

Siloam United Church – Minutes of Council Meeting

March 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

In-person meeting at Siloam

Present:

Rev. Ann Corbet, Steven Britton (Chair), Wendy Barbour (Outreach & Social Justice), Catherine Glover (Congregational Resources), Dick Huffman (Treasurer), Pauline Newton (M & P), Margaret Smith (Spiritual Life and Worship), Allyn Todd (Communication and Acting Secretary), Barbara Walters (Rose Birrell)

Regrets:

Dave Dunham (Property), Peggy Rivard (Secretary), Anita Elworthy (Congregational Life)

Opening:

Rev. Ann opened the meeting with prayer. Allyn Todd was asked to take minutes.

Agenda Amendments and Approval:

Council members voted unanimously that the Siloam Office would be closed on Easter Monday, April 10. An update from the Piano Search Team was added to the agenda. It was noted that minutes from the January 29 Council meeting should include a statement indicating that Rev. Dr. Sheila Macgregor announced her intention to retire from ministry on July 1, 2023 and thus submitted her letter of resignation.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Dick Huffman that the minutes of the January 18 Council meeting be approved as printed. CARRIED

Motion: Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Dick Huffman that the minutes of the January 29 Council meeting be approved as amended. CARRIED

New Business:

Grant Update

Catherine Glover informed Council that a New Horizons for Seniors Grant that she had applied for in the amount of \$25 000 has been awarded to Siloam.

Chicken BBQ

Margaret Smith and Pauline Newton have volunteered to help get volunteers for this event to be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023.

Yard Sale

Catherine has offered to send out a notice requesting volunteers for our sale to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

Collection Procedure

Until this point in time, different committees have been organizing members to pass the collection plate during the service. This procedure does not seem to be working well and there is a lack of coordination. It was decided that we will stop physically passing the collection plate but will continue offering a blessing at the time of the offering.

Communication Specialist

Since we will be receiving the New Horizons for Seniors Grant, we are allowed to use approximately \$6 700 of the grant amount for the salary of a Communication Specialist if hired. We still need to receive approval from ARWRC to use some Trustee Funds for the remaining salary of this proposed salaried position. Further information regarding Community of Faith documents must be submitted to the ARWRC.

Affirming Ministry

Motion: Moved by Catherine Glover and seconded by Pauline Newton that the Affirm Action Plan be approved. CARRIED

Motion: Moved by Catherine Glover and seconded by Pauline Newton that the Affirm Celebration be held on Sunday, June 11, 2023. CARRIED

Piano Search Team

Motion: Moved by Margaret Smith and seconded by Pauline Newton that the Piano Search Team recommendations as per its report to Council and stated as follows be approved: *The Team recommends Siloam Council approve the purchase of the above (Kawai GX-3 grand piano from Tri-City Pianos in Kitchener) based on funding available from the Bruzas family plus any differential to be contributed by the Siloam Choir and/or any other persons wishing to contribute. A suitable plaque will need to be placed on the piano recognizing the benefactor and other contributors should they donate.* CARRIED Allyn Todd will proceed with finalizing the purchase accordingly.

Community of Faith Documents

There are four different documents. The Financial Viability Worksheet Document does require further work. It was agreed to revisit this document at the next Council meeting in April.

Motion: Moved by Catherine Glover and seconded by Pauline Newton that Council approve the following three Community of Faith Documents: Real Property Worksheet, Demographic Worksheet and Living Faith Start Worksheet. CARRIED

Preparing to Search for a Lead Minister

Pauline outlined the process and requested that Rev. Ann Corbet leave the meeting during this discussion. Rev. Ann has indicated interest in being Siloam's Interim Minister while the search is on for a replacement for Rev. Dr. Sheila. By consensus of Council members present, Pauline will discuss details with Rev. Ann and report at the next Council meeting.

Appreciation Service for Rev. Dr. Sheila Macgregor

Sunday, June 25, 2023 was chosen as the date for this special service. Donations by individuals for this event will be accepted and a material gift will be presented to Rev. Sheila as well as a monetary gift from proceeds left after the purchase of the gift. There will be a luncheon served after the service. Catherine Glover has volunteered to express appreciation to Rev. Sheila on behalf of the congregation and Council. Margaret Smith, Pauline Newton and Catherine Glover will form the planning committee for this event.

Stewardship Campaign

Motion: Moved by Catherine Glover and seconded by Pauline Newton that the Congregational Resources Committee run a stewardship campaign from September 2023 until the first Sunday in Advent with a target of raising \$15 000. CARRIED

Staff/Committee Reports:

Everyone was reminded of the Ham and Scalloped Potato Dinner that the Rose Birrell Unit is hosting on April 22. The cost is \$25 per person.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment:

Rev. Ann closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, April 12, 7:00 p.m. at Siloam**

Steven Britton, Chair

Allyn Todd, Acting Secretary