

St Andrew's River Heights United Church
Council DRAFT Minutes
March 16, 2021
Zoom meeting: 7:00 pm

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

Administration

1. Call to Order (7:03 pm): Greetings/Vision Statement
2. Devotion- Karen
3. Agenda reviewed
4. Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2021. Will add under Amalgamation update "But agree that we will not move forward with amalgamation at this time". Moved by Glen. Seconded by Rob. All in favour. Carried.

Items for Discussion/Update:

1. Council Introductions
 - Share (2 -3 minutes)
 - Contact information (see Church Council 2021 attachment)
2. Governance model (see Reference Guide, March 2019 attachment)
 - Church groups and liaisons
 - Need to have Council liaisons for each church group
 - Don't need to be a member of the church group, but should bring updates to Council and quarterly reports (Including AGM)
 - Some church groups are not meeting now, but Anne is proposing that we start reporting on these church groups again this spring (see Annual Visit Schedule for church groups that will be presenting once a year to Council)
 - **Action-** circulate the document to all church groups and their members, including vacancies
 - **Action-** Charlotte will update the membership for each church group
 - Revised governance statement- Rob
 - Sent to Regional Council for approval
 - Council needs to approve Terms of Reference for each church group- these have been prepared by the Governance group but not presented to Council yet
 - **Action-** Rob will circulate at our next meeting for approval

3. Review Strategic Priorities (see Strategic Priorities, November 2019 attachment)

Some priorities have not been addressed for some time, so required revisiting:

➤ Exploring Amalgamation:

While we are not actively considering an amalgamation, we recognize the importance and opportunity in deepening our partnership with Westworth, while maintaining our autonomy and strengthening St. Andrew's now and in a post-pandemic world. The work of the joint partnering committee will include: exploring joint youth programming, an adult study group and special worship services. If you are interested in sitting on this committee, please let Anne Grewar know.

- No volunteers yet, but update has been provided
- Some joint services over Holy Week and will likely work with Westworth over the summer again
- Develop a “radical hospitality vision” for St. Andrew's
 - Not currently working on this, but plans to address this in the future when in person services begin again
 - Karen has set up phone network to keep congregation members connected
- Create a comprehensive maintenance and building plan
 - P&A and Council met last year to discuss issues that exist with the building and required expenses
 - No decisions made at this time, but money set aside every month for a “heating fund”- approximately \$11,000 in the fund now
 - Security upgrade is planned that needs to be discussed further by Council
- Develop a revision of a thriving youth and children's ministry program
 - In early 2020, we hired a consultant to develop a plan for a focus group to obtain feedback from current and past congregation members with children and youth
 - There has been funding for a part-time employee focused on youth, and there may be an opportunity for supporting youth reconnecting after COVID
 - What are the opportunities to work with Westworth on a youth program?
 - **Action-** a small working group will be convened in the fall to review the consultant's report and next steps
- Revision and clarify internal communication structures and church group structures
 - Initiatives include sharing minutes of Council meetings in the e-blast, Council members will provide regular updates at the service
 - **Action:** Rob will share Council meeting update on Thursday recorded service

4. Update- Re-opening plan – Glenn

- New health order is effective to March 26th which allows up to 25% capacity (or 100 people) at church service
 - Informal discussions have revealed that most congregants are waiting to be vaccinated before attending in person services
 - Online services are going well, some individuals are allowed during the recordings (only one person has come to date)
 - Vaccine supply is going to ramp up in April/May and the province expects to vaccinate all adults who choose to be vaccinated (with one dose) by the end of June or sooner
 - Cannot stream service live, so we either do the service in person or virtual
 - Door leading to alley- we have no access to this
 - **Action-** Council will reassess at our next meeting
5. Karen's report – Karen (see attachment)
 6. Foundation report - Rob
 - Debbie is stepping down as Chair in November, but is willing to stay on the Board
 - Audit report is complete
 7. Treasurers Report – Bill (see attachments)
 - Province of MB Bridge Grant- \$15000
 - Federal Govt Wage Subsidy- we may not be eligible for this

Items for Decision:

1. Secretary - Glenn
 - Lisa is acting Secretary, but will be assisted by Charlotte to record the minutes and then Lisa will review them
 - Anne spoke with Michael and Charlotte, and they are both agreeable to this
 - No additional cost, but Charlotte will flex her time to accommodate this role

Motion: Charlotte assist Council Secretary by attending Council meetings to record minutes of the meeting, with draft minutes being approved by Council Secretary for posting to website and Eblast. Moved by Glenn. Seconded by Rob. All in favor.

Other Business:

2. Back door use- Gord to be informed that we need to use the back door to access the office, can change the tone of the ring to determine if church staff are accessing
 - Action- Bill will discuss with Gord
3. Devotions: Volunteers for upcoming meetings
 - Anne is looking for volunteers for the next few months.

- April - Kathy
- **Action-** Please contact Anne to volunteer

Adjourned at 8:45.

Next Meeting:

- **Tuesday, April 20, 2021**