Regular Meeting of St. Paul’s United Church Council

303 Jackson Street, Walkerton, Ontario N0G 2V0

18 March 2018

**MINUTES**

In Attendance: Chair: Betty-Anne Elliott

Randy Willick Rev. Cathy Paul

Gary Munro Margaret Elliott-Niesen

Deb Sutherland Bev Cameron

Secretary: Anita McNeil

Guests: John Inglis

Transition Team

Bev Willick

Myrna Inglis – Doors Open

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 11:45 AM

2. Spiritual Sharing – Deb Sutherland

* Reading taken from book entitled “The Sacred Tree” – the 12 teachings of the sacred tree.
* Focus on cycle of change.

3. Behavioural Covenant – recited by all in attendance.

4. Approval of Agenda

**Moved by:** Bev Cameron

**Seconded by:** Margaret Elliott-Niesen

That the Agenda be approved (as circulated)

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes of 26 February 2018

**Moved by:** Randy Willick

**Seconded by:** Gary Munro

That the Minutes of Meeting dated 26 February be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

* It was noted by Anita McNeil that Dave Inglis has not indicated a willingness to stand as Chair of Council, however, he will entertain the idea of standing as Vice Chair.

6. Previous Meeting Action Item Follow-Up

i. Doors Open

* Myrna shared her thoughts on the necessity of approving all documents pertaining to Doors Open with Council prior to using them.
* There is no budget set for this event – Gary Munro requested that Myrna make a submission to Finance
* Question of refreshments posed for the event – discussion – Myrna has permission from the organization to have refreshments
* The book to advertise this event will go to print in early to mid- April
* Church will open between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM.
* Myrna described the intended route through the church for visitors, and the areas to be available to visitors.
* Discussion ensued regarding committee and volunteers for the event.
* Myrna shared what resources she planned to use
* Discussion regarding having a “Heritage Sunday”
* Brockton Heritage Committee has featured St. Paul’s Facebook page
* Anita will endeavour to post Doors Open information on the website for St. Pauls
* Council expressed the need to have a picture of Rev. Cathy Paul included in the photo gallery.

ii. Paisley Steam Show

* Bev Cameron indicated there had been no interest expressed by the Presbyterian Church, and suggested that St. Paul’s just leave it at this time
* People may help if they choose to, however, St. Pauls is not making a commitment

iii. United Fresh Start – report to be included with Transition Team report

7. Reports

1. Transition Team – Bev Willick *(report attached)*

* Team wished to reinforce how happy we are to have Rev. Cathy here with us
* Bev shared comments from members of the congregation regarding Rev. Cathy’s service to St. Pauls, such as, “engaging”, “compassionate”, “calming”, “sermons are uplifting”, and members like knowing that Rev. Cathy is here Sunday after Sunday.
* Transition Team would heartily endorse any and all efforts to renew our covenant with Rev. Cathy for the next year
* Re: Fresh Start Program – Transition Team have decided to move forward with this program.
* Team has also decided that, if an interim minister were to be found during the roll out of the Fresh Start Program, that the team would not quit the program and hire a new minister. It was thought that it would be disruptive and defeat the purpose of the program.
* Team will be meeting on the following Thursday to determine how many of the workshops will be offered to the congregation, the order in which workshops will be presented, and determination of who would benefit from individual workshops
* Facilitators are very flexible with respect to times and dates.
* Bev shared the titles of four core modules which are required, ten modules which are recommended, and eight optional modules.
* Bev referred to the Bruce Presbytery Learning Day, being held April 14 at Port Elgin United Church. Cost is $25. Per church. Two of the modules from the Fresh Start program are being presented at this event.
* Bev described some of the programs being offered, explaining that the Team would be reviewing the programs to see which may best fit St. Pauls
* Transition Team intends to use the Minute for St. Pauls to present some of the information to the congregation.
* Request that PowerPoint may be used as the Team presents – Bev will contact Laurel for the PowerPoint
* Discussion regarding how to ensure the congregation be encouraged to take part in workshops
* When full descriptions of programs are received, Transition Team intends to email/or telephone congregation members to ensure they are involved
* Margaret Elliott-Niesen remarked that not all of the programs should be sent out initially, so as not to overwhelm members of the congregation with too many choices – perhaps only the required four options.
* Transition Team emphasised the message that St. Pauls is not going anywhere until “we” complete this process.
* Deb Sutherland suggested the congregation be invited in such a way as to encourage them to work to make this the type of church they want it to be.
* John Inglis ended with a personal thank you to Bev Willick for her organizational skills
* Anita McNeil offered to post anything on the website, upon request by the Transition Team.

­Covenant Renewal:

* Question raised by Deb Sutherland, on behalf of Peggy Munro, regarding covenant of Rev. Cathy, and ensuring we meet deadlines set by Presbytery for its renewal or extension.
* Discussion regarding the role of the Transition Team in renewal of Rev. Cathy’s covenant – the Transition Team makes recommendation to Council. Council makes the decision.
* Rev. Cathy will be given time to ponder – Council advised to maintain awareness of timelines.
* Bev Cameron, through M&P Committee, will undertake discussions with Rev. Cathy Paul.
* It was stated that Council hoped Rev. Cathy was very clear on the wishes of council with respect to the renewal of her covenant with St. Pauls.

1. Treasurer’s Report (*report* *attached)* Gary Munro

* Nothing to add

1. Presbytery – Margaret Elliott-Niesen

* No report

1. Trustee – Randy Willick

* No report

1. Stewardship Leader – Deb Sutherland

* No report

1. Ministry & Personnel – Bev Cameron

* Bev reported that Laurel has made request for vacation from April 9 to 13
* Laurel will also be attending a Church Administrator’s workshop, which she attends annually, from May 14 to 16. Budget for the workshop is covered under her educational allotment.
* Question arose regarding office coverage. Anita responded that Laurel will ask if she needs office coverage. If anything arises, Anita will step in, as required, and as she is available.
* M&P has approved Laurel’s request

1. Faith - *(position is vacant)*

* Chair reported that two individuals have come forward and offered to take the lead on a Pasta Dinner. Tentative date of Wednesday, May 23. Fundraising application will be completed.
* Suggested to be by way of free will offering – hand out tickets just to give an idea of numbers.
* Bev Cameron commented that no social groups have been used in some time – Chair indicated she had made that suggestion to these individuals
* Deb Sutherland indicated that the social groups may be approached to help regarding the Scott Woods concert in June.

1. Pastoral Care

* No report

1. Future Directions – *(committee on hold)*
2. We Care Team

* Bev Cameron noted that a number of people have moved in to Brucelea Haven
* There has not been a meeting yet - Rev. Cathy would now attend

**Moved by:** Deb Sutherland

**Seconded by:** Randy Willick

That all reports be approved as circulated and/or presented

**CARRIED**

8. Other Business

Parlor

* Plans to paint the parlor after Easter are in place
* Help would be needed to clear out the room
* Paint committee will paint walls but the ceiling will present a problem
* Randy offered a portable scaffold and roller extensions

9. Correspondence –

* Rev. Cathy offered information regarding the P.A.R. program
* Package on “Called to be the Church” – Rev. Cathy has the information in her office
* Rev. Cathy shared an email message re a Good Friday concert in Hanover, which she will pass on to Laurel. Grey Bruce Royal Canadian College of Organists – *Harmonies in the Midst of Madness and Miracles* - of note – the pipes are those which used to be at St. Pauls

10. Spiritual sharing for next meeting will be provided by Margaret Elliott-Niesen

Chair moves that meeting be adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Council will meet next on **Monday, April 24, 2018 at 7:00 PM**

Respectfully Submitted:

Anita McNeil

Secretary