

## Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – March 9, 2022

**In attendance via ZOOM:** Rev. Richard Bowley, Chris Young, Barb McBean, Stuart Baker, Diane and Ray Tonge, Sally Allanach, Una Wilson, Brion Crossman, Bob Crowley, Ruth Buckley, Bill Whittaker, Sue King, Dan Forret and Marilyn Robertson. Regrets from John Hill.

Bob Crowley opened the meeting at 7:33 PM. Barb McBean offered a devotional. Bob acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

Bill Whittaker moved approval of the agenda. Stu Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

**Approval of Minutes** –Bill Whittaker moved approval of the minutes from Feb 2, 2022. Stu Baker 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - Brion presented the February 2022 treasurer report. . No unusual expenses. It would appear that Brion's verbal report at the Annual Meeting was received by members because total receipts were \$13,822.65 and expenses were 14,065.80, leaving a deficit of \$243.15. Year to date we are in a deficit of \$4,465.13. Brion will give regular financial updates in the church announcements.

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

**Safe Church Committee update-** Bill reported that they met Sunday afternoon and agreed to continue the current protocols until the end of the month at which time they will revisit.

**Reality Check on Governance-** no report

**Regional action on Ecological Issues-**deferred till April 2022

**Correspondence:** Chris Young moved that his daughter Bethany and her fiancé Michael Pohl be granted permission to register their wedding at QUC. The wedding is to take place June 18<sup>th</sup> at Oromocto Lake and Rev Ellen Beiristo will preside. Rev Richard 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

- 1) *Christian Life & Growth* – Three Lenten videos are going to be shown during Lent. Three books “The Message” have been ordered for the 3 confirmants. On Aril 17<sup>th</sup> the youth will present a drama. Hoping that in September Sunday School will resume in person. In meantime it is hoped that by end of April Covid restrictions will allow youth to have a shared work space in sanctuary for in service crafts, puzzles etc. Date has been set for church retreat (male and female) for 14 May. Will probably be virtual.
- 2) *Worship* – Sue reported upcoming special Zoom services - Maundy Thursday Apr 14 at 7pm. The Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services will be in sanctuary at 10 am. Easter Service will be bring your communion. Easter Sunrise service will be at Meenan's Cove Beach at 6:30 am. We will announce requests for donations for memorial flowers again to decorate for Easter. Plants will be given to Outreach and Pastoral Care to deliver to those they are working with. We will also invite members of the congregation to make donations to have the bulletin placed on screen in memory or celebration of a loved one as a fund raiser. This will be on going. Confirmation graduation will take place on Easter Sunday. Much time was spent discussing Stephen Alexander's proposal to return in the fall as Director of Music Ministry. Committee supports the Search Committee in presenting his name to Council this evening, Currently Stephen is the only applicant for the position. He is certainly more than qualified.
- 3) *Property Maintenance* – Bill reported stair damage from plowing. Urban Landscaping will come next week to inspect. He has had two requests to use church facilities. Allison Dawn Music and Voice wish to use

sanctuary for rehearsals and 2 recitals on 25 March 2022. They will make a donation for the use to cover cleaning, heat etc. Then KV Quilters requested to use MacDonald Hall on 21 April and 19 May. Bill will make necessary arrangements with Kids Zone. Bill moved we allow these 2 groups to use the facilities and Ray 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried. Kid Zone has requested that they once again be allowed to use the Godly Play room this coming summer. No issues with this request presented. Bill has checked in with church user groups Brownies and Guides – no longer need the church because leader Marie Wetmore has retired. Valley Girls have no current plans to return and the Kick Boxing group could not be contacted.

- 4) *UCWs* – no report
- 5) *Social Committee* – no report
- 6) *Outreach* – Barb reported that \$1540 has been used to prepare 78 newcomer bags. The QE School weekend food program has cost \$520 since January. QUC has put in an application to the Home Mission Council for financial support of this program.
- 7) *Pastoral Care* – The number of congregants requiring care is diminishing.
- 8) *Ministry & Personnel Committee* – Will meet with Stephen Alexander to review terms of contract.
- 9) *Finance & Trustee* – Brion said that an announcement will go out asking people to confirm that they will volunteer for the mulch sale. We need 8-10 vehicles and 20 people confirmed or there will be no sale.
- 10) *Youth Representative* – no report
- 11) *Affirming Committee* – Sue reported an excellent Zoom session was presented Feb 21, 2022, with Stephanie Fowlow, from Laura Gatien & Associates. This session is available on our website if you missed it. The Inclusive Flag is ready for installation on the front of the church. There is now a flag in the sanctuary as well. Hope to celebrate us becoming an Affirming Church in June and will possibly invite some press. Sue will represent QUC tomorrow at a Regional Seminar on how to become an Affirming Church.
- 12) *Regional Representative* – Still looking for another representative from our congregation. Need to register before 22 April in order to attend Annual Meeting.
- 13) *Minister's report* – Started 2 weeks ago to do at home visits again. Has been many phone calls. Bible Study and Confirmation classes going well.

Next online council meeting is Wednesday April 13, 2022, at 7:30 PM

Sue King closed with a prayer.

Bob declared meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Allanach

Rev. Richard Bowley