

Woodlawn United Church

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Meeting of Woodlawn United Council

April 19, 2017

7:00 pm – Room A

Call to Meeting

Opening Prayer Provided by Cathy Kay.

Welcome and Introductions

Present: Cathy Kay, Ivan Richardson, Dennis Dean, Ralph Sams, Brian Moors, Don Trider, Fred Evans, Jerry Jackson, Phillip Kennedy, Todd Ellis.

Regrets: Helen Dixon, Barry Zwicker, Jim Allen, Nancy Allen, Teri Giannou, Shannon MacLean, Allan Eddy, Susan Cuthbertson, Lachlan Riehl.

Approval of Agenda

Amendment – Add announcements under New Business.

Is there a consensus to approve the April 19, 2017 agenda as amended? Agreed.

Approval of Minutes

Amendment– The wording under “Composition of the JNAC Committee” is incorrect. It should be amended to:

At a previous congregational meeting three names came forward for the JNAC Committee, Diane Avery, Kathy Dean & Faye Gunter. All have agreed to let their names stand. The congregation voted and these three were appointed to the JNAC. Nominations will come from the floor at the next congregational meeting to round out the Committee. The ideal number is between 7-10 members. A cross section of the congregation is encouraged. Council will have authority to add as required.

Is there a consensus to approve the March 15, 2017 minutes as amended? Agreed.

Old Business and Business Arising

Presbytery Fund

Shannon spoke to two people who have experience facilitating visioning exercises that would be interested in working with Woodlawn. However, the funding application is due at the end of May, which will not allow enough time for planning. Council will explore other uses of the fund, including possibly using it to update the sound system. **Action: Diane will resend the funding information to Council for review. Dennis will talk to Ernie about how to apply for the funding.**

Tulloch Family Bequest

Congratulations and thank you to Dennis, Kathy, Mary and Ross on procuring \$50,000 of the bequest to be used toward upgrades to the Heritage Centre. The family would like the funds to be put toward a new washroom on the main floor and a ramp to the side of the kitchen to make the building accessible and for unloading food. The money can be used as matching funds toward additional grants. **Action: Dennis will keep Council updated on the progress of the funding and will bring plans back to Council before moving ahead with renovations.**

JNAC Update

Four additional names have been put forward for the JNAC Committee: Helen Dixon, Shirley McLeod, Carol White and Janet Major. The JNAC was recently approved at Presbytery and the Pastoral Relations Committee will place two representatives with Woodlawn. Rev. Helene Burns has agreed to fill one position and will help find a lay person to fill the second position. Council will work with the representatives to plan a congregational meeting to seek nominations for the remaining members of the committee. **Action: Cathy and Helen will work with Helene to get the second Presbytery Rep in place and give notice for the congregational meeting (two weeks' notice is required).**

Conflict Resolution

M&P have created a process that can be utilized when people need help resolving disagreements. It takes a restorative justice approach to bringing people together in an amiable manner to settle differences. Is there a consensus to approve the process for conflict resolution? Agreed.

Action: M&P will decide the best way to communicate the conflict resolution process to the congregation.

Position Descriptions

The members of M&P worked with Phillip and Shannon to outline a description for the vacant position, which can be used for the one year term appointment. Sabbatical leave will be removed and the description will be adjusted as necessary after negotiations with the candidate. Is there a consensus to approve the position description and for M&P to begin the search for a term minister? Agreed.

New Business

Technology Policy

Peter Woods and Stewart Sampson would like Council approval to create an operation and procedure policy based on questionnaires and feedback from staff. Is there a consensus to allow Peter and Stewart to go ahead with their plan? Agreed.

Scotiabank

When A&M opened an account for designated funds with Scotiabank, the church was offered cashback Visa cards. These could be used for office supply purchases instead of Staples cards and for purchases by the Trustees. However, the cards are susceptible to fraud, which would not be covered by liability insurance. As well, the church does not necessarily have the volume of purchases to warrant their use. Is there a consensus to keep the status quo for church purchases? Agreed.

Announcements

Some members of the congregation are concerned by both the length and possible irreverence of the announcements at the beginning of each service. However, others believe that announcements are necessary to keep the congregation informed and that the gains from announcing events are worth the time. There may be some way to satisfy both sides. **Action: Phillip will talk to the Worship Committee and bring recommendations back to the May Council meeting.**

Hugh Townsend Donation

Hugh Townsend has earned approximately \$3,200 from the sale of his book to date and wants to make an item donation in memorial of his wife Jane. Ideas for donation include:

- Refresh the bulletin boards
- Install a TV in the Narthex for announcements
- Install a screen at the back of the Sanctuary for the choir
- Replace the mirrors behind the choir with screens
- Purchase a library of *More Voices*
- Build an accessibility ramp to the Chancel

Action: Phillip will take the ideas back to Hugh for consideration.

Reports

Building Appraisal

The Trustees are going to get an appraisal of the brick building to confirm that it is properly insured. The last appraisal was in the mid-90's so it does not include the value of the addition and upgrades. The appraisal will have to be reviewed for insurance purposes due to the amount of work completed since the last appraisal.

A&M

Ivan and Joan have received a new computer with two hard drives. The March financials show that general revenue is \$10,000 less than budgeted.

Newcomers

The Stewardship team will be holding a newcomers' reception at the end of April. They are happy to report that two relatively new members, Craig and Karen will be hosting.

Blessings

Blessings are going very well. It is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to others in the community who normally would not attend and let them know what the church and membership is all about.

Next Meeting Date May 17, 2017

Closing Prayer Provided by Cathy Kay.

Adjourn