

St Andrew's River Heights United Church
255 Oak St.
Council Meeting – February 20, 2024, 7:30pm
MINUTES

Present: Rob Siddall, Iris McKay, Leigh Harris-Carlson, Glenn Neufeld, Bill Craddock, Karen Lumley

Regrets: Kathy Knowles, Lisa Richards, Michael Duncan

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: Leigh

3. Approval of January 23, 2024 minutes:

Moved by Glenn and seconded by Leigh; all in favour.

4. Church Groups:

- a. Presentation – none this evening
- b. Other Group Liaison updates: Leigh reported that Fellowship has been busy, as always, with a very successful pancake supper served to 100 people on Shrove Tuesday; they have set PIE Day for March 17, 2024.
- c. March Presentation – Worship: Ruth will be invited to come and share an update.

5. February Annual General Meeting: Sunday, Feb 25 at 11:30 (after service)

- a. Nominating Group report (Glenn) – There are currently 2 spots to fill on Council and the nominating group has been busy approaching individuals in the congregation; the Council can function with fewer than nine members so there is some flexibility and time.
- b. Logistical Matters (Rob): Rob addressed a number of logistical issues and advised that the Anna Blair Circle had graciously agreed to prepare and serve the luncheon; anticipate 60 people to attend.

6. Creation of Fundraising Group (Bill): It has been recognized that we need a new Fundraising Group to coordinate, oversee and suggest fundraising

activities and to help fundraise and bring back events that create additional revenue for the church. It may be too late for some this year, but consider some of the old favourites (i.e. Harvest Supper and the Bridge Luncheon) along with some new ideas to start in the fall. A bigger marketing push is needed to attract more than just the congregation attending.

7. Bell/MTS Update (Rob): Rob has gone back to Bell and there is a new proposal closer to the original expectations (i.e. the placement of the ladder now in the back of the church parapet); the contract is down to a few final issues with a signed contract anticipated in the next month or so; the timing of the actual construction is still to be determined.

8. Treasurer's Report (Bill):

- Member givings in January were \$37,175, which is very similar to the first month of last year. We have several members who give their entire annual gift to the church at the start of the year. This tends to inflate the January givings.
- Monthly budget numbers are not yet provided. They are not too meaningful at this time of year.
- Expenses are generally in line with similar items last year. The exception is the UCC administrative assessment. This was paid in January this year and February last year. When this is taken into account, the overall surplus/deficit is similar to last year.

9. Caretaking Arrangements:

- a. It was suggested that we need to find solutions to the overwhelming amounts of work/upkeep being performed by P&A, especially now with the change in custodians, much of the upkeep is inappropriate and the wrong skill set for Cyce. Ideally, the role of P&A is to ensure the jobs get done/contract the work out rather than take on all of the jobs themselves. The ideas of hiring a part-time (less than 12 hours) maintenance person or possibly a retired volunteer from congregation are to be explored. Karen has a contact she will approach.

10. Other business:

- a. We will need a Police/Vulnerable Persons check for Cyce, as required by the UCC Duty of Care policy; we will ask M&P to pursue this.

- b. The nursery has requested permission to install an air conditioner (at its expense) on the roof with 2 fans inside class rooms. The increased cost of electricity will be negligible and the installation was approved by the Council.
- c. We have been approached by the provincial government to see whether we would be interested in making space available for a public health nurse to periodically deliver primary care health services from the Church. We do not yet know any of the details, but Council approved the proposal in principle as a way of giving back to the community.
- d. February report to Congregation – Not required as next Sunday is the AGM

11. Next meeting:

- Tuesday March 19, 2024 at 7:30pm
- Devotion: Karen
- Report to Congregation: Rob

12. Adjournment