

## Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – Mar 10, 2021

**In attendance via ZOOM:** Rev. Richard Bowley, Sue King, Sally Allanach, Brion Crossman, Barb McBean, Diane Tonge, Bob Crowley, Stu Baker, Bill Whittaker, Una Wilson, Dan Forret, Chris Young, John Hill.

Bob Crowley opened the meeting at 7:32 PM. Rev. Richard offered a prayer. Bob acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Bill Whittaker moved approval of the agenda. Diane Tonge 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

**Approval of Minutes** – Bill Whittaker moved approval of the minutes from Feb 10, 2021. Diane Tonge 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried

**Treasurer's Report** - Brion presented the February treasurers report. Givings were higher than same month last year. Five more members signed up for PAR. More than \$105,000 per year now coming in on PAR. Brion noted that committee expenses are lower than normal. Other expenses are average. Brion moved acceptance of his report. Stu Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

### **Business arising from the minutes:**

- 1) **Safe Church Committee** – Bill Whittaker reported that at a meeting on Monday night the committee decided that in sanctuary and online services will begin on March 14, while we are in the “yellow” Phase. Pre-registration is required, using the app, with a link included in the announcement in an email from March 9 (<https://signup.com/go/hModQJe>). Bill reviewed the gathering requirements as per public health guidelines. Members in attendance are allowed to sing quietly while wearing their masks. Shaye Lynn has been advised of the increased use of the sanctuary.
- 2) **Tech team update** – Dan Forret reported that a new projector will be installed when all the pieces arrive. He is trying out a camera from Chris Pine of Hi-Tech Security, before committing to purchasing. Still sorting out the bugs in sanctuary sound on Zoom.

**Correspondence:** None

### **New Business:**

- 1) Policies Update

Status – Bob sent an email to council members with the collection of committee policy updates received to date for review. When every policy is received, they will be compiled in an accessible location.

M&P Draft – Bob sent it out for comment and discussion. Barb noted the wide range of duties and thanked the committee members for their hard work.

Council and terms of reference - Terms for Council members have not been defined for all committees. He suggested drafting terms for positions and will present the draft to council at the next meeting.

- 2) Organizational Chart changes – Chris noted that the “egg chart” is not on the website. Rev. Richard will add it. He suggested the chart should be expanded to show all committees, not just the Council Committees. This would include the Tech Committee, Safe Church and the Affirm Committee. He will update the chart. Chris noted that we are still looking for a Youth Rep for Council.

### **Committee Reports:**

- 1) *Christian Life & Growth* – Una Wilson reported that either May 1 or May 15 will be the date for a Retreat. Gardening theme. Charge for presenter is \$150.

Erica enthused with the progress of the youth group so far. There are only 4 members. Wondering about funds to purchase online games. Brion commented that there is money for that. Additional

events are being developed to engage youth during worship.

*Worship Committee* – Sally Allanach updated us on pastoral fill ins while Rev. Richard is away.

Apr 25 Linda Watson/ May 16 Basil Lowrey/ June 6 Affirming Committee.

Holy week – 100 palms branches were ordered for Palm Sunday. Maundy Thursday will be a Zoom service, with communion at home. Wendy Stewart will offer the music. The Good Friday service will be in the sanctuary at 10:30n not shared with St. David's this year. A Sunrise Service at 6:45 will be at Meenans Cove or elsewhere. Easter will be confirmation Sunday. Sharon Eldridge is decorating the sanctuary for Easter.

- 2) *Property Maintenance* – Bill Whittaker reported minor maintenance and purchases. Duguay Roofing will quote for roof replacement for part not yet done.
- 3) *UCWs* – no report
- 4) *Social Committee* – no report
- 5) *Outreach* – Barb McBean reported that breakfast program for a local school is finished. Dental supplies donated by Dr. Ron Buckley's dental office were taken to the food bank. Thanks to Hi-Tech for their financial donation. The committee is deciding which groups to support and will announce next week. Sue expressed thanks to Outreach for the wonderful service last week.
- 6) *Pastoral Care* – Sue reported looking for guest speaker for an educational presentation on "unconscious bias". It will be a Zoom program.
- 7) *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – Sally reported that she, Bob, Diane, and Stu participated in regional webinar on conflict resolution. Has an updated M&P handbook. The members met Feb 24 to review and discuss how useful the webinar was for us. Bob commented on the quality of the program.
- 8) *Finance & Trustee* – no report
- 9) *Youth Representative* – no report
- 10) *Affirming Committee* – Sue reported that a revised marriage statement will be ready for the next council meeting. A PIE Day video from the moderator will be shown during the March 14 service. More education related to Affirm will continue before May 23. The committee will propose Pentecost, May 23 as a potential date to vote on becoming an Affirming Congregation. Education will continue even after a vote. Wendy Stewart, Ruth Buckley and Leslie Reid joined the committee.
- 11) *Regional Representative* – Bob reported the AGM will be in June, not May as previously reported.
- 12) *Minister's report* – Rev. Richard commented that it is a busy time with Bible study, Wednesday services, Confirmation classes and Easter. He has responded to pastoral calls and a Pastoral emergency. He suggested we should plan a covenanting service. It would involve a Regional rep, and an outside preacher. He continues to be thrilled with the enthusiasm of the congregation. Chris responded that we are thrilled with how things have gone. Una wondered about process of the confirmation service as far as sharing food to celebrate.

Next online council meeting is Wednesday April 14, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Rev Richard closed the meeting with a prayer.

Bill Whittaker moved adjournment at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Richard Bowley