

Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – Sept 14, 2022

In attendance via ZOOM: Rev. Richard Bowley, Sally Allanach, Stuart Baker, Una Wilson, Dan Forret, Bill Whittaker, Cindy Millican, Barb McBean, Bruce Amey, Diane Tonge, Brion Crossman, Bob Crowley, John Hill. Regrets from Sue King.

Bob Crowley opened the meeting at 7:33 PM. Rev Richard offered a prayer. Bob acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Bill Whittaker moved approval of the agenda. Diane Tonge 2nd. Carried.

Approval of Minutes – Brion Crossman moved approval of the minutes from June 8, 2022. Rev Richard 2nd. Carried.

Treasurer's Report - Brion presented the June, July, August 2022 treasurer report. Small deficit for summer months. Still in surplus, about \$4,000 YTD. General and special offerings include donations from groups for use of hall. YTD revenue has exceeded last year's. Expenses are similar to last year. Xerox account has finally been corrected. Brion moved acceptance for his report, Stu Baker 2nd. Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Safe Church Committee update - Bill reported hand sanitizer use still required, plexiglass on pulpits remain. Hymn books are back in the pews, masks are optional. Looking for direction about restarting coffee hour after church. Sept 16 will be a soft start. Committee needs to be organized for arranging coffee hours.

Reality Check on Governance – Sally commented that she had no response to the request for additional members to Worship

Regional action on Ecological Justice – Carry forward

Correspondence: None

New Business:

Sanctuary Request – Bob read a request from a Quaker's group to use a room in the church for worship. The Youth Room is a possibility. **Diane Tonge moved, Barb McBean 2nd that we accept the request from the group to use a room.** In discussion, Rev Richard suggested that we inquire a bit about their theology.

Motion carried.

Church Directory – Sally received an offer in June from Universal Portraits, to create a new photo directory for the church. The last one was done in 2015. Brion suggested that the membership list be updated before providing it to the company. Cindy Millican, Barb McBean, Diane Tonge and Rev Richard will review the list of members and adherents, prior to contacting Universal Portraits.

Where to from here? – Bob suggested that we look to engage in other activities that are supported by the United Church of Canada. Rev Richard suggested that it is the job of council to keep re-evaluating our vision. Please bring forward ideas for discussion

Committee Reports:

1. *Christian Life & Growth* - Una Wilson reported that Stewart Hossack reached out about receiving the Al Graham award, since he is now attending university. He was selected for the award 2 years ago but didn't attend university at that time. It was agreed that he is entitled to the money.
New Sunday School curriculum is about 25 pages long, two copies being available for facilitators to use. Starts Sept 25, no volunteers yet. Faye Sherrard volunteered for the month of November. Hammond

River Outing Association has been booked for June 11 for a church social.

2. *Worship* – Sally reported that Sharon Eldridge attended the worship committee 2 weeks ago. Looking for two volunteers to prepare and serve communion. Sept 25 Layton Peck will be pulpit supply. Oct 23 is the Anniversary Service, may be a reception after the service. Discussion about a pulpit swap with Hampton & St David's pulpit swap, joint services on months with 5 Sundays. Stephen Alexander announced 14 positive responses to choir. Working on addendum to worship duties & responsibilities. Rev Richard discussed with other ministers about holding a joint service in November. Also discussed sharing Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday services.
3. *Property Maintenance* - Bill reported that signage for a wheelchair ramp can't be used because ramp is not up to code, but a sign showing a ramp is allowable. What about an exterior ramp with a new entry door at the upper level? Summer repairs included lighting repairs, click flooring repairs, paint on front stairs and doors and a lock on the office door. Mike and Rose Martin did volunteer landscaping again this summer. Thank you. Security system provider has been changed. Valley Girls may start up again, meeting Thursday mornings in the sanctuary.
4. *UCWs* - no report
5. *Social Committee* – no report
6. *Outreach* – Barb reported that the sneaker campaign starts Sunday. Newcomer campaign is straining the budget. Outreach groups from different congregations may meet in January to share ideas. Brion suggested considering Outreach as a budget expense for 2023.
7. *Pastoral Care* – Rev Richard announced that a meeting is planned for November
8. *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – Stephen Alexander started back to work as choir director.
9. *Finance & Trustee* - no report
10. *Youth Representative* - no report
11. *Affirming Committee* – Meeting Sept 28
12. *Region* – No report
13. *Minister's report* – Rev Richard reported lots of visits during the summer. He joined the Regional meeting planning committee. Prayer workshop in November on “praying in groups”. Bible study has resumed for the fall.

Next online council meeting is Wednesday Oct 12, 2022, at 7:30 PM

Diane moved adjournment at 9:03.

Rev Richard closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Richard Bowley