. **Call to Order:** Lesley called the business meeting to order at 1:05PM
 - a. **Appointment of Secretary:** Lesley had arranged for Richard Loken to be the recording secretary for this meeting.
3. **Adoption of Agenda:** Two agenda items were added under New Business: c. Signing Authorities and d. Auditors.

The agenda was adopted as amended.
Moved by Ethel Kanzig, Carried.
4. **Minutes From AGM of January 18, 2015:**
 - a. **Adoption of the Minutes:** The minutes were adopted as distributed.
Moved by Hazel Lund, Carried.
 - b. **Business Arising From the Minutes:** There was no business arising from the minutes.
5. **Reports:**
 - a. **Incumbent:** Lesley Wheeler-Dame distributed a printed incumbent's report which was the same report that was distributed at the congregational AGMs. Lesley emphasized the point that there is a need for improved parish communications and, once again, she reminded the parish council members that they are expected to communicate the happenings at the parish council back to their congregations. Lesley reminded those in attendance that we need to be more concerned with **being** the church rather than **going** to church and that the church must change to some extent as society changes, without trying to change the truth.
 - b. **Honorary Assistant:** Chris Boyce distributed a brief printed report. Chris reported that her work outside the parish is being reduced as the congregations she serves are getting their own clergy.
 - c. **Deacon:** Bill Creaser distributed a printed report, he reported that he is three courses away from a theology diploma from Thorneloe University.
Lesley reported that she has recently asked Bishop Fraser to give Bill Creaser permission to serve communion.
 - d. **Youth:** Joanna Muzyka distributed a printed report, she spoke about the youth group's fund raising for their planned attendance at "YC" which will be held in Edmonton in

May.

All the reports were adopted with one motion.

Moved by Nate Day, Carried.

6. **Financial Reports:**

- a. **Year End Financial Report:** LeRoy Overacker spoke to his distributed 2015 financial report. Any significant variations in expenditures were on the low side. Utility costs were about 33% below the budget estimate because utility rates did not rise in 2015 as expected and the cost of internet service was half the budgeted cost.

Variations in income from the congregations were a result of receipts which arrived outside the reporting period.

The balance sheet shows that the parish started 2016 with \$13,400.00 in the bank.

The financial report was adopted as distributed.

Moved by LeRoy Overacker, Seconded by Ron Boyce, Carried.

- b. **2016 Budget:** LeRoy spoke to his distributed 2016 budget which is little changed from 2015. The budgeted income from the four churches is down slightly from 2015 because of a reduction in the assessment from the diocese. There is a GST refund each year but this is not in the budget.

The 2016 budget was adopted as distributed.

Moved by LeRoy Overacker, Seconded by Joanna Muzyka, Carried.

7. **Affirmations:**

- a. **Lay Readers:** Lesley presented the names of those she affirms as Lay Readers: Signe Genoud (Villa only), Phil Sedgwick, and Joanna Muzyka.

- b. **Lay Eucharistic Administrants:** Lesley presented the names of those she affirms as Lay Eucharistic Administrants: Jan Overacker, Judy Flax, Hazel Lund, and Donna Sodergren.

The Lay Readers and Lay Eucharistic Administrants were affirmed by secret ballot and a motion was made to destroy the ballots.

Moved by Nate Day, Carried.

8. **Nominations and Elections:**

- a. **Treasurer:** LeRoy Overacker was nominated by Jo Sedgwick, seconded by Ron Boyce, and elected by acclamation.

- b. **Secretary:** Richard Loken was nominated by Jan Overacker, seconded by Nate Day, and elected by acclamation.

9. **New Business:**

- a. **Refugee Sponsorship Presentation:** LeRoy Overacker gave an oral progress report on the refugee sponsorship project.

The refugee committee includes Carmen Allen, Henrik Asfeldt, Bill Creaser, Brian Hall, and LeRoy Overacker. Blue Heron Industries has offered a house in down town

Athabasca with paid rent and utilities for one year. The project requires \$30,000.00 and now have a commitment of \$11,000.00 of which \$7,500.00 has been received.

The refugee committee is hosting a coffee and snack bar at the next Heartwood Folk Concert as a publicity event and fund raiser.

- b. **Athabasca Discipleship Training School:** Lesley reported that she wants the parish to sign up for another year of Terry Leer's discipleship seminars and that there is a \$50.00 annual fee. The \$50.00 gets the parish three seminars on various subjects but Terry would like to commit one of the seminars to "everyday evangelism".

Be it resolved that the Parish of the Northern Lights pay \$50.00 for another three Athabasca Discipleship Training School seminars to be held in 2016.

Moved by Jan Overacker, Seconded by Judy Flax, Carried

There was some discussion about possible times and subjects.

- c. **Signing Authority:** LeRoy Overacker asked to have two or three wardens designated as signing officers as directed by the Diocesan canons which say:

"All cheques or dispersal authorizations must be signed by the treasurer and a warden or by two wardens. A congregational meeting may designate an additional signing officer in addition to the treasurer and wardens, in which case any two of the four shall sign."

The parish has four people's wardens and four rector's wardens so LeRoy suggested that two or three wardens be designated that they come from different congregations.

Be it resolved that cheque signing authority be granted to LeRoy Overacker (treasurer) and to Pauline Morey, Wendy Lawrence, and Hazel Lund (wardens) and that only two of those signatures be required at any time.

Moved by Jan Overacker, Seconded by Nate Day, Carried.

- d. **Auditors:** Pauline Morey and Richard Loken volunteered to audit the 2015 financial records.

- 10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM.