

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY OF FAITH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY MAY 18, 2021 7:00 P.M.

Present: Janis Peters, Diane Cowley, Bob Thomas, John Lennox, Lenore Lennox, Nathan Best, Joan Cooke, Tom Allin, Alain Beaudin, Doris Coulter, Donna Dunlop, Ken MacDonald, Laurie White

Regrets: Cindy Juriga

- **GATHERING** - Opening prayer Ken MacDonald
- **WELCOME** - Janis Peters
- **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** – Donna Dunlop
- **DEVOTION:** Janis *Peters* – *Hebrews 3:15*
- **AGENDA REVIEW** Additions: M&P and Affirm Team under Committee Reports
- **MOTION TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES – February 16, 2021**

MOTION was made by Nathan Best, that “the April 20, 2021 Board Minutes be approved as amended.” Seconded by Donna Dunlop. Carried

- **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a) **SEARCH – Janis Peters**

Zoom - Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 30, 2021, Noon, to receive a recommendation from the St. Andrew's Search Team.

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- b) **RICK HANSEN FOUNDATION ACCESSIBILITY CERTIFICATION** – Alain Beaudin - no update but expect to get report back in a week or two.
- c) **ST. ANDREW'S STRUCTURE DOCUMENT REVIEW** – Update – Janis Peters, Bob, Donna Dunlop, Jen Bonner and Paul will be on the structure document review team.
- d) **MOUNTAIN MUTUAL AID NETWORK** – Update –Mountain Mutual Aid will be looking to have a kick-off end of May or the beginning of June. There will be a renewable rental contract so long as the trial period is deemed successful. Advertising and publicity with the church will be withheld until this arrangement is more permanent. We also feel like having someone at the church during their first

session would be important to ensure they are abiding by our COVID protocols and their process is safe for everyone. Lenore Lennox volunteered to be at the church, along with Janis.

- e) **St. Andrew's Visioning** – It could be beneficial to both the community and St. Andrew's if a community partnership could be arranged for building housing, as well as, allowing us to bring the office downstairs and children's rooms upstairs for less cost. John and Lenore Lennox will research possibilities, e.g. Indwell Christian Development.

- **CORRESPONDENCE – none**

- **DEFERRED & FUTURE BUSINESS (These items are either deferred or are ongoing pending future action)**

- a. **Pew Cushions - Deferred**
- b. **HFRC Covenanting Agreement – Deferred**

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Board Resignation** – see B&G Report below

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Affirm Committee

We've contacted the treasurer of Affirm United and St. A's has been given a form to complete. We will have a celebration service on June 13th.

Buildings and Grounds

Important Note

Cathy O'Neill has been our committee representative on the Board, but she has found it necessary to resign both her Board and Committee representative duties, due to work and personal issues. Cathy remains a member of St. Andrews, and we welcome her back when conditions permit. Cathy's painting of the Church offices, and guidance on other issues, is much appreciated. Bob Thomas, who is a member of both the Board and our Committee, has agreed to liaison between the Board and our Committee.

A sub-committee of Buildings and Grounds met outside the Church on May 10, with masks, social distancing, and wind. The outside sign was the main focus, but a progress update of the 6 authorized projects was also reviewed, with an approved budget of \$54,650. Given the current Covid-19 status, some contractors are reluctant to proceed, even with signed contracts.

With respect to upgrading the outside sign to LED, we identified 3 options, these being;

- A. replace the 11 burnt-out 6 foot long fluorescent tubes (75 watts per tube), estimated to cost \$200 to \$300;
- B. upgrade the sign to LED, using 6 foot long LED tubes and sign ventilation, costing in the range of \$2,300., but requiring significantly less power;
- C. convert the existing sign to an electronic sign, estimated to cost in the range of \$20,000., which eliminates the somewhat hazardous weekly sign message changing.

*** Following discussion, it was agreed that B&G would replace the lighting at a cost of \$200 - \$300 and obtain quotes for a new, wireless, electronic sign. It was discussed that it may be possible to use Memorial Fund and Building Fund monies.

With respect to the 6 authorized projects, only one (interior light upgrade to LED) has been completed. Responsibility for pursuing the other 5 projects was assigned, but may well depend on the contractors' willingness to work in present conditions.

Otherwise, outside yard works, security checks, and the other routine maintenance continues, including some action on the items requesting volunteers, which was summarized in the March 16 Board minutes.

Christian Development

- the youth group has indicated a desire to meet again on zoom -- have been meeting every other Friday night. June 13th there is an online games night for United Church youth in the region -- hoping our youth will take part.
- Laurie attended a zoom meeting about the future of the Niagara Youth Forum, and it will resume the last weekend in October 2022 at Silver Spire United in St. Catharines. Laurie will make sure CD Committee has contact information as this is an event our youth have enjoyed over in the past.

Finance and Stewardship

2021 Budget Performance 1st Four Months

Budgeted Revenue was under by \$7,800 which was more than offset by under Budget Expenses of \$11,000 in B & G, Human Resources, & Utilities.

In addition, we have received CEWS subsidy payments of \$18,100 YTD. & a small business provincial grant of \$10,000. The bottom line is that we have a \$31,100 surplus YTD Vs a planned deficit of \$14,900 YTD. - a \$46,000 improvement over budget.

In the second half of 2021, a portion of this surplus will be used up in B & G projects & higher Human Resources expenses with the return to full-time ministry.

It should be noted that current Offerings are running approx. \$4,000 per month less than pre-pandemic levels.

Horseshoe Falls Regional Council

I have registered for the Zoom Spring Regional meetings on May 27 and May 29. Nothing else to report at this time.

Ministry and Personnel – *Tom Allin confirmed that we have four M&P Reps to support all four employees.*

Outreach *no report*

Pastoral Care/Friendly Visitors *no report*

Treasurer *report separate*

Trustees

MEMORIAL FUND

Revenue for the 4 months totaled \$2,886, consisting of \$2,882 in memorial gifts & \$4 in interest.

Expenses were nil.

The balance in the fund is \$7,083.

TRUSTEES FUND

*Revenue for the 4 months was \$6,193, consisting of \$3,667 in Manse GIC interest, \$148 in Operating GIC interest, \$2,358 in Trustee GIC interest & \$20 in bank interest. Expenses for the period were \$6,385, consisting of \$2,570 for insurance, the \$3,667 in Manse GIC income transferred to the Operating Fund & \$148 in Operating Fund GIC interest rolled over
The balance in the fund is \$269,504, plus the Building Fund Entrusted Monies of \$146,436, plus Operating Fund entrusted Monies of \$40,148 for a total of \$456,088*

The Operating Fund GIC for \$40,000 matured on 28 April 2021 & as instructed by the Board was rolled over with the interest earned of \$147.95 into another 6-month GIC maturing on 25 October 2021.

UCM *no report*

UCW – Val Lowrey would like to start “Busy Fingers” in September, following COVID safety protocols

Worship *no report*

MINISTRY TEAM

Laurie White

1st Hamilton West Mountain scouts continue meeting online. Both Cubs & Beavers have amalgamated the two groups into one, and they will be meeting at St. Andrew's when in-person meetings are permitted by Scouts Canada (there were Cubs & Beavers at Barton Stone-Mount Hope UC and Cubs & Beavers at St. Andrew's). They will reach out to Josie and Janis about re-opening when the time comes. Since I have been the rep as their Official Sponsor, John Augstman will be keeping in touch during the transition time.

I have been taking care of St. Andrew's Facebook page. Need to find someone who will take that over as of June 30? (also youth group page though we may just close that page as youth don't use Facebook anyway). John and Lenore will work with Laurie on the Facebook page until June 30th and then they will take it over fully.

Ken MacDonald

I continue with online worship and pastoral care and haven't thought much about leaving soon. In the next month, I will be attending a series of workshops on 'The Church Has Left the Building' by Toronto United Church Council and United In Learning. They will be discussing blending online and in the building worship. I will share some of their thoughts with you before I leave. I will also attend the Horseshoe Falls meeting the end of May.

Prayers and Benediction – Laurie White closed the meeting in prayer.

Adjournment

NEXT BOARD MEETING: ZOOM June 20, 2021, 7:00 pm