

Woodlawn United Church

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Meeting of Woodlawn United Council

November 15, 2017

7:00 pm – Room B

Call to Meeting

Opening Prayer Provided by Cathy Kay.

Present: Helen Dixon, Cathy Kay, Ivan Richardson, Nancy Allen, Ralph Sams, Teri Giannou, Jerry Jackson, Rev. Phillip Kennedy, Shannon MacLean, Dennis Dean, Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, Todd Ellis, Brian Moors, Diane Avery.

Regrets: Susan Cuthbertson, Lachlan Riehl, Jim Allen, Barry Zwicker, Fred Evans.

Welcome and Introductions

Helen Dixon announced that she will be stepping down as Council Co-Chair after the AGM in February 2018.

Approval of Agenda

1. Add Audit to Old Business & Business Arising
2. Correct Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte's name in New Business

Is there a consensus to approve the November 15, 2017 agenda as amended? Agreed.

Approval of Minutes

Is there a consensus to approve the October 18, 2017 minutes? Agreed.

Old Business and Business Arising

Audit

On November 28 Helen and Cathy will be meeting with a representative from Meyers Norris Penny (MNP) to discuss the possibility of hiring them for our upcoming audit.

Remit 6

Rev. Phillip Kennedy and Shannon MacLean presented a synopsis of Remit 6 that was created by members of Halifax Presbytery. It included both the pros and cons of voting yes to the Remit.

The question as presented by the 42nd General Council, 2015:

Does the presbytery/pastoral charge agree that there should be one new order of ministry encompassing the present categories of recognized designated lay ministers, diaconal ministers, and ordained ministers, with ordination to the ministry of word, sacrament, education, service and pastoral care as the single rite of entry, and with provision for the continued identity of the diakonia within the ordained ministry?

Vote called by Helen Dixon:

All those in favour of voting YES to Remit 6: 0

All those against voting YES to Remit 6: 13 (unanimous)

Action: Helen will complete the ballot and vote NO to Remit 6. Diane will mail the ballot to the address indicated on November 16, 2017.

Visioning Process & Funding Update

Rev. Bartlett has provided a timeline for the Visioning process as follows:

- November 22 – Meeting with Council and Key Leaders
- January 12 & 13 – Retreat for Council and Key Leaders
- February 2 & 3 – Congregational retreat
- March 20 – Check-in with Key Leaders
- April 18 – Rev. Bartlett will present the final report to Council

Halifax Presbytery's final decision on the request for funding will be available in December.

Credit Card Donations by phone

In progress. The team is working to resolve issues and will update Council at a future date.

JNAC Committee Meetings

JNAC reported that they will not meet with various church committees because most of the same individuals already completed the surveys and would have expressed their own comments and concerns and those of their committees in their individual participation. They believe that the exercise would not offer any other varying results which would impact the decision making of the Committee.

Action: Helen will relay the recommendation from Council that the JNAC meet with A&M to discuss the current financial position prior to rendering a final recommendation.

AST Donation Slips

The AST appeal and envelopes were included in our weekly bulletin. Envelopes were address directly to AST; they confirmed that they have already received donations from our Congregation.

Thank you from Don Trider

Don Trider expressed gratitude for the donation to the community Justice Society. A collection was taken during the meeting to replace the church funds.

Preliminary Report for 2017 & December Budget Meeting

The financial forecast for 2017 was presented (attached).

A&M will hold a meeting to present the rough draft of the 2018 budget during the first week of December (possibly Thursday, December 7). They will invite the Congregation and ask for input.

The final draft of the budget will be presented to Council during the regularly scheduled meeting on January 17, 2018.

New Business

Covenanting Service for Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte

The Covenanting Service will be held on Sunday, November 19. There will be a reception held after the service in Rooms A and B.

Presbytery Funds

Halifax Presbytery is looking to disburse its cash reserves before it ceases. They have shown interest in the possibility of funding outstanding mortgages. **Action: Dennis and Ralph will contact Henry Ellsworth at Halifax Presbytery to discuss the possibility of obtaining funding toward updating the White Church and/or to be applied to our outstanding building loan.**

Next Meeting Date January 17, 2018.

Closing Prayer Provided by Cathy Kay.

Adjourn