

Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – Oct 13, 2021

In attendance via ZOOM: Rev. Richard Bowley, Barb McBean, Brion Crossman, Chris Young, Dan Forret, Bill Whittaker, Sally Allanach, Una Wilson, Sue King, Stuart Baker, Cindy Millican, Lynn MacDonald, Ruth Buckley, John Hill

Chris Young opened the meeting at 7:31 PM. Rev. Richard offered a devotional. Chris acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Barb McBean moved approval of the agenda. Bill Whittaker 2nd. Carried.

Approval of Minutes – Brion Crossman moved approval of the minutes from Sept 8, 2021. Bill Whittaker 2nd. Carried.

Treasurer's Report - Brion presented the September treasurer's report. Brion commented givings are where we should be, close to budget. No extraordinary expenses. YTD surplus is about \$5,000. **Brion moved acceptance of his report. Stu Baker 2nd. Carried.**

Business arising from the minutes:

- 1) **Safe Church Committee** - Bill Whittaker commented proof of vaccination is going smoothly. Record of attendees being kept for contact tracing. Will continue to be flexible for return to the sanctuary. Bill met with an air filtration company about buying filters for the church.
- 2) **Tech team update** - Dan reported two cameras were set up with the help of Adam from St David's. Working on syncing audio and video. Working on mounts and proper cabling.
- 3) **Reality check for Governance** – Una needs new members for CL&G

Correspondence: None

New Business:

- 1) **Affirm Congregational Vote results** – Sue commented that the results of the vote are positive, in that regardless of “who” is negative, it is “what we want to be as the United Church” that is the dogma we need to follow. Brion commented that the online voting process was flawed, as seven Zoom attendees were couples on only one device. Many others didn't participate. Barb McBean wondered when we can vote again.
- 2) **Region action on Ecological Justice** – carry forward to next meeting.

Committee Reports:

- 1) *Christian Life & Growth* -Una continues to engage the youth Oct 17. Show & tell pumpkin carving on Oct 31.
- 2) *Worship* – Sue reported Anniversary Oct 17, Remembrance service being organized, Layton Peck will lead worship on Nov 25, Angela will play for the Nov 21 service. Nov 28 is the beginning of Advent. On Wednesday Dec 1 the advent services will begin at 7 PM. Ideas of services around Christmas are being planned. Search for choir director who can engage with music online. Input for Christmas Eve services was requested. Rev Richard willing to dye his beard blue or purple for Advent as a fundraiser.

- 3) *Property Maintenance* – Bill reported maintenance on front entrance and stairs. Circulating pump on furnace repaired. One toilet replaced in basement. Lights repaired and replaced. Roof repaired as planned. Parking lot sealed and painted. Quote for replacing the remainder of the roof \$29,000.
- 4) *UCWs* – Sally reported 60th anniversary for UCW next year. Interested people can register for the event
- 5) *Social Committee* – no report
- 6) *Outreach* – Barb McBean reported \$1,100 came in for sneakers. Donation of dental care products from Dr. Ron Buckley’s office.
Pastoral Care – Sue suggested that in considering recent vote -People need extra attention, phone calls and communication to decrease any feelings of polarization -This includes persons on both sides of the vote. Sue requested Council to use leadership skills to disperse and squash the word naysayers and respect people as one another within their own body. Use this time to keep people connected. A note will be sent to pastoral care people that echoes this.
Pastoral care volunteers continue to visit and connect with people.
- 7) *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – Sally reported that the committee is looking for Choir director, wondering what to offer for remuneration.
- 8) *Finance & Trustee* – no report
- 9) *Youth Representative* – Chris will reach out to the newer confirmands about one of them joining council as a Youth Rep.
- 10) *Affirming Committee* – Sue reported Lynn MacDonald and Carolyn Kimball have rejoined the committee. Nov 28 proposed as a vote date. Continuing education on Nov 8 at 7PM will feature a video “The Unforgotten”, offered by the Canadian Medical Association. Wendy Stewart has offered to chair and oversee this event . Resource material will be sourced for library. Signage - addressed concerns of misunderstanding the rainbow flag. Barb wondered about outdoor rainbow signage, rather than a flag. Una suggested that Affirm educate what the rainbow means before installing one.

Rev Richard talked about other voting methods that can happen over 2 days, rather than in one meeting to extend the option to those who cannot attend.

John Hill moved that a congregational meeting be held on Nov 28 to vote on becoming an Affirming congregation. Sally 2nd. Cindy commented that the meeting will be in two sessions. Carried.

11) *Regional Representative* – no report

12) *Minister’s report* – Rev. Richard reported busy month visiting. CE opportunity coming up in November.

Next online council meeting is Wednesday Nov 10, 2021, at 7:30 PM.

Rev. Richard closed with a prayer.

Bill Whittaker moved adjournment at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Richard Bowley