

SILOAM UNITED CHURCH
Minutes of Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Present:

Council: Ric Graham (Chair), Randy Donkervoort (Amalgamation Committee), Judy Hunt (Congregational Life), Stuart Cunningham (Spiritual Life and Worship), Pauline Newton (Secretary), Margaret Smith (Rose Birrell), Steve Britton (Presbytery), Dick Huffman (Treasurer), Sharon Ashton, (Presbytery), Allyn Todd (Trustees)

Staff: Rev. Sheila Macgregor

Regrets: Kevin Webb (Communications) Catherine Glover (Outreach and Social Justice), John Burns (Property), Rev. Isaac Mundy

Ric called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed Allyn Todd as the incoming chair of Trustees to be voted on at the April 2nd congregational meeting. Sheila led us in an opening prayer.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Agenda: The Sanctuary Lighting Upgrade has already been dealt with. Relationship Building with Amica will be deferred until the April meeting.

Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 21st, 2017 council meeting as presented. Moved by Steve, seconded by Dick. Carried.

Business arising from the minutes: The trustees do not feel that they should be holding the money donated for the orchestral accompaniment on Anniversary Sunday, Oct. 15th. It is felt that this money should be held in a separate account for the anniversary projects. Dick and Margaret to work together to set up a tab itemizing all anniversary income and expenses.

MOTION: To set up a separate bank account for anniversary events to be monitored by the anniversary committee instead of the money being held by the trustees. Moved by Allyn, seconded by Stu. Carried.

Action: Ric and Dick to look after setting up this new account.

There was discussion regarding the amount of responsibility that we have bestowed upon Erin with regard to the church finances. Council members were asked to be aware of procedures related to submitting expenses and then to follow these practices.

MOTION: To empower Randy to enter into discussion with Doug Colley, who has been employed by Arva United Church to look after their accounting, and if he is willing to get a quote to provide this service to Siloam United Church.

Moved by Allyn, seconded by Dick. Carried.

Financial Report:

The January operating report showed a deficit of \$8,916.11 and the February deficit had grown to \$16,034.18. Stu raised the concern that there is no one on Council who can answer questions about the operating reports. The monthly givings were \$6,886.17 under budget in January and \$7,747.54 under budget in February giving cause for great concern.

Action: A member of council to speak to the congregation on a regular basis letting them know the gravity of the situation and reminding them about all the great programs that we have and that they come at a cost, as well as reminding them that this is a budget that they approved at the annual meeting.

Sheila to speak to Kaye Appleby about having Ric come to one of their new members sessions to talk about PAR.

Church Credit Card: Discussion ensued with regard to a Church credit card. As it has to have someone named on the card, it was felt that a prepaid card would be the only way to go. However, this could be a bookkeeping nightmare. It was decided to table discussion on the credit card until after Randy has spoken with the bookkeeper.

Roof Loans: Randy indicated that the repayment of the roof loans could probably wait until after our amalgamation with Arva at which time there will be some money from the sale of their buildings. This will free up some money for operating expenses. Also the HST rebate has not yet been received.

Support for Jen Prince: Jen is making good progress in pursuing her ministry. She indicated that Presbytery has grants that she can apply for and she has also applied for a scholarship.

MOTION: To make Allyn Todd, Randy Donkervoort and Margaret Smith voting members of council for the remit votes.

Moved by Stu, seconded by Judy. Carried.

Remits: Council conducted a vote on remits 1-4. Council voted unanimously in favor of all four remits.

Amalgamation Update: There will be a congregational vote on April 2nd at Siloam United Church and a congregational vote on April 9th at Arva United Church to finalize the amalgamation of the two churches. Only full members will be allowed to vote. It was suggested that we state on the ballot the criteria for a full member. The Amalgamation Committee will be meeting on April 11th and have invited Allyn and Sheila to attend that meeting.

Role Review: Council decided not to conduct a Membership Roll review, as one was conducted 3 years ago

Rose Birrell Group are having their ham and scallop potato dinner on April 18 – tickets are \$18. The Rose Birrell group has been asked to purchase the new carpet for the choir room.

Anniversary Update: Plans are underway for the Spinney event. Anniversary tree planting will be April 23rd – trees donated by Dave and Jane Hilton.

Meeting Dates for the EDGE visioning process: Possible dates are: May 31, June 20,21,27,or 28.

Judy asked council if they would be willing to have the Forest City Singers perform at Siloam in 2018. Agreed by consensus.

In closing Sheila led us in the Lord's prayer.

Next Meeting Date: April 18, 2017

Ric Graham, Chair

Pauline Newton, Recording