

**SILOAM UNITED CHURCH**  
**Minutes of Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

**Present:**

**Council:** Ric Graham (Chair), Randy Donkervoort (Ministry and Personnel), Peggy Rivard (Congregational Life), Stuart Cunningham (Spiritual Life and Worship), Pauline Newton (Secretary), Margaret Smith (Rose Birrell), Steve Britton (Presbytery), Dick Huffman (Treasurer), John Burns (Property), , Catherine Glover (Outreach and Social Justice),

**Staff:** Rev. Isaac Mundy,

**Regrets:** Rev. Sheila Macgregor, Sharon Ashton, (Presbytery), Kevin Webb (Communications)

Ric called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed Randy back to Council as the lead on the Amalgamation Committee. Isaac led us in an opening prayer.

**Correspondence:** We received an email from SV-SF-CSOS confirming that they received our application for funding under Canada Summer Jobs and will inform us of the status once the review process is completed.

**Agenda:** The Sanctuary Lighting Upgrade, Relationship Building with Amica and Church Credit Card will be deferred until the March meeting. Amalgamation pulpit supply and amalgamation report were added.

**Minutes**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 council meeting as presented. Moved by Steve, seconded by Catherine.

Discussion: It was asked if we had gotten an explanation for the inflated music student expenses shown in our final budget for 2016. The cost of the instrumental musicians for the cantata concert was lumped into that expense and we did not receive the cheque from the trustees to cover this expense until January.

The motion was carried.

**Staff/Committee Reports**

Rev. Isaac informed us that Anastasia has withdrawn from working in the nursery. He has contacted Ramita (one of our Sumer students) to see if she would be willing and available to take on this role. Jim Sweitzer has suggested that a quarterly report for the ongoing youth ministries and any accompanying grants be published in Fanfare. Isaac is prepared to do this. Isaac suggested that we try not to have multiple fundraising programs taking place in the narthex at the same time. The subject of fundsrip came up and the fact that it is being underutilized. It was suggested that this might be an area for the Communications Committee to help promote. Now that the amalgamation vote has been passed, Isaac asked if we could get started with the visioning process in concert with Edge and a representative from the Arva congregation. Council agreed by consensus.

## **Property**

Property will look after the Pancake Supper on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> with a free will offering. Upcoming project is to replace the drywall on the ceiling of the choir room and have it painted. Approximate cost: \$1,400. Proceeds from the pancake supper and upcoming sausage sale to be used to cover the cost. The next project will be the replacement of the front doors hopefully in the fall.

It was suggested that Rev. Fradette and other Arva visitors who attend our pancake supper be identified so that we can make a point of welcoming them. It was further suggested that we have name badges for everyone. Cards highlighting upcoming events at Siloam will be handed out at the door.

## **M&P**

Randy spoke to Joy Jackson about taking on the chair for the committee. She has declined but will stay on the committee. The Amalgamation Committee will put out some feelers to see if Dave Donaldson, the chair of M&P at Arva, would consider chairing after July 1<sup>st</sup>. He will be the liaison with Janette Fradette. Randy will attend the first meeting of M&P to help with the updating of job descriptions.

## **Spiritual Life & Worship**

Stu and Randy have met with Janette Fradette and she has agreed to cover visiting and pastoral care during Sheila's vacation period this summer.

**MOTION:** that Kerry Stover be asked to provide pulpit supply at Siloam on August 13, 20, 27 and September 3, 2017. Moved by Stu, Seconded by Steve. Carried.

A question was raised if Kerry would be paid for pulpit supply over and above his regular 12 hour week. It was approved by consensus to empower Stu to negotiate with Kerry whether he would consider a trade-off of his visitation hours for pulpit supply.

Rev. John Lougheed will be approached to do pulpit supply on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

In an effort to get to know the Arva congregation, we are asking 6 people to attend the Arva service each Sunday between now and the end of June – their service is at 9:30. On the first Sunday of each month, they have a coffee and social time afterwards. Stu to organize.

Stu also asked for any input re the preaching of Barb McGill last week. One comment suggested that the sound quality of the video was poor. This led to a discussion about our hearing assist system and whether it needs to be re-evaluated – this will be passed on to the communications committee.

## **Outreach & Social Justice**

The application for the Mother and Son from Syria has been submitted to the United Church and the committee is waiting to hear if the application is complete. The federal government has not released any spots this year and a priority group has not yet been established. There are 100 people ahead of our application which may not come up this year. Meanwhile the money is being held in trust.

This year's Lenten project will be Food Grains. T-shirts have been provided by Canada Foodgrains for the staff to wear throughout Lent as well as promotional water bottles and pens. Envelopes for donations will be in the pews as well as a donation option on the Siloam website. A bucket of the pens will be in the narthex during lent for donations of loose change.

**MOTION:** Loose change offering from Easter Sunday be included in the Food Grains Drive. Moved by Catherine, seconded by Stu. Carried.

Catherine circulated Siloam United Church Guidelines for Disbursing Benevolent Fund 2017 (copy attached)

**MOTION:** The updated guidelines for disbursement of the Benevolent Fund be accepted by Council and enacted effective January 2017. Moved by Catherine, seconded by Stu. Carried.

### **Congregational Life**

Peggy indicated that several of their committee are dealing with health issues. They will be helping with coffee/tea at the pancake supper and on March 19 for the dedication of the table & chair from the estate of Stan McDonald. They have also been asked to assist at the Grandparenting workshops.

### **Trustees**

At the present time there is no one within the trustees who has agreed to chair. The three trustees from Arva will be joining our trustees in July. The chair of trustees from Arva will be invited to chair. The money donated for the orchestral accompaniment for anniversary Sunday will be held by the trustees.

### **Rose Birrell Group**

They have two events coming up: the ham and scallop potato dinner on April 22<sup>nd</sup> (120 tickets) and the Fashion Show on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Anniversary Committee**

They were very pleased with the event on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, both the story and the meal. There will be a tree planting service on April 23<sup>rd</sup> with trees donated by Dave and Jane Hilton. It is their hope to have Rev. John Lougheed as the guest minister in June. The October Gala at the Spinney is October 14 with 125 tickets to go on sale immediately after the Chicken BBQ. A tax receipt will be issued for approximately half of the cost of a ticket.

Margaret asked for permission to sign a contract with Shane Cook for 2018 as a fundraising event. Agreed by consensus.

She also is looking for someone to write an article on our 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary and submit it to The Observer by mid-July to be published in the September issue.

### **Presbytery**

There will be a meeting at Wesley Knox United Church with London Police on Thursday, February 23 to discuss church security for anyone who would like to attend. Steve Britton to forward an email (subject e-ssentials) to council members with links to various manuals. Steve to send out a summary explaining the four remits that council needs to vote on prior to our March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### **Amalgamation Update**

John Burns will be joining the Amalgamation Committee. Stu and Randy have met with Rev. Janet Fredette. Randy, Dave Donaldson, Sheila and Isaac to write an 18 month contract and job description for Janet Fradette. On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Arva has proposed a 10 minute opportunity during the service for Isaac to come and talk about his ministry with youth and young families. They have also asked for a pulpit exchange between Sheila and Janet for one Sunday prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>. They will be providing us with a bio of Janet Fradette in the next few weeks to put in our bulletin.

Isaac led us in a closing prayer.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Moved by Stu, seconded by Dick. Carrie.

**Next Meeting Date – March 21, 2017**

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Ric Graham, Chair

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Pauline Newton, Recording