

Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – May 12, 2021

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

Bob Crowley opened the meeting at 7:33 PM. Rev. Richard offered a prayer. Bob acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Bill Whittaker moved approval of the agenda. Dan Forret 2nd. Carried.

Approval of Minutes – Brion Crossman moved approval of the minutes from April 14, 2021. Bill Whittaker 2nd. Carried.

Treasurer's Report - Brion presented the April treasurer's report. Brion commented on the positive YTD revenue, higher than budgeted. The only unusual expense was a \$750 repair bill for the organ. **Brion moved acceptance of his report. Dan Forret 2nd. Carried.**

Business arising from the minutes:

- 1) **Safe Church Committee** - Bill Whittaker reported that copies of the updated funeral, baptisms and weddings brochure is available. Brion started a discussion about protocol for the mulch sale.
- 2) **Tech team update** - Dan reported ongoing mic improvements.
- 3) **Reality check for Governance** -
Organizational Chart – Updated with the Affirming Committee added.
Council & Terms of Service - Chris presented a revised document with proposed Terms of Office for Council, as follows:
 1. 3-year terms for the Council positions of Co-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Region Representative.
 2. 1-year terms for the Council position of Youth Representative.
 3. Terms can be renewed with the agreement of the individual and Council.
 4. Nominations to fill Council positions will brought to the Congregational AGM for approval.
 5. Terms will be staggered to provide continuity (eg. we would not plan to have the Co-Chairs or Region Representatives terms end in the same year)
 6. Transition plans, including 'shadowing' to learn the role/responsibilities, are recommended to help ensure continuity. **Chris moved adoption of the terms, Bill Whittaker 2nd. Carried.**

Correspondence: Bob Crowley read emails received from two Affirm members to council, expressing concern and disappointment that the vote was postponed until the fall. Bob read the response acknowledging the concerns and thanking the committee for their continued work.

New Business:

- 1) **Covenanting Service May 30, 2021** – Sally reported that Worship committee met today to discuss details. Rev. Kate Jones will lead the service. Sue commented on what symbols should be presented to Rev. Richard. Brion suggested mulch. As many as 7 symbols may be presented. Send any ideas to Sue or Sally.

Committee Reports:

- 1) *Christian Life & Growth* – Una Wilson organizing a “take home church box” June 13, also planning a summer kick off party and a celebration of graduation. Al Graham award applications will be forwarded to council who will make a choice at the meeting of June 9, 2021. Antique record player was found during a clean-up of the Godly Play Room. Wondering what to do with it. Only 2 members of Zoom Youth Group participate. Next meeting will probably be the final meeting.

- 2) *Worship Committee* – Sally reported Stephen Alexander’s concern about choir not being live. Jul 18 and Aug 8 services will be pre-recorded to accommodate vacations. Talked about inviting and acknowledging Zoom attendees from outside our congregation
- 3) *Property Maintenance* – Bill reported that Kidzone requested to use the Godly Play Room this summer, starting June 21. Bill purchased and installed locks on the closet door and door to the freezer room. The key is in the office. Una cleaned and stored the contents of the room. Dugay Roofing inspected the roof. The “leaky” valley can be repaired for about \$2,500, the entire roof for about \$25,000. **Bill made a motion to pay for repairing the valley with funds from the building fund, Brion 2nd. Carried.**
- 4) *UCWs* – Sally reported on a ½ day workshop for all Atlantic Canadian UCWs on Apr 19.
- 5) *Social Committee* – no report
- 6) *Outreach* – Barb McBean reported the committee received \$500 from Home Mission council to complete the brown bag lunch and the KV food basket dental hygiene initiatives.
- 7) *Pastoral Care* – Sue reported wonderful feedback from Rev Richard’s home visits.
- 8) *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – no report
- 9) *Finance & Trustee* – no report
- 10) *Youth Representative* – no report
- 11) *Affirming Committee* – Sue reported positive feedback from the Sunday afternoon Zoom call with participants from local churches that have become Affirming. The committee have taken some of their suggestions into consideration and have more fervor to move forward. June 9 service will be led by the committee. Stuart Kearney will be guest speaker. Stu is Chair of PFlag (parents and friends of lesbians and gays) in Saint John and a guidance counsellor and resource person for the Gay Straight Alliance in the Saint John Area.
- 12) *Regional Representative* – no report
- 13) *Minister’s report* – Rev. Richard reported that visits in person, by Zoom and by phone have been well received.

Next online council meeting is Wednesday June 9, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Rev Richard closed the meeting with a prayer.

Bill Whittaker moved adjournment at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Richard Bowley