

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church

255 Oak St.

Council Meeting: January 21, 2025 -7:30pm

Meeting Minutes

Present: Rob Siddall, Karen Lumley, Bill Craddock, Glenn Neufeld, Michael Duncan, Lisa Richards, Heather Ragot, Leigh Harris-Carlson

Regrets: John Barber

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: Heather shared memories of a recently lost friend and the thoughts of St Francis of Sales saying "Bloom where you are planted"; making the most of every day and share your talents with the world.

3. Approval of December 2024 minutes: Moved by Leigh, seconded by Heather

4. Church Groups:

Presentation – Finance Committee presented by Bill: The Finance Committee met on January 19th; Bill presented the Preliminary 2024 Financial Statement as well as the proposed 2025 Budget. The 2024 year ended quite favorably mainly because of increased regular givings and while a conservative increase has been budgeted for 2025, it cannot be guaranteed that the same generosity will be seen. See report.

Approval of 2025 Budget – Moved by Glenn, seconded by Lisa; will now go to AGM for congregational approval.

*no other Group Liaison Updates

*February Presentation – not applicable because of AGM

5. Minister's Report – Karen : Discussions will be held, and possibly polling the congregation during the AGM , in regards to preferred timings and services for Christmas Eve services. It is noted that there are many celebrations and related services coming in 2025 including the 10th anniversary as an affirming church, the 50th anniversary of the Anna Blair Circle on May 25th, and celebrating the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada on June 8th. More details to come as plans are finalized.

6. Daycare Lease Update – Bill: The lease is still being negotiated and has not yet been finalized or signed.

7. Amendments to Governance Statement – Rob: Discussion postponed to next meeting.

8. February 23, 2025 Annual General Meeting:

*Notice of meeting (Rob): Notes to go into February's E-News, Sunday bulletins and announced from the pulpit each week.

*Nominating Committee (Glenn): See report. Five members of Council have agreed to have their names stand for consideration at the upcoming AGM and three members have indicated they will be stepping down. Rob has prepared a notice inviting the congregation to consider joining Council to be included in the E-News and Sunday bulletins.

*Meeting logistics (Rob): Anna Blair Circle will be preparing a luncheon; a sign-up sheet will be created to recruit help for set-up and take down of tables and chairs.

9. Treasurer's Report – see Finance report and presentation above

10. Other Business:

*January Report to the Congregation: Bill, including 2024 financial recap and budget review

*Other – February post-service coffee – Lisa volunteered

11. Next Meeting:

***Tuesday February 18, 2025 at 7:30pm**

***Devotion: Karen**

***Report to Congregations: None as it will be AGM**

12. Adjournment