

## Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – Nov 10, 2021

**In attendance via ZOOM:** Rev. Richard Bowley, Barb McBean, Brion Crossman, Chris Young, Dan Forret, Bob Crowley, Bill Whittaker, Sally Allanach, Una Wilson, Sue King, Stuart Baker, Diane Tonge, Don and Marilyn Robertson, John Hill

Bob Crowley opened the meeting at 7:31 PM. Barb McBean offered a devotional. Bob acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Bill Whittaker moved approval of the agenda. Stu Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

**Approval of Minutes** – Dan Forret moved approval of the minutes from Oct 13, 2021. Diane Tonge 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Brion presented the Oct 2021 treasurer's report. Brion commented that givings are down a bit. He attributes it to irregular opening of the church for worship services. Unusual expenses in October were \$3,200 to seal and paint the parking lot. The roof repair was about \$4,000 and was paid from the building fund. YTD surplus is about \$6,000. **Brion moved acceptance of his report. Stu Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**

### **Business arising from the minutes:**

- 1) **Safe Church Committee** - Bill Whittaker reported the committee met and recommended resuming in-sanctuary services on Nov 21.
- 2) **Tech team update** - Dan reported the two cameras are working as expected and sound is working well.
- 3) **Reality check for Governance** – No report – Chris will check for youth rep possibilities.
- 4) **Nov 28 Affirm vote and procedures** – Bob discussed the enhanced voting process to ensure that everyone who wants to vote is able to vote. Phone attendees are not able to vote by phone. Discussion about accommodating callers by phone. **Chris Young moved that in the event that the church is not open on Nov 28 the vote will be deferred to another date. Brion 2<sup>nd</sup>. Following discussion the motion passed.** Sally commented that assistance needs to be available for any who are not comfortable with technology. Sue commented that some congregations have used a drive-thru vote. Bob suggested there may be logistical issues in counting attendance with that option. The Zoom “practice vote” will happen again after the worship service on Nov 21. Anyone voting on Zoom must make sure their Zoom name(*as it appears on the screen*) identifies all family members in attendance who want to vote.

**Correspondence: None**

### **New Business:**

- 1) **Region action on Ecological Justice** – At the June Regional Meeting a motion was proposed for congregations to support ecological justice within our faith communities. The full proposal can be found on our website. It was agreed to invite anyone in the congregation who wants to take this on to form and/or participate in a committee.

### **Committee Reports:**

- 1) **Christian Life & Growth** -Una reported 5 advent videos will be produced and will replace advent boxes. A Virtual Christmas pageant is planned for Dec 12. Difficulties finding participants. It may be moved to Dec 19. Virtual PJ party is planned for Dec 19.

- 2) *Worship* – Sally reported planning services to Jan 2, 2022. Wednesday evening advent service will be on Zoom. Longest night service will be Dec 21<sup>st</sup>. Christmas Eve services will be at 5 PM and 7:30 PM. Must allow 90 minutes between services for cleaning. Christmas letter will be mailed. Bob suggested sending it with a card, signed by members of council. Barb and Diane volunteered to stuff envelopes. Nov 27 is SC Parade. Sally wondered if the social committee organize hot chocolate and cookies and invite members to watch the parade. Sally will follow up.
- 3) *Property Maintenance* – Bill reported roof repairs created a different flow of water from the roof. Gravel was placed on the ground to divert the water away from the foundation. New carpet was installed on front stairs. Bill called Urban Landscaping on Oct 26 and noted that the carpet on the stairs is new and to use plastic shovels and no salt on the carpet. Last year there was damage to the old carpet. **Bill moved that we contract Urban Landscaping for snow plowing and snow removal on stairs for \$4,657. Brion 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**
- 4) *UCWs* – no report
- 5) *Social Committee* – no report
- 6) *Outreach* – Barb McBean reported that Outreach spent about \$100 on supplies for the new location of Coverdale Centre. Xmas exchange opens next week. Leslie is collecting names of families in need.
- 7) *Pastoral Care* – Pastoral care volunteers continue to visit and connect with people. Call list to be revised for calls before Christmas. Two members have stepped down.
- 8) *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – Sally reported the committee has a revised job description for the music director. A search will begin in the new year.
- 9) *Finance & Trustee* – no report
- 10) *Youth Representative* – no report
- 11) *Affirming Committee* – Sue reported the committee met with Rev Jackie Harper, the Volunteer National Project Coordinator for Affirm United Canada. Jackie reassured us that the committee has followed the guidelines of the national organization. A document was prepared for the congregation to address the question, “What would QUC look like as an Affirming Congregation?” This document was distributed to the membership by email.  
The Education evening of the film *The Unforgotten* was well attended and we welcomed guests from Harmony United and St David’s United. It was a very thought-provoking evening with guest actor Morningstar Mercredi and producer Dr Ewen Affleck present to lead a discussion session following the film. A donation was sent to Morningstar to say thank you for time. There is a note in this week’s announcements that give the link for the 35 minute long movie for those who missed it.
- 12) *Regional Representative* – no report
- 13) *Minister’s report* – Rev. Richard reported that there was not much visiting because of the Provincial “circuit breaker”. His fundraiser that will result in dying his beard purple or blue has raised \$800 so far – blue is winning.

Next online council meeting is Wednesday Dec 8, 2021, at 7:30 PM.

Sue King closed with a prayer.

Bill Whittaker moved adjournment at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Richard Bowley