



MINUTES

CWL General Meeting

November 14, 2023

Blessed Sacrament Parish, Amherstview, Ontario

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service.

Attendance: by Zoom: Sue Aubin, Liz Guiney

Attendance in Hall: (12) Fr. Americo Santos, Kelly Neville, Anne Nicholls, Andrea Glover, Gail Raymond, Margaret Wilson, Gisela Van Putten, Shirley McDonald, Donna Guiney, Mary Lou Hills, Theresa Shanks, Danna Dobson

A Quorum WAS achieved at this meeting. Meeting was held in the Church Hall and on Zoom, following Mass.

Welcome and call meeting to order (Kelly Neville)

Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm, following Mass.

1. Opening Prayer: Liz Guiney led members present in the League Prayer

2. Spiritual Advisor's Report (Father Americo)

Father outlined Liturgical Celebrations and plans for the Advent and Christmas seasons

- **Advent:** The first Sunday in Advent is December 3rd. There will be Confessions from 4:00 pm on Sunday, Dec 3rd. Fathers Grainger and Sebastian Amato will assist Father Americo. In the morning of December 3rd Confessions will be heard following Mass at St. Linus
- **Christmas:** December 24th – morning – 4th Sunday of Advent. Christmas Eve: 5:15pm at Blessed Sacrament; 7:00 pm at St. Linus and 9:00pm at Blessed Sacrament. December 25th 10:00 am Mass at Blessed Sacrament
- **New Years Eve/New Years Day:** Mass at 5:15pm for New Years Eve; January 1st 2024; 10:00 am at Blessed Sacrament
- **December 8th:** Mass at the Cathedral at 10:30 am.

Father added that there will be Mass for 8 days (Octave of Christmas) as we reflect on Jesus coming into the world. The octave ends on December 31st.

3. Approval of Agenda (Kelly Neville)

MOVED by Margaret Wilson that the agenda for the general meeting of November 14, 2023 be approved with the additions of Pot Luck Supper, Confirmation and Christmas Pageant. **Seconded** by Andrea Glover

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes (Kelly Neville)

MOVED by Gail Raymond to approve the minutes of the general meeting of October 10, 2023 as distributed but with corrections due to clerical error. **Seconded** by Anne Nicholls

CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report: (Danna Dobson)

Balance to date: \$ 6,573,80

Danna anticipates outstanding expenses related to the bazaar and the office to be approximately \$1,000. Year end commitments to Lions Club and St. Vincent DePaul have yet to be finalized by the Executive. **Fundscrip:** \$2000 in gift cards were sold providing us with an income of \$72.50

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6. Membership Report: (Shirley McDonald)

Shirley reported that Carol Daigle is now living in Providence Manor, awaiting placement in Helen Henderson Care Centre. There will be no change of address at this time. Carol will welcome visits, cards from members.

7. Correspondence: (Margaret Wilson)

- Letter of thanks form St. Vincent DePaul for our donation of \$100.00
- Letter from Partner in Missions Food Bank thanking us for our donation
- Newsletter from Birthright

8. Past President Report: (Donna Guiney)

Donna will be covering several items on the agenda further on in the meeting

9. President's Report: Kelly Neville

Kelly also will be covering several items on the agenda during the meeting.

Business Arising from the Last Meeting:

10. Snowflake Bazaar: (Kelly Neville)

- Volunteers for the Tea Room: included are several grandchildren who will assist CWL members with serving in the tea room
- Liz Ford stated that she will look after Children's Activities. Anne Nicholls grandchild will assist her.
- Shirley and Gord McDonald had already decorated the hall for the bazaar. Further set up for the bazaar will be Friday, November 17th.

11. Hall Cleaning/ Pie Making: (Margaret Wilson for Cathy Splinter)

- On November 9th Cathy Splinter, Anne Nicholls, and Teresa smith cleaned the kitchen while men from the Knights of Columbus looked after cleaning the floors
- A total of 133 pies were made with 16 ladies assisting in their preparation on November 10th. Margaret asked that members donating for the bake sale consider adding donations to the tea room.

12. Helen Henderson Birthday Party: (Kelly Neville)

- Four members of the CWL donated a total of 48 cupcakes on the 19th of October. Kelly was the only CWL member present. Staff again commented that we were the first community group to host a birthday party since Covid.

13. Helen Henderson Care Centre: (Donna Guiney)

- Father is looking for more volunteers on Sundays for Liturgy of the Word at the Centre. Gail Raymond is already volunteering at the Windsor assisting Father Grainger (a resident there). Gail reported that Briargate hopes to offer Liturgy of the Word in December and volunteers are needed there as well. Paul Godfrey used to assist at Briargate prior to COVID.

14. Funeral Luncheon Policy (Donna Guiney)

Tabled by the Policy and Procedure committee until after the new year.

New Business:

15. Elections: Donna Guiney

- Committee received 24 nominations for various positions. Kelly Neville, Theresa Shanks, Mary Lou Hills and Donna Guiney each called 6 of the nominees. The results were disappointing: **Shirley McDonald** agreed to stand for the Vice Presidency. Under the new organizational structure the Vice President is responsible for membership renewal, recruitment so she will continue to look after membership.
- Danna Dobson agreed to return as Treasurer as no one else was willing to take on the Treasurer's role. Danna also agreed to be the Service Committee chair.
- Kelly Neville assumes the position of Past President

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- After consulting with a member of the Diocesan Council, Donna Guiney (Donna, as chair of the Elections Committee under our policy could not let her name be submitted as a nominee) was able to submit her name and would stand as President
- Liz Ford also stepped up on the 14th to assume the chair of the Faith Committee.
- Again, even though Mary Lou Hills also on the Executive of the Diocesan Council, (and as such cannot be on another CWL executive) Mary Lou agreed to remain as Secretary until June 2024. This will depend on whether she can find another member to mentor and/or the results of the Diocesan elections next April. No one stepped forward to assume the position of Secretary.

16. Christmas Pageant: (Donna Guiney)

The Parish hopes to have the Childrens Christmas Pageant during the 5:15 Mass on Christmas Eve. The costumes are ready/ clean. The Children's Liturgy committee hopes to have 2 Sundays for the children to practice. We are looking for a coordinator.

17. Confirmation: (Donna Guiney)

The sacrament of Confirmation will be given to 15 children on Wednesday, December 13 at 700 pm. Their will be a reception in the church hall. Danna Dobson and Mary Lou Hills looked after it last year and are willing to do so again. If necessary, cookies will be ordered from Sydenham Street Bakery. Mary Lou has used them in the past for cakes celebrating parish anniversaries and CWL functions as well as cookies for the reception last year. We will wait to see what cookies/treats may be left over from the bake sale/tea room per the bazaar.

18. Pot Luck Supper: (Kelly Neville)

Since it is difficult to keep food hot if we have the supper after Mass it was suggested that Mass for CWL intentions be said on Tuesday morning. Dinner will begin at 5:30.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

The meeting adjourned at 8:45. Liz Guiney recited the prayer to the Sacred Heart.

Meetings: December 12th – Pot Luck supper; January 9, 2024 Annual General Meeting; February 13, 2024
March 12th,2024; April 9th,2024; May 14, 2024; June 11th, 2024

Upcoming Events: All Presidents meeting: February 2024, Diocesan Retreat March 9th, 2024; Word Day of Prayer: March 1st. 2024, 102nd Diocesan Convention: April 26,27,28, 2024, Feast of Our Lady of Good Council, April 26th; 12 hours of Palliative Care: May 14, 2024.