

Woodlawn United Church

54 Woodlawn Road, Dartmouth, NS B2W 2S1 (902) 434-8302
Email: office@woodlawnunited.ca

Meeting of Woodlawn United Council

March 21, 2018

7:00 pm – Room B

Call to Meeting

Opening Prayer Provided by Cathy Kay.

Present: Cathy Kay, Diane Avery, Shannon MacLean, Rev. Phillip Kennedy, Barry Zwicker, Dennis Dean, Brian Moors, Fred Evans, Ivan Richardson, Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, Ralph Sams, Teri Giannou, Don Hill, Adelia Holloway.

Regrets: Beth Udby, Susan Cuthbertson, Lachlan Riehl, Jim Allen, Nancy Allen, Keith Musselman.

Guest: Paul Whyte.

Approval of Agenda

Amend to add 'Designated Funds' to New business.

Is there a consensus to approve the March 21, 2018 agenda as amended? Agreed.

Approval of Minutes

Is there a consensus to approve the February 21, 2018 minutes? Agreed.

Old Business and Business Arising

Audit Update

The audit was placed on hold for a few weeks because the auditor, Wanda Leese was out of the office. Ms. Leese has since returned and will likely attend the Council meeting in April.

AGM Feedback

There have been 23 requests to adjust PAR donations since the AGM, with a net monthly increase in PAR of \$400.

The A&M and Stewardship Committees are reviewing the current practice of incorporating the AGM into a regular Worship service. They will consider a joint meeting to review the current format and will report back to Council.

Presbytery Funds

The committees were asked to brainstorm their needs, challenges and opportunities that Presbytery funding could support. In addition to the ideas previously submitted by Ralph Sams and Dennis Dean, the staff are preparing a request for funding to hire a publicist and the Communications Team has researched the installation of an audio loop system for people with hearing impairment. **Action: Diane will compile and submit the requests to Henry Ellis and the Church Extension Board by the March 31 deadline.**

Visioning Update

Rev. Ross Bartlett did not meet with Rev. Phillip Kennedy and Jerry Jackson on March 20, as scheduled. Instead, he will meet with the key leaders on April 9 to validate his understanding of the information gathered. He will present the final report at the April 18, 2018 Council meeting.

Presbytery Rep Report

There is concern that the Ministerial staff are not being apprised of changes at Presbytery and they are being asked to make decisions without being given necessary information.

Action: Barry Zwicker and Shannon MacLean will formulate a letter on behalf of WUC Council to send to the Moderator, Jordan Cantwell and the General Council Secretary, Nora Sanders, outlining our concerns about the changes to the structure of the United Church.

The March meeting of Halifax Presbytery was postponed to May. With the changes being made to the structure of the Church it is critical for Presbytery to maintain regular communication and meetings; four months between meetings is not acceptable. Neither Shannon nor Barry received responses to their emails requesting that a meeting be held prior to May.

Action: Cathy Kay will work with Shannon MacLean to formulate an email to be sent to Halifax Presbytery on behalf of Council to request that a meeting be held prior to May.

Spring Workshop

Shirley MacLeod and Ruby Stewart have expressed interest in attending the spring workshop with Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte. **Action: Rev. Whyte will confirm and register them for the workshop.**

New Business

Status of Organ

Based on correspondence between Harold Pothier, a retired fire marshal (who did not physically inspect the organ), and Bob Rushton, there is a concern that the organ may pose a fire hazard. As per Mr. Pothier's suggestion, we will continue to unplug the organ when it is not in use and will ask Randy Boutilier, a Repair Technician for Rodgers Organs to inspect the organ. **Action: Don Hill will contact Mr. Boutilier, accompany him during the inspection and receive the report. Brian Moors and Barry Zwicker will meet with Bob to discuss the issue.**

Circulation of Reports

To avoid delays in sending the agenda and reports prior to the monthly Council meeting the following schedule has been implemented:

- The Secretary will email the preliminary agenda and draft minutes from the previous meeting on the Monday prior to the monthly meeting.
- Committee Chairs will send their reports and requests for additions to the agenda to the Secretary by Tuesday morning.
- The Secretary will email the final agenda and committee reports to Council members on Tuesday evening.

Solar Panel Project

Does Council agree in principle that the Trustees may continue to research the installation of solar panels through the Solar City project offered by the City of Halifax? Agreed.

A&M Report

A&M would like to create a policy to govern the acceptance, recording and usage of designated funds.

Is there a consensus to allow A&M to continue working on a policy for designated funds? Agreed.

First Baptist Church Dartmouth

First Baptist Church may need space for meetings and Worship after their building is sold. **Action: Ralph Sams will send a letter to let them know that we are willing to open our space to them if necessary.**

Next Meeting Date April 18, 2018.

Closing Prayer Provided by Diane Avery.

Adjourn