**Parish of French Village**

**Strategic Planning Task Group**

**Report to Parish council**

**June 8,2021**

The task group met at 7.30 PM on June 1, 2021 using the Zoom platform.

To begin the meeting participants introduced themselves to Rev. Canon Lisa Vaughn, an experienced diocesan facilitator of strategic planning or more properly phrased, Mission Action Planning.

Lisa introduced herself and explained that her role is to work with churches and parishes who wish to plan and direct their future. Some are in crisis, and some simply want to plan the way ahead. Her role is to act as a sort of fishing guide, pointing us towards the fishing hole without actually holding a rod.

Lisa led a general discussion about strategic planning, beginning with six of the seven points raised at our meeting in early May. Participants explained that our previous work on the restructuring committee had addressed the issue of working together as one parish, rather than as four separate churches and had agreed to continue sharing parish costs in the current manner. Mostly our earlier discussions had been guided by the canons.

Lisa suggested we may wish to update our Vision and Mission noting that the Mission defines our identity, and the Vision should be what we focus on for the next three or four years. She suggested that the Diocese of Niagara had developed an exemplary Mission Action Plan which could be used as an example.

The meeting ended at 9.15 PM with a general agreement that we would present a brief report to Parish Council and plan for our next meeting.

For a more complete understanding of what transpired at the meeting, members are invited to read the minutes of our strategic planning meetings which Carol will soon post on our Parish website under the “About Us” heading.

Respectfully,

David Parkes

Chair

Strategic Planning Task Group.