

# Knox Church Council Meeting

September 17, 2019

Chair: Sharon Christmas

Secretary: Sharon McIntosh

Present: Rev. Craig Miller, Sharon Christmas, Debby Dandy, Shelley Tataryn, Coleen Wall, Diane Shepherd, Roger Bright, David Barrows, Norman Brown, Alan Moulin, Orval Henderson

Regrets: Wayne Clayton, Leanne Sprung, Laura Crookshanks

**Call to Order.** 6:36 pm

**Opening Worship:** On behalf of the Trustees, Norm Brown read "The Cracked Pot".

**Adoption of Agenda as amended and Adoption of Minutes of the June 18, 2019 meeting:**

**Motion:** Diane Shepherd/Roger Bright Carried

Amendment to the Agenda:

Add to new business: a. Proposed Changes from BellMTS  
b. Liquor Licence for Jack Graham funeral

**Business Arising from the Minutes/Old Business:**

- a. Let's Talk Knox. Coleen Wall advised the committee will be meeting September 26 to plan where to go from here. Craig Miller advised that through Outreach, planning has begun for community round table sessions October 29 and November 7.
- b. Preparation of a Covenant of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support with the Prairie to Pine Region. Leanne Sprung advised a draft has been started but it is not yet ready for Council's review.
- c. Emergency Response Plan. Coleen Wall advised the committee has not met since the June report.
- d. Planned Giving Policy. As the meeting of September 12 was cancelled, Sharon Christmas advised Council needs to set a new date. It was suggested Council meet with the Planned Giving Committee on Oct. 15, 5:00 pm, prior to the regular Council Meeting. Council agreed. Sharon Christmas will advise the Planned Giving Committee.

Sharon Christmas then asked how the gardening situation went with the various volunteers over the summer. Norm Brown responded that it went very well. We will try this approach again next year.

***Correspondence:***

Aug. 2019 St. Andrews College  
Subject: "College Vocation Sunday"  
Referred to: Worship Committee

***Financial Report:*** presented by Shelley Tataryn

**Motion:** Shelley Tataryn/Roger Bright Carried  
**That the June, July and August 2019 Financial Reports be accepted.**

Discussion: We are 2/3 through the year (67%), but church income is only at 53% of the annual budget. It was mentioned that we usually get much higher givings throughout November and December than earlier in the year. Also, the budgeted amount for church givings does not reflect realistically as that figure generally is inflated to produce a balanced budget. However, we do have a higher than normal operating deficit and we may possibly have to draw on the past surplus this year.

Roger Bright gave a description of a number of property expenses incurred which are not usual operating expenses. Also, it was noted there was a large increase in insurance costs. If we recalculate without including these "extra" expenses, the property expenses are in line with normal expenditures at this point in the year.

We do need to be aware of the deficit and keep it in mind as the year progresses. Also, one of the investments was not renewed, and that amount (\$25,000) is included in our operating funds.

We need to include updates in the newsletters to keep the congregation aware of the financial position of the church.

***Committee Reports:***

- 1) *Ministry & Personnel (M&P):* verbal report by Coleen Wall  
-The committee has not yet met this fall.  
-Pulpit supply was arranged to cover during the minister's study leave and vacation over the summer. One week of study leave was cancelled, however, pulpit supply had already been arranged.

- 2) *Property*: Attached  
Discussion: There was some discussion regarding the replacement of the bike rack. It was suggested we ask Barry Bromley if he could make one. Failing that, a supplier in Killarney was also suggested.
- 3) *Minister's Report*: Attached
- 4) *Worship*: Diane Shepherd  
-The committee met last week.  
-Communion service is coming up on October 6.  
-They will decorate for Thanksgiving.
- 5) *Congregational Care and Membership (PC&M)*: David Barrows  
-The work of the committee carries on.  
-They are hoping to have a newcomer's event in November.
- 6) *Vice Chair*: verbal report by Debby Dandy  
-The newsletter deadline Sept 25. If you have items you would like communicated to the congregation, please submit them.  
-It was asked who looks after powerpoint operator supply, i.e. is it part of the Vice-Chair duties. Council were advised normally it would come under the Worship Committee, however M&P volunteered to look after this.
- 7) *Christian Education*: Attached  
-Craig Miller reported the pool party was a good bonding experience. They are planning a trip to the Pumpkin Patch (hopefully after brunch on Oct. 6), and during the winter, a playdate at the Y.
- 8) *Trustees*: Attached
- 9) *Stewardship*: Attached

Discussion:

- With regard to the Stewardship Fundraiser Event, April 4 is the end of spring break. This could affect attendance.
- Al Moulin requested feedback on the idea of having a dance as the Stewardship Committee was divided on how well this would be received. It was suggested that if they had a dance, they might need some other form of entertainment as well for those who did not dance.

-A Dinner Theatre was suggested. Al Moulin advised the Stewardship Committee had discussed this, but felt it would be quite expensive. It was then suggested that a more cost effective method might be to approach Deanna Ginn to see if her drama students at school might wish to do a dinner theatre presentation.

- 10) *Outreach:* Attached  
-Council were reminded there is a work bee tomorrow (Sept. 18) at Trinity to bag sugar, flour and rice for Samaritan House food bank. Donations of same are also welcome.

Refuge Brandon – The newest family is settled but needs a bit of help. The wife is exhausted, and another refugee woman has been asked to help her in her adjustment to life in Brandon. In spite of language difficulties, they seem to be settling well and wish to stay in Brandon. Their oldest child is enrolled in Brandon Nursery School.

- 11) *Green Team:* Attached  
-Some committee members are planning to go to an event in Winnipeg where Greta Thunberg will be recognized for her work.  
-Feedback was requested from Council on how to involve the congregation more.  
-The Green Team would like to do another session on recycling as the recycling rules for the city have changed.

- 12) *Affirm Committee:* Attached

- 13) *Chair:* No report.

**Motion:** Debby Dandy/Coleen Wall  
**The adoption of all Committee Reports**

Carried

***New Business:***

- a. Liquor Licence for Jack Graham's funeral.  
Marie Graham has asked that we serve wine and beer per Knox's alcohol policy, but, as a toast to Jack, would also like to serve Jack's favourite, a "rusty nail" which requires hard liquor (Scotch and Drambuie) as well. There will be no charge for alcohol. The liquor licence was applied for this with this in mind. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be provided.

**Motion:** Al Moulin/Orval Henderson  
**That we allow hard liquor to be served at Jack Graham's funeral as outlined above.**

Carried

Discussion:

It was questioned if the Knox alcohol policy should be amended for such events which may come up in the future. The general feeling of Council was the policy did not need to be amended, but council can make exceptions on a case by case basis.

- b. Bell MTS proposed changes to our telephone service.  
We received a proposal from our Bell MTS Business Solutions Specialist which would give us enhanced service including unlimited internet service at new bundle rates which work out to a minimum of \$11.20 less per month than the rate of our existing agreement.  
**Motion:** Shelley Tartaryn/Roger Bright Carried  
**That we accept the Bell MTS proposal.**

Discussion:

There was some discussion as to whether Knox should keep the existing internet service through Westman Communication as well, or try to be released from our agreement with them. Traditionally we have divided our business between the two providers for the sake of community relations. It was felt that at this point in time, we will still keep both services. We will likely use the new internet service for visitors/renters to our facilities, and use the existing internet service for church business. The situation will be reviewed again when the contracts come up for renewal.

Next Council Meeting: October 15, 2019  
Opening Worship: Christian Education

Closing prayer was offered by Craig Miller.

Motion to Adjourn: Roger Bright (8:10 pm)