Regular Meeting of St. Paul’s United Church Council

303 Jackson Street, Walkerton, Ontario N0G 2V0

28 November 2017

**MINUTES**

In Attendance: Chair: Betty-Anne Elliott

Randy Willick Rev. Gord Dunbar

Gary Munro Margaret Elliott-Niesen

Deb Sutherland Bev Cameron

Secretary: Anita McNeil

Guests: Bev Willick – Co-Chair, Transition Team

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 7:00 PM

2. Spiritual Sharing – Randy Willick

* Spoke of our good fortune in the calibre of leadership found in this Council
* Commented that making decisions is never easy, but compromise must be found
* St. Paul’s is open and inviting, and “open for business”
* A prayer was shared

3. Behavioural Covenant – recited by all in attendance.

4. Approval of Agenda

* Report of Transition Team is moved up to be the first report given.

**Moved by:** Randy Willick

**Seconded by:** Deb Sutherland

That the Agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes of 30 October 2017

* Chair called for report of any errors or omissions
* Secretary, Anita McNeil indicated a correction of date for the ceremony for Rev. Gord Dunbar from December 5th to November 5th, and that the minutes had been changed to reflect that correction

**Moved by:** Margaret Elliott-Niesen

**Seconded by:** Bev Cameron

That the Minutes of Meeting dated 30 October 2017 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

6. Previous Meeting Action Item Follow-Up

Open Doors

* St. Paul’s have accepted the offer to participate in Open Doors
* Chair will need to sign a contract, which is in the hands of Laurel

7. Reports

7.1 Transition Team – Bev Willick, Co-Chair

* Bev reported that the team has submitted advertisements to the United Church Observer, in print and online, for December and January.
* John Inglis has spoken to the Treasurer (Gary Munro) and has requested a budget line be added to the next budget for the Transition Team in the amount of $600.00 – the team does not yet know where the expenses might occur, however, advertising will be one
* Question raised regarding potential expense of mileage for candidates who are not close by but Rev. Gord indicated it would most likely not be a significant cost. Those who are some distance away might be interviewed via Skype.
* Treasurer, Gary Munro, suggested that the budget line of $800.00, formerly set out for the Future Directions Committee regarding the affirming church, might be set out for the Transition Team instead. Gary indicated that the Transition Team would have a budget line in the forthcoming budget.
* Bev further reported that there are no applications being pursued at the present time. The Team is hopeful that the advertisements will be fruitful.
* Query made regarding adding the advertisement to the St. Paul’s website – Bev reported that the Team had discussed that possibility. Rev. Gord indicated that Conference has been informed, and anyone seeking a position would find it by way of Conference. Chair commented that candidates would most likely not seek employment via our website, but through the United Church Observer.

7.2 Treasurer’s Report – Gary Munro *(report attached)*

* Gary reported that Laurel is contacting all necessary personnel to get their budget proposals
* There is a Finance Committee meeting planned for December 18th, at which time generalities will be discussed – the specific budget will be discussed in January.
* Gary offered to attend any M&P meetings, where upcoming salaries will be discussed.
* Randy Willick reported that Nancy Baillie is pleased to have been asked to join the Finance Committee, and will now be a part of that committee.
* Rev. Gord asked if Gary had received the exact assessment for next year, and he has.
* Deb Sutherland asked if the Future Directions/Affirming Church Committee might be resurrected when an Interim Minister is in place
* Gary indicated he would be happy to take direction regarding budget requests
* Rev. Gord, on behalf of the Transition Team, indicated that the affirming church process, is part of the information given to potential Interim Ministry candidates.
* Comment made that the current budget amount of $800.00 allocated to the Affirming Church Committee may be reduced to $200.00, in order to retain the budget line, with the remaining $600.00 being allocated to the Transition Team.
* Chair indicated that no motion would be necessary to separate the two budget lines above.

7.2 Presbytery Report – Margaret Elliott-Niesen

* Margaret reported a meeting on November 21st, and spoke about a new program entitled “United Fresh Start”, comprised of 22 modules aimed at pastoral charges with new ministry personnel.
* She commented that some of the modules might be helpful to St. Paul’s.
* Some are in Webinar format
* Margaret will look into these in more detail – the target audience is Ministry and Lay people, for example, Council, the entire congregation – anyone in the church.
* Rev. Gord reported that he is taking the United Fresh Start, and has completed three modules as a participant. He reported that, for example, two modules dealing with conflict awareness and conflict management would be ideal here.
* The program covers a wide range of topics.
* Margaret shared brochures from Chapman House. Suggestion that one be posted on the bulletin board, and the rest left with Laurel.

7.3 Trustee Report – Randy Willick *(no report)*

7.4 Stewardship – Deb Sutherland *(no report)*

7.5 Ministry & Personnel –

* Bev Cameron reported that the committee has drafted a Memorandum of Agreement with Rev. Cathy Paul.
* A copy has been provided to Marion Boyd
* Further copies will remain with M&P Committee
* Staff assessments will be beginning – Julie Farrell has drafted a questionnaire with information from the United Church website, in order to streamline the process.
* Rev. Gord asked if there were job descriptions for each position – there are.
* Goals and objectives will be addressed in the new, more formal, process.

7.6 Faith Leader (*position vacant – no report)*

* Chair, Betty Anne, indicated that Kids Church made cookies and Christmas cards
* There are packages ready to go out with the We Care Team.
* Chantelle wants to deliver these to Maple Court, personally, to each door.
* Bev Cameron, with the We Care Team, will cover Brucelea Haven

7.7 Worship Committee – *(report attached)*

* Chair raised the issue of pulpit supply for January - Margaret Elliott-Niesen reported St. Paul’s may continue to renew Rev. Cathy Paul’s supply “as needed”, due to our situation

**Moved by:** Randy Willick

**Seconded by:** Margaret Elliott-Niesen

That Peggy Munro, be empowered to renew the contract for pulpit supply of Rev. Cathy Paul to the end of January 2018

**CARRIED**

* Chair, Betty-Anne, commented that the need for pulpit supply will be revisited by Council on a month-to-month basis, as required.

7.9 Pastoral Care – *(position vacant – no report)*

7.10 Future Directions – *(on hold)*

7.11 We Care – Bev Cameron

* Bev commented that no calls have been received for services of the team – question whether this is due to the absence of a full time Minister at present
* Margaret Elliott-Niesen suggested a note in the bulletin to indicate that the We Care Team is alive and well – also suggestion that this be posted on the website.

8.0 Other Business

**None**

9.0. Correspondence –

**None**

10. General Discussion

Date for next meeting of Council – 15 January 2018 at 7:00 PM or at the call of the Chair.

Congregational Meeting set for 11 February 2018

Randy Willick will host a brainstorming session for recruitment – 7:00 Pm

11. Spiritual sharing for next meeting will be provided by Bev Cameron

Chair moves that meeting be adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Council will meet next on **Monday, January 15, 2018 at 7:00 PM**

Respectfully Submitted:

Anita McNeil

Secretary