

Siloam United Church - Minutes of Council Meeting

May 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

O'Brien/Sproule Library Chapel

Present:

Rev. Ann Corbet, Allyn Todd (Acting Chair, Trustees), Jim Anderson (Cong. Resources), Wendy Barbour (Outreach and Social Justice), Steven Britton (Regional Representative), Tracey Brown (Communications), John Davidson (Outreach and Social Justice), Dave Dunham (Property), John Little (Cong. Resources), Lynn McClary (Treasurer, HEAT), Pauline Newton (M & P), Peggy Rivard (Secretary, Cong. Life), Margaret Smith (Spiritual Life & Worship)

Regrets:

Marilyn Arthur (Youth and Young Adults Ministry), Mary Dillon (Regional Representative), Barbara Walters (Rose Birrell)

Welcoming and Opening Prayer:

Chair Todd welcomed everyone to the meeting. Rev. Ann opened with a reading from Acts pertaining to Pentecost. She then asked each member to meditate for two minutes and think about how the Holy Spirit is moving within him/her and also thoughts about how the Spirit is moving within the Siloam congregation. After some shared thoughts, Rev. Ann led us in prayer.

Correspondence:

Allyn drew attention to the letter that was pre-circulated by Pauline Newton and addressed to Metropolitan and First-St. Andrews. This letter conveyed to each church the results of a congregational vote at Siloam indicating that Siloam will be withdrawing from the Shared Youth/Young Adult Ministry Agreement. The letter was signed by Allyn Todd and Pauline Newton and would be hand delivered to the two churches the following day (May 16).

Allyn also passed around a note of appreciation from a couple thanking Siloam for the work Allison O'Connor and Siloam are doing with the youth and our inclusion of all "young at heart".

Allyn pointed out a donation slip from a gentleman thanking Siloam for the excellent services we provide via Rogers TV.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Dave Dunham that the minutes of April 24 meeting be approved as circulated. CARRIED

Agenda Amendments and Approval:

MOTION: Moved by Dave Dunham and seconded by Lynn McClary that the Agenda be adopted with the inclusion of two items--compensation to Mary Dillon and a Rose Birrell update. CARRIED

New Business:

Council Contact Brochure

Chair Todd distributed copies of the Council Contact Brochure. Terry Fieldhouse assisted with the editing and printing. Erin will hold copies for the Council members not in attendance at this meeting.

Financial Reports

Lynn summarized her pre-circulated financial reports by indicating that givings are way down from last year and what we anticipated for this year. ACTION>John Little and Jim Anderson will create a message to go out through Constant Contact imploring people to remember their givings during the summer months. Those not on the e-mail list will receive a printed/mailed copy of the announcement.

MOTION: Moved by Dave Dunham and seconded by Margaret Smith that the financial reports be accepted as printed. CARRIED

Trustees Financial Report

Allyn discussed the report from Trustees as circulated.

Search Committee Update

Tracey Brown reported that the process has stalled. There have been no candidates answering our ad on Church Hub that would be suitable. Tracey did indicate that the committee will begin placing an announcement in Broadview. A short discussion was held about using a "student of a theological college" to help us but that was dismissed as we do not have a trained supervisor to oversee this situation.

Grants

As noted in Marilyn Arthur's report to Council, she was unable to receive any Canada Summer Jobs grants this year...the first time in 16 years. Marilyn reported that there have been some children registered already for a Siloam weekly summer camp and some have paid the fee. After a lengthy discussion, Council members felt that we needed trained leaders if we were to offer the week-long program as we've done in the past. **MOTION:** Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Lynn McClary that Siloam cancel the summer camp this year and return any monies to those who have already registered and paid. CARRIED Pauline has agreed to convey this decision to Marilyn Arthur.

Request from Mary Dillon

Mary Dillon submitted a letter to Chair Todd indicating that as a retired Designated Lay Minister she has been made aware by the Office of Vocation that she is eligible to apply for status as a Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM). Her letter outlined duties she would be able to perform and has asked if she could be considered a VAM at Siloam. Council members agreed that we would be honoured and blessed to have Mary act in this capacity. As a volunteer, Mary will set some boundaries for herself and will dictate the amount of time she wishes to devote to this ministry.

MOTION: Moved by Margaret Smith and seconded by Tracey Brown that Council approve Mary Dillon to become a Voluntary Associate Minister at Siloam. CARRIED Rev. Ann will complete and submit the necessary paperwork required to fulfill this request.

Walkway Update

Since the bench has now been installed in the Dorothy Foster Memorial Garden, the walkway project is now completed. We are indebted to Bob Foster and his sons for their work and financial support of this project. Allyn will contact Catherine Glover and the Fosters to discuss a dedication of the garden. ACTION>Peggy will send an official letter of thanks from Council to the Fosters.

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint Campaign

Much work has been organized and completed by the Property Committee (installation of 300+ LED bulbs; installation of energy efficient refrigerator; new windows; new back doors). Once the doors are completely finished, Dave Dunham will submit financial statements in order to receive money from the Faithful Footprints Grant we were given. One year from now, Dave will submit an energy consumption statement and will then receive the remaining \$1 000 from the grant.

Addendum to the MOA between Siloam and Urban Roots

Lynn McClary spoke to the pre-circulated Addendum. She pointed out that grant money received for our association with Urban Roots must be kept in a separate bank account. After some discussion, it was felt that amendments needed to be made to this MOA. **MOTION:** Moved by Lynn McClary and seconded by Dave Dunham that section 2.2 within the MOA be amended to state: *Siloam will provide Urban Roots with payment of employee and material costs related to the grant project and not exceed the total grant amount received.* CARRIED It was also pointed out that under the heading of **Purpose and Scope** within the document, MOU should be changed to MOA. Lynn McClary will see that these changes are made before the document is signed.

Compensation for Regional Representatives

MOTION: Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Dave Dunham that Siloam compensates Mary Dillon for the cost of meals, mileage and hotel costs when she attends the Tri Regional Council meeting in Pt. Elgin. CARRIED (1 against)

MOTION: Moved by Tracey Brown and seconded by Pauline Newton that Siloam compensate Steven Britton for 100% of his mileage cost to attend the Tri Regional Council meeting in Pt. Elgin as opposed to the 50% as previously stated in the March 20 Council minutes. CARRIED (1 abstention)

Staff/Committee Reports:

Report from Rose Birrell Unit

Margaret Smith indicated that the Rose Birrell Unit will pay the cost of renting the outdoor sign which advertised the Garage Sale and the Chicken BBQ.

Margaret also extended an invitation to the women on Council to attend the Rose Birrell luncheon on June 6 which will be catered by Linda Arthur.

FYI

It was pointed out that the United Church of Canada, the Presbyterian Church in Canada and the Anglican Church of Canada are all sharing the offices of the UCC in Toronto.

Closing Prayer:

Rev. Corbet closed the meeting with prayer.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Allyn Todd, Acting Chair

Peggy Rivard, Secretary