

## **Siloam United Church – Minutes of Council Meeting**

**June 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Meeting held both via ZOOM and in person at Siloam United Church**

### **Present:**

Rev. Ann Corbet, Steve Britton (Regional Representative), John Davidson (Outreach), Dave Dunham (Property), Dick Huffman (Treasurer and Congregational Resources), Pauline Newton (M&P), Margaret Smith (Spiritual Life & Worship), Allyn Todd (Trustees and Communications), Anne Wheatley (bookkeeper), Peggy Rivard (Secretary and Congregational Life)

### **Regrets:**

Catherine Glover (chair), Betty Ross (Rose Birrell)

### **Welcome, Opening Prayer:**

**Motion:** Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Allyn Todd that Dave Dunham be appointed Acting Chair for the meeting. CARRIED

Dave welcomed everyone to the meeting and then had Rev. Ann lead us in an opening prayer.

### **Finance Discussion:**

Anne Wheatley answered some minor questions regarding the May, 2022 P & L statement. Different ideas were expressed to address our shortfall in envelope givings.

### **Correspondence:**

Margaret Smith read a note that she had received from Allison O'Connor. Members of another church congregation have made a \$500 donation to Siloam because of the wonderful work they see each week done by Allison and the Young At Heart Church School group. A note of appreciation will be sent to the donors.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion:** Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Allyn Todd that the minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting be approved as printed. CARRIED

### **Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion:** Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by John Davidson that the agenda with discussed amendments be approved. CARRIED

### **Continuing Business:**

#### **Grant Opportunities**

Reference was made to Catherine Glover's submitted report regarding the status of grants to which she has applied. Dave Dunham reported that an energy audit will be conducted later this month to comply with information needed for the Faithful Footprints grant.

**New Business:**

Vacancy on Communications Committee

Allyn Todd will be stepping down as interim Chair of the Communications Committee but will stay on as the Audio Visual Team Lead. It is necessary, however, to have someone in place to have the authority to pay expenses until a new Chair is found.

**Motion:** Moved by Allyn Todd and seconded by Pauline Newton that whereas the hybrid nature of Siloam's ministry is dependent on the continuation of an audio-visual production capability, be it moved that the Siloam A/V Team Lead (currently Allyn Todd) be authorized to approve any of Siloam's budgeted or otherwise funded expenses for A/V requirements including equipment and personnel until June 2023 or such time as a Chair of Communications is in place, whichever occurs first.

CARRIED It is imperative that we recruit, soon, someone with a communications skill set to fill this Chair vacancy.

Committee Lists

Each Chair is requested to submit a full list of members to Erin by the end of June so that a master document can be created. ACTION > all Chairs.

Sunday Offering

We are experiencing a very significant decrease in envelope givings this year. Rev. Ann will continue to announce from the pulpit that envelopes can be placed in the offering plates upon exiting the service if people have not already contributed on their way in. Discussion followed as to how we need to get more people involved in church activities so they will want to contribute more.

Pride Parade Participation

John Davidson reported that Rev. Kerry Stover has suggested that interested United Churches go together to be represented at London's Pride Parade to be held on July 24. If there is to be a float, Marilyn Arthur and Chair Glover hope that our two Canada Summer Jobs Students can take the lead in decorating it as well as engaging other youth and young adults to participate. **Motion:** Moved by John Davidson and seconded by Pauline Newton that Siloam join other interested United Churches in London to support the Pride Parade. CARRIED

Wearing of Masks in Church

A survey of the choir members indicated that most felt comfortable coming to church now without a mask while others preferred to keep a mask on or at least keep it on until required to sing. It was felt that the results of that poll were probably representative of the entire congregation. Steve Britton reported that there had been no discussion at the regional level about changes in the rules about wearing masks. Council members decided that beginning July 3, we would make a new ruling about the wearing of masks.

**Motion:** Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Dick Huffman that Siloam suspend the mandatory mask mandate unless the provincial health guidelines mandate differently. Wearing a mask will be optional beginning July 3, 2022.  
CARRIED

Professional Church Secretaries Annual Conference

Pauline Newton reiterated information contained in her M&P report about this conference. M&P is supportive of Erin Salter attending to facilitate her professional growth and networking opportunities. **Motion:** Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Allyn Todd that Council approve Erin attending the Professional Church Secretaries Conference in Owen Sound from October 16-17 at a cost of \$488.00 plus a mileage allowance at the Siloam rate. CARRIED

New "Welcome" Brochure

Margaret Smith presented a new "Welcome" brochure that is now available in the Arva Atrium for church attendees to obtain more information about Siloam and also to have a forum to pass personal requests to church staff. If anyone has items that you wish to include/exclude on this form, please let Margaret know.

**Staff/Committee Reports:**

Peggy Rivard indicated that Chair Glover had arranged for flowers to be sent to Allison O'Connor acknowledging the death of Allison's father. Peggy will send cards from Council to Allison and Cameron.

There are now brochures and posters in the Arva Atrium and at the back foyer announcing the new photo directory.

The Outreach Committee and Dick Huffman will arrange to begin money transfers to LIRSA in support of an Afghani family coming to London, hopefully, this summer.

Dave Dunham will contact Chair Glover about the possibility of a meeting on Tuesday July 19 with Council, Congregational Resources reps and the BBQ committee.

**Closing Prayer:**

Rev. Ann closed the meeting with prayer.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Moved by Margaret Smith and seconded by Pauline Newton that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30. CARRIED

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Dave Dunham, Acting Chair

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Peggy Rivard, Secretary

