

**St. Andrew's River Heights United Church**

**255 Oak St.**

**Council Meeting: February 18, 2025 -7:30pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present: Rob Siddall, Karen Lumley, Bill Craddock, Glenn Neufeld, Lisa Richards, Leigh Harris-Carlson**

**Regrets: John Barber, Heather Ragot, 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:** Karen shared Luke 11:33-35 and spoke of seeing the light in the darkness - the true meaning for Epiphany - and offered a prayer.

**3. Approval of January 2025 minutes:**

To be corrected: At the upcoming AGM, the Worship Group will poll the congregation on preferred timings and services for Christmas Eve, not on the return of an in-person family service. Minutes with above corrections - Moved by Lisa, seconded by Bill

**4. Church Groups:** No presentation – February is an off month with the upcoming AGM

\*Other Group Liaison Updates:

Fellowship (Leigh) The planning for Pancake Day and PIE Day are underway.

Stewardship (Glenn): The October 2025 concert by Aaron Hutton is a go with exact date to be determined

Fundraising: (Bill): Discussion of the return of the popular Bridge Luncheon in late April; ticket sales are likely a go but there is still the need of lunch planning and further details; tickets are expected to be raised from \$15 to \$20

March presentation: Worship Group

**5. Amendments to Governance Statement – Rob:** Council concerns that had been raised with the current model, especially with lack of term limits for members of Council; there is a need for a formal motion in order for congregation to vote at the AGM on any changes to the Governance Statement.

**6. Minister's Report – Karen:** It has been a very busy month preparing for Lent and Sunday School while also delivering Annual reports to members unable to make it to church; a new Christian Education committee is set to start.

**7. Daycare Lease Update – Bill:** Negotiations continue and the lease has not yet been finalized or signed.

**8. Policy on Staff Rental of Church Premises – Rob:** Council discussed the use of Church premises by staff and there was general agreement that any use of facilities, even by staff, should be on reasonable rental terms, including reimbursement for cleaning costs incurred, because it is recognized that there is a loss of potential revenue from other rentals. Council will review and update the rental policy and reach out to M&P for communication to staff.

**9. February 23, 2025 Annual General Meeting:**

Nominating Group update: Glenn – see attached report

Rob then discussed a number of logistical matters and confirmed that the Anna Blair Circle had kindly agreed to prepare the luncheon and that Fred Cross had kindly agreed to set up the microphones and equipment.

**10. Treasurer's Report – Bill:** The asbestos removal from the lounge and the original plumbing repairs have been completed and while it was a large job totaling \$3200, it is under the expected cost; the Nursery position normally filled by 1-2 people has been terminated and will result in a small saving; Bill provided explanations of specific investments and GICs i.e. the "Right to Housing" account we hold in place on their behalf and the account with monthly contributions to eventually replace the boiler/heating system

**11. Other Business:**

\*February Report to the Congregation: None – AGM

\*Other – March post-service coffee – Leigh volunteered

**12. Next Meeting:**

**\*Tuesday March 18, 2025 at 7:30pm**

**\*Devotion: Glenn**

**\*Report to Congregation: Rob**

**13. Adjournment**