

St Andrew's River Heights United Church
255 Oak Street
Service Team Meeting - Tuesday September 19, 2017
Lounge @7:00 pm

Present: Cathy Kinsman, Paul Webster, Bill Craddock, Fred Cross, Peter Brehaut, Anne Grewar, Sharri Bertram, and Kelvin Koots. **Regrets:** Karen Lumley, Jeff Kremer

Administration

1. **Call to Order:** 7:05 pm by Chair Paul Webster
2. **Devotion:** Cathy Kinsman
3. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as written.
4. **Approval of Minutes from June 20, 2017:** The Service Team agreed to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as circulated.
5. **Business Arising:**
 - **Vacant Service Team position:** Paul noted that we will need to determine what will happen to the position previously occupied by Joan Stevenson.
 - **Removal of Members' Names from the Membership Roll:** This item will be dealt with further on the agenda, see Item for Decision #1.
6. **Correspondence:** None.

Items for Discussion

1. Treasurer's Report – Bill

Bill presented the August 2017 Financial Statements. We ended the month with a deficit of \$25,575 which is \$17,373 better than we had budgeted. Part of the reason for this favourable outcome is increases in member givings and in rentals. Furthermore, maintenance and repair expenses are under budget and much lower than at this time last year. Overall, expenses and revenue are under control.

Bill noted that we had budgeted for a garage sale fundraiser this year which did not happen. He mentioned that we should have an event planner to ensure that we follow through with budgeted fundraisers. Bill also emphasized the need to sell tickets for the Harvest Supper.

2. Property & Administration Interest Group Presentation: Gord Shawcross and John Swan

- It was reported that the caretaking contract was recently signed. The contract stipulates 20 hours of caretaking per week.
- The P&A Interest Group has received an estimate from a solar company regarding installation of solar panels on the roof.

- P&A has determined that many of the building's major systems will need a renovation and/or replacement plan which is beyond the scope of the Interest Group. The group recommends hiring consultants to assess the various systems.
- The Interest Group emphasized the need for a plan and the acquisition of capital funds in order to sustain the building and keep it safe.

Items for Decision

1. Removal of Members' Names from the Membership Roll

The Service Team revisited the list of members who have been inactive in the church for five years or more and discussed removing these names from the Membership Roll.

2. Spirit Path: Linda Paul

Linda Paul discussed the opportunity to become the hosting congregation of Spirit Path, which is an alternative ministry. Spirit Path is in need of a constituted congregation to do their bookkeeping, for which they would pay up to three hours per week. The group would essentially behave as an Interest Group of St. Andrew's. If this opportunity is pursued, a memorandum of understanding would be drawn up between the three parties (St. Andrew's, Spirit Path, and Presbytery) in order to work out the details. **Motion:** B. Craddock/S. Bertram that St. Andrew's River Heights United Church agrees to be the host congregation of Spirit Path. **Carried**

3. ABC Fundraiser/Plea for Funds

The Anna Blair Circle wishes to replace the sofas in the lounge. In order to raise funds for the project, they have requested the Service Team's approval to host a fundraising concert by Sisters of the Holy Rock and to announce a fundraising plea to the congregation. In discussing the request, it was noted that the proposal was not included in the budget, and that the ABC has funds available in its account that could go toward the project. In addition, the Golden Chordsmen have offered to do a fundraiser in our church, and our portion of the proceeds could be used for the sofas. Paul will communicate this information to the ABC.

4. Upcoming Structural Changes to the United Church of Canada – Upcoming Meeting With Richard Manley-Tannis

Richard Manley-Tannis, who works at the Presbytery office, has offered to meet with congregations and/or Service Teams in order to discuss the ramifications of Presbytery being dissolved. The Service Team discussed scheduling a meeting for a Sunday before church so that members of the congregation may participate. Cathy will correspond with Richard to pick a date.

New Business

1. In-Camera Discussion

The Service Team discussed ways to address annual deficits and the many P&A needs which are beyond the yearly operating costs. It was determined that by looking creatively at possible areas to increase revenue – such as capital/stewardship campaigns, investments, and leases/rentals – we will be able to overcome the challenges. Paul challenged the Service Team members to bring some new and creative ideas to the next meeting.

Adjournment: 9:30 pm

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, October 17, 2017