Regular Meeting of St. Paul’s United Church Council

303 Jackson Street, Walkerton, Ontario N0G 2V0

24 September 2019

**MINUTES**

In Attendance: **Chair**: Deb Sutherland **Vice Chair**: David Inglis

 Randy Willick (Trustee)

 Gary Munro (Treasurer)

 Shelley Crummer (Stewardship)

 Margaret Elliott-Niesen (Regional Rep)

 Bev Cameron (Ministry & Personnel)

 Anita McNeil (Secretary)

 Nina McTeer (Pastoral Relations)

 Rev. Cathy Paul

 **Guest:** Tim Balazs – IPC Photo Directory

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

2. Spiritual Sharing – Rev. Cathy Paul

* Rev. Cathy shared thoughts on mindfulness and contemplative reflections
* Reading: *“Future”*, about anxiousness about the future
* The importance of accepting who we are

3. Behavioural Covenant – recited by all in attendance.

4. Approval of Agenda

 **Moved by:** Margaret Elliott-Niesen

 **Seconded by:** Randy Willick

 That the Agenda be approved as written.

**CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes of 25 June 2019.

 **Moved by:** David Inglis

 **Seconded by:** Gary Munro

 That the Minutes of Meeting dated 25 June 2019 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

6. Business Arising from Minutes

 6.1 Fundraising Concepts / Capital Costs

* Peter Thor will undertake that this committee will call a meeting this coming Thursday with respect to proposed capital costs

6.1 Website

* M&P may speak to Laurel to see if she is willing/able to maintain the site
* Anita reported that some updates to the site had been done, and over 200 views have been made since
* Bev Cameron asked about the work involved with the new digital sign, and if Laurel will be taking on responsibility for that – discussion will follow.

7. New Business

 7.1 IPC Church Photo Directory presentation by Tim Balazs

* Sample directories distributed as well as brochures
* Presentation made by Tim Balazs
* Discussion amount council proceeded following the departure of Tim Balazs
* Further discussion that St. Paul’s should have a new directory, on our own schedule, and should not tie ourselves to a particular time.

8.0 Reports

 8.1 Minister’s Report – Rev. Cathy Paul

* Cathy acknowledged how she has been overwhelmed by funeral services in the past six weeks, however, she did ask that her name be taken off the digital sign
* Council advised that the name was there for the special occasion of her covenanting service, and would not need to remain that size on the sign.
* Cathy gave out contact information to all members of Council.
* Covenanting service is all well prepared, with seven symbols being presented
* Cathy wishes to have everyone included

8.2 Transition Team – Final Report *(report attached)*

* Chair, Deb Sutherland, asked that this report be forwarded to our liaison
* Gary Munro asked if it could be made available to the entire congregation
* Chair asked that the report be added to our website for everyone to read

8.3 Constitution

* Chair expressed her appreciation to the Transition Team for their recommendations with respect to updating of the constitution.
* Margaret Elliott-Niesen has an upcoming meeting with the Region and will see if we have enough information to update our constitution.

8.4 Regional Report – *(no report)*

8.5 Trustee – *(no report)*

8.6 Treasurer’s Report – Gary Munro

* Gary offered no report, however, did note that we will have an operating surplus this year
* Chair Deb Sutherland noted that two more tables would be purchased for the new meeting room, as noted in previous discussion and approval by Council

8.7 Ministry & Personnel – Bev Cameron

* Bev reported that M&P will be commencing annual staff reviews in November, and will look at current job descriptions
* Recommended that each M&P committee member be contact person for a particular member of staff.

8.8 Worship Committee – *(report attached)*

* Report that Margaret Elliott-Niesen will retire as choir director
* M&P will begin seeking her replacement
* Randy noted that some funerals held recently had little to no “singers” in attendance, and questioned the potential for the choir to make a recording of some hymns.

8.9 Pastoral Care – Nina McTeer

* Social committees – may reduce the number of committees. Nina will try to set up a meeting to discuss.
* Issue of inability to reach certain members, due to use of cellphones and no listings provided
* Food Service for Meeting Room – discussion regarding use of social group to provide meals.
* Volunteer base is limited. Difficulty in supplying vegetarian/vegan/gluten free choices.
* Chair suggested bringing up the possibility of food service at upcoming committee meetings of social groups
* Results of that meeting to be sent to Anita

8.10 Executive Report

* Receipt for donation made by St. Paul’s to the Oestreicher girls
* Request from Susan Smith for information on donations to survivors of Hurricane Dorian. Plea for funds.
* Margaret Elliott-Niesen reported that the United Church of Canada is facilitating donations to Hurricane Dorian.
* Susan will be invited to address this outreach from the pulpit on the Sunday following the Covenanting Service.

8.11 Digital Sign

* Holm Signs was very accommodating
* The final invoice for the sign came in lower than expected
* With the savings from the sign, it was decided that LED lights would be installed to illuminate the front of the sign.
* The evergreen beside the church door is to be taken down, as it impedes the sightline for the digital sign.
* Discussion followed regarding having a topper on the sign, saying St. Paul’s
* Rev. Cathy suggested that extra duties for Laurel should be reflected in her salary.
* Discussion will take place during M&P staff reviews.
* Chair indicated that, following discussion about the sign, it was decided that only St. Paul’s events would be shown on the digital sign.

8.12 Meeting Space

* Anita will complete the brochure with the prices
* Rental fees discussed, with the help of Laurel’s experience from Grace United Church in Hanover, and information from Peter Thor
* Possibility that Community Living may be engaged for extra cleaning of the meeting room
* Questions/discussion regarding what the rental fees would cover, ie: cleaning
* Discussion regarding offering occasional paid work to a congregational member to clean the meeting space.
* Discussion regarding the per person cost for food service
* BIA was contacted and list of available meeting spaces and their features provided
* BIA may add the St. Paul’s meeting space to their information
* Fees will be added to the brochure, as agreed
* Discussion on naming this room – no decision at this time.
* Bev Cameron will undertake to place an advertisement in the Herald Times

9.0. Correspondence –

* Rev. Cathy shared a thank you letter from Rotary Music Festival, and asking that they may use the facility again.
* Rev. Cathy shared notice that the Baptist Church will be closing, with a service on October 20th. There are several items to be dispersed.
* Alzheimer’s Society coffee break – invitation to host.

10. General Discussion

* Margaret Elliott-Niesen recommended moving the framed version of the Lord’s Prayer to the opposite end of the hall, between the newly discovered windows. Council was in agreement with the move, and volunteers will take care of it.
* There are a number of items of stained glass in the basement, all for sale to church members first, then offered elsewhere. Market is limited, must price to sell.

11. Spiritual sharing for next meeting will be provided by David Inglis

 Chair moves that meeting be adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

 Council will meet next on **Monday, October 29, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

Respectfully Submitted:

Anita McNeil

Secretary