

STRATHROY UNITED CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021 7:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Marjorie Harris (Chair), Patti Baratta (Recording Secretary), Colleen Fletcher, Diane Goodhand, Doug Goodhand, Patti Krista, Barb MacKinnon, Tim McMillan (Treasurer), David Morton, Rev. Brad Morrison, Tina Zimmermann

REGRETS: Darlene Bourne

1. Welcome & Call to Order
Opening Prayer Marjorie Harris
Rev. Brad Morrison
2. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Patti Krista / Diane Goodhand to approve the Agenda as circulated. **CARRIED**
3. Approval of December 9, 2020 Minutes
 - Title should read “Minutes” instead of “Agenda”.Motion by Barb MacKinnon / Tina Zimmermann to approve the December 9 Minutes with corrections. **CARRIED**
4. Correspondence
 - No report.
5. Business Arising from December 9, 2020 Minutes
 - a) Update on Livestream Equipment / Services
 - See “AV System Upgrades”.
 - Requested from Unrestricted Bequest Fund.
 - Confirmed this is last phase for Audio/Visual upgrades.
 - Require computer with Windows 10 to run new Easy Worship program.
 - Training to be provided by Pat Morrison. Looking for additional operators.Motion by Tina Zimmermann / David Morton to approve an additional \$3500 to add Phase 3 of the upgrades to our Audio/Visual System. **CARRIED**
 - b) Update on Photocopier Quotes Patti Baratta
 - No update.
 - c) Bequest Requisition Form
 - Question regarding number of team signatures required.
 - Team Leads to review. To be decided next meeting.
6. New Business
 - a) Congregational Annual Meeting
 - Scheduled Sunday, March 7 10:45am via Zoom.

- Team members completing their term of office as of the 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting include: Cam Brown (Ministry & Personnel), Doug Goodhand (Board of Trustees, Chair), Marjorie Harris (Property, Acting Chair), John Larocque (Property, Ex-Officio), Tom Kerr (Property), Don Walker (Property)
- Team members completing their term of office as of the **2022** Annual Congregational Meeting include: Diane Goodhand (Ministry & Personnel, Chair), Patti Krista (Finance, Chair),
- New team members joining as of the 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting include: Elgin Austen (Property, Chair), Gary Krupa (Property), Irene Krupa (Property), Joe Rychel (Property, Ex-Officio)
- Team positions still required: ARWRC Representative (Church Council), Financial Reviewer (2021), Vice Chair (Church Council).

7. Reports/Decisions in Progress

a) Treasurer Report

Tim McMillan

- See December 2020 Financial Statements (note these statements are preliminary as additional adjustments to be made).
- **Balance Sheet – Cash:** Chequing Account at \$156,844. Frontier Capital funds and Principal Protected Notes (PPN) to be purchased with these funds.
- **Balance Sheet – Investments:** Other Equity Funds refers to bequest of three equity funds from the Estate of Dorothy Linnell. Unrealized Gain from investments of \$85,135.
- **Balance Sheet – Capital Assets:** Current total is \$11,359. Predict that solar panels will be paid off in 1.5 years.
- **Statement of Receipts and Expenses - General Fund:** Deficit of \$38,941. Envelope Donations higher than budgeted due to donation of shares over \$30,000 which were sold via BMO Nesbitt Burns and then transferred to Libro.
- **Mission and Service Fund:** Total amount raised is \$10,554. Noted that Soup & Roll amount from February not included. Patti B and Tim will investigate. Fund will be topped up from interest from Unrestricted Bequest Fund.
- **Compassionate Fund:** Currently \$3,463 allocated to Compassionate Fund.
- **Bequest Fund:** Amount donated from Estate of Dorothy Linnell is \$24,860. Amount of \$996 received in 2020 as memoriam donations. Amount reflected under Audio/Visual Equipment does not include HST.
- **Schedule of Investments:** The US Cash amount is from the sale of the Electronic Arts shares; however, Patti K will follow up with BMO Nesbitt Burns as these monies were to be transferred to Libro. A BMO Global Smart Principal Protected Note (PPN) was purchased at \$20,000. As a PPN, it will still be valued at \$20,000 or more in 2025. If the PPN was cashed now, it would be valued at \$19,905. Tim will include a footnote explaining PPNs. The equity funds received from the Estate of Dorothy Linnell are reflected under Equities, with the initial donation amount conferred in brackets.
- **Financial Review:** Tim will get the financial records to Joan Childs by coordinating with her.

b) Board of Trustees

Doug Goodhand

- No report.

- Doug was thanked on behalf of Council for his work as Chair. Rev. Brad is Chair of Board of Trustees until a new Chair can be found.

c) Community Life Team

Tina Zimmermann

- No report.

d) Congregational Life Team

David Morton

- Please refer to Congregational Life minutes from January 21 as well as the Report to Council sent by Dave.

e) Finance Team

Patti Krista

- **Budget 2021:** Difficult to determine budget for 2021 due COVID-19 pandemic as well as uncertainty regarding Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS). Note that the Presbytery Assessment has increased. Property Team will have upcoming capital expenditures relating to the east garden and lawn. Ministry & Personnel expenses have increased due to cost of living raise to salaries as well as the new custodian, who is entitled to benefits and will maintain the lawn (which had previously be contracted out).
- **Presbytery Assessment and Mission & Service:** Presbytery Assessment will be changed to Regional Assessment. Previously, the Presbytery Assessment was paid out of the Mission & Service Fund. At Grace United Church, the Mission & Service pledge was reduced to accommodate this difference as there was no change to the amount received by Mission & Service. Proposed that Mission & Service pledge be reduced to \$13,000.

Motion by Barb MacKinnon / Collen Fletcher that Council recommends to set the 2021 Mission & Service objective at \$13,000.

CARRIED
1 Opposed

Motion Doug Goodhand / Barb MacKinnon that proposed budget be accepted as is.

CARRIED

f) Ministry & Personnel

Diane Goodhand

- United Church of Canada recommended 2.2% increase to salaries for all staff for living costs.
- Note that the process of electing members to the Ministry & Personnel Team requires that nominations be vetted through Ministry & Personnel. Council members encouraged to share names with Team.

g) Property Team

Elgin Austen

- **New Protocol Sanctuary Disinfecting:** New protocols in place due to state of emergency. Bure Fogger purchased to assist with disinfecting, reducing the amount of time it takes. Joe is checking the building and the boilers daily.
- **Joe & Repairs:** Joe has repaired three doors. He will likely need volunteers to assist with the revitalization of the east garden and lawn. Trees have been already been removed. Bushes will be removed in spring.

h) Antler River Watershed Region

Rev. Brad Morrison

- **Annual Self-Assessment:** A time intensive project that is required annually after the Annual Congregational Meeting. Strathroy United Church was exempt last year due to hiring new minister. Rev. Brad has listed yearly goals in the Living Faith Story that we

are working on and hope to complete. Team Leads requested to survey teams for any additional goals and notify Rev. Brad. Patti B is going through the Annual Self-Assessment checklist and will be contacting Team Leads for information.

i) Update from Minister

Rev. Brad Morrison

- See Update from Minister.

Motion by David Morton / Diane Goodhand that we receive all reports for information.

CARRIED

8. Next Meeting

a) Date: Wednesday, May 5 7:00pm

9. Closing Prayer

Rev. Brad Morrison

Action Items:

All

- Review Bequest Requisition Form.
- Survey teams for any additional goals for Living in Faith Story Annual Self-Assessment. Notify Rev. Brad.

Finance Team (Patti Krista)

- Submit Annual Report to Office Administrator.
- Follow up with BMO Nesbitt Burns regarding US Cash from Electronic Arts shares.
- Change Presbytery Assessment to Regional Assessment in Budget 2021.

Office Administrator (Patti Baratta)

- Review quotes received from Rival Office Solutions as well as survey other photocopier companies to determine best option and present to Council.
- Investigate Soup & Roll discrepancy with Treasurer.

Treasurer (Tim McMillan)

- Investigate Soup & Roll discrepancy with Office Administrator.
- Include footnote explaining PPNs in financial statements.