

St Andrew's River Heights United Church
255 Oak Street
Council Meeting December 13, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

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

Regrets: Michael Duncan, Sarah Witiuk

1. Call to Order: 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: Glenn
3. Approval of November 15, 2022 minutes
 - Moved by Glenn and seconded by Bill, all in favour.
4. Church Groups:
 - Presentation – Foundation (reported by Rob)
 - CIBC investment advisor was at the last Foundation Board meeting to report on year-to-date 2022 results. Assets were approximately one million dollars at the beginning of 2022. It was a tough year for financial markets, which included a minus 4.8% return this year for the Foundation. Many other third party investments are doing worse, and in relative terms the Foundation Board was satisfied with the 2022 investment results. Current assets are about \$959,000. The Foundation paid out \$35,000 to the church this year.
 - Other Group Liaison Updates
 - Report submitted by Outreach.
 - January Presentation – Finance
5. Congregational and Youth Survey (Rob, Glenn)
 - Rob reviewed the key themes that he took from the survey (reported in the minutes from our last meeting).
 - We should share findings of the survey, including to specific groups who would benefit from reviewing the comments (e.g. choir).
 - Glenn identified some themes including a greater focus on young families in the community, a shrinking volunteer base and educating the congregation on social justice issues possibly through a "Minute for Mission" at the beginning of Sunday services.

Rob to prepare a summary of the survey results for an upcoming Thursday eblast.

Council to organize another "Let's Talk Church" session in the new year to discuss the major themes of the survey responses.

6. Youth Worker Position (Michael)

- M&P was unable to hold a second meeting on the subject due to member illnesses and other scheduling conflicts. The group will try to hold the meeting this month.
- Discussion deferred to next meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report (Bill)

- Member givings continue slightly over budget year-to-date at \$199,891. As of December 12, we were \$7,109 under budget for year end. It will be a challenge to achieve budget.
- Miscellaneous rental income is \$22,027 for the year, which is \$13,233 over budget.
- Operations expenses are \$6,352 over budget. Most of this is due to gas cost, which is \$5861 over budget.
- Committee expenses are \$5,862 less than projected.
- It is projected that we will achieve a break-even year once transfers are made from investment earnings.
- Budgeting for 2023- we should resume some of our fundraisers next year e.g. choir show, Fall supper, Bridge luncheon, square dancing.

ACTION: Rob to ask Sarah about a scaled down spring choir show.

8. Other Business:

- Date of Annual General Meeting (Rob)
 - Sunday February 26

ACTION: Anne to see if Anna Blair Circle is willing to serve lunch.

- 2023 Council Membership (Rob)
 - We discussed Council vacancies and individuals who we could approach to sit on Council. It would be ideal to recruit some younger members.
 - Vice-Chair is open as well.
- 1 Just City/Oak Table Christmas Initiative Update (Lisa)
 - Lisa contacted Josh about volunteer opportunities for the congregation with 1 Just City.
 - He suggested we pick a day of the week, and attempt to fill the shifts (up to 5) with congregant volunteers.
 - We discussed a sign-up option like we previously had for Siloam Mission.
 - We also discussed the value of finding a way to incorporate youth into a volunteer opportunity within 1 Just City- likely on the weekend.

ACTION: Kathy to refer suggestion to Outreach for their input.

- Spirit Path is terminating as of December 31. Noelle was using the second minister office. She has requested to continue to use the space. Plan is to use the office for our music staff as of January 1.

ACTION: Bill to notify Noelle of the need to vacate the office by December 31.

- December Report to Congregation: Kathy

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, January 17, 2022 at 7:30
- Devotion: Anne
- Report to Congregation: Rob