

St Andrew's River Heights United Church
Council Draft Minutes
April 20, 2021
Zoom meeting: 7:00 pm

Present: Anne Grewar, Rob Siddall Karen Lumley, Bill Craddock, Glenn Neufeld, Sarah Cory, Kathy Knowles, Lisa Richards

1. Call to Order (7:05 pm): Greetings/Vision Statement
To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.
2. Devotion: Kathy
3. Approval of March 16 Minutes – see attached minutes (Resolution Required)
 - Correction by Bill Craddock: Treasurer report, wellness grant provided for two benches outside of 255 Oak St. came from City of Winnipeg, not the Province of Manitoba. Anne made motion to accept, Rob moved, Glenn seconded, all in favor.
4. Correspondence: letter from Linda
 - Anne read through the letter.
5. Designation of Church Group Liaison Contacts– see attached Liaison Reference Guide (Rob)
 - Rob reworked the document to read better.
 - **Action:** Designate council members as liaisons for each of the church groups: Lisa- Christian Education, Sarah- Worship, Glenn- Stewardship, Rob- Governance & Fellowship, Bill- Finance and P&A, Kathy- Outreach.
 - Each of the church groups to have someone on council they can communicate with, check in before meetings to see if groups would like anything brought to council meeting. An idea is to have one group to present to council each meeting.
 - **Action:** Circulate approved liaison guide to group chairs.
6. Church Group Terms of Reference – see attached memo and draft Terms of Reference (Resolution Required) – Rob
 - Terms of Reference came from the Governance group (as early as 2011), were circulated to all groups for updates/corrections, and updated over a year ago.
 - Council to approve Terms of Reference. There are 8 standing groups and 2 added groups (Fellowship & Affirming), which appear different on the

Terms of Reference document. Anne explained the difference with the Affirming group. Affirming permeates the whole church, shouldn't have one specific group that should move forward on one affirming mandate (e.g. special worships, liturgy, decorations, welcoming). Karen explained we still need a group to ensure that the church upholds this mandate, so should keep the Affirming group to be accountable to the United Church of Canada.

- Rob moved to adopt the Terms of Reference, Glenn seconded, all in favor.

7. Reopening Update – Glenn

- Entire province remains under Code Red designation, vaccinations proceeding quite well, growing concern of third wave. Province announced additional restrictions: in church services could still happen, max is reduced to 50 people.
- Manitobans need to continue to stay at home as much as possible, one other United Church did restart in person service (Knox United) but have now closed again after their Easter Sunday service, a few Anglican churches remain open (St. George's for example).
- Glenn ran a poll to get an idea of some members thoughts on the church remaining closed. Everyone he had spoken to had received their vaccines, but all agreed it was much too early to resume in person services. All were reluctant to come to a service in person until all are vaccinated.
- Proposal to continue with online services, which have received positive feedback. Lisa supported Glenn's recommendation on continuing online services due to concern of increasing case counts and lack of herd immunity at this time. There is reasonable vaccine coverage in the elderly (e.g. about 80% of all 80 years and older vaccinated, and 70% of all 70 years and older vaccinated). We are on track to vaccinate all adults with one dose by the end of June. Hopeful to return to in person service in the Fall, with all adults able to receive two doses by then.

8. Karen's report – Karen (See attached report)

- Nothing to add, aside from trying to keep in contact with people through phone calls and cards. Council expressed appreciation of her efforts.

9. Treasurer's Report – see attached financial report – Bill

- 7 pages of financial pages, page one being a summary of the other pages.
- \$7008 behind on givings but can be fully accounted for.
- Regular donations virtually every day in the mail box.
- Overall revenue \$14,300 more than expected, in part because of the \$15,000 Manitoba Bridge Grant we received some time ago.

- All expense items from staffing, right through to committee expenses are all somewhat under budget, in part because when the budget was developed in January, we were unsure about the re-opening situation, not being open somewhat lower expenses. Though expenses like electricity and heating did not change as the daycare was in use from 6:30am-6:30pm.
- Overall deficit \$14,400. But that was \$24,000 better than expected and of course the Bridge grant helped with expenses.
- We had also received the \$2600 from the City of Winnipeg for the Wellness Grant, we have sent back \$700 in excess that was not expended as was the requirement of the grant.
- Rental totals \$1500 over the month of March, estimated. On track for normal rental revenue totals.
- Need under 30% reduction in givings to obtain an additional revenue grant, unless there is a change in the program.

10. Volunteer re. Council Meeting Report to Congregation

- Anne volunteered for 25th April service. Sarah volunteered for the May service.

11. Volunteers re. Devotions for Upcoming Meetings

- Lisa volunteered. Brought forth the idea to do a rotation for devotion. No objections.
- **Action:** Charlotte will develop a rotation list that will be circulated at our next meeting.

12. Other Business

- Rob brought up the P&A long term wishlist. Electrical system and HVAC estimated between 800K-900K. Possibility of raising that amount from the congregation is a very big ask and might not be reasonable to discuss further.
- Bill brought up a fundraiser that started in 2004 and took three years to raise 600k, the large donors are now deceased, was a very organized event, paid an organizer 45k and had sub groups set up, goal was to raise 1 million dollars. Bill mentioned it would be very difficult. Bill mentioned 118k to raise money for a new roof, spoke of how it takes time to raise these large amounts.
- Bill stated that a lot of churches are in worse of a state then us, not all churches will survive of the 29 churches, so this will help the revenue streams of the churches that survive.
- Glenn has spoken with Gord and others about the wishlist, mentioned our most vulnerable system is the electrical system if we need to focus on one thing on the list. Renovating the narthex is not a high priority as it would be hard to raise funds for.

- Important to keep the wishlist in mind as P&A work hard and meet regularly to keep the council informed.

Adjourned at 8pm.

Next Meeting:

- **Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Kathy will be away until the middle of June and will miss the May meeting.**