

Knox Church Council Meeting

May 16, 2017

Chair: Vivian Mitchell

Secretary: Sharon McIntosh

Present: Rev. Craig Miller, Vivian Mitchell, Roger Bright, Wayne Digby, Alan Moulin, Diane Shepherd, Bernice Nerbas
Deb Gray also attended as a presenter/observer.

Regrets: Irene Bromley, Laura Crookshanks, Marilyn Van Wallegghem, Wayne Clayton, Leanne Sprung

There was not a quorum present. The meeting continued for discussion purposes, however, voting on any items was deferred till the next meeting.

Call to Order. 6:32 pm

Opening Worship: Wayne Digby spoke of butterflies and transformation.

Business Arising from the Minutes/Old Business:

a. Pew Cushions

Laura Crookshanks provided a written report in her absence. The consensus on the cushions was fairly evenly split with half preferring the smaller, thin cushion with the non-slip backing from Bed, Bath & Beyond, and half preferring the bigger and firmer cushion that had been made for Central. Laura has consulted with a company that is in the process of looking for material in order to make some of each. In this way, the material will match but people can have a choice as to which they prefer to use. Once the company gives a quote, Laura will bring it to Council, or if not available by the June meeting, to the Executive.

b. Sunday School Furniture

Roger Bright updated Council on the needs and associated costs. A round table is needed in the babyfold, sanctuary and clubroom. There had previously been some discussion regarding replacing the round table in the clubroom with a rectangular one, however, the Sunday school teacher(s) prefer round. 48-inch round tables are available from Quality Classrooms of Winnipeg for approx. \$270 each, plus shipping. A set of thirteen 14" chairs is available at Cosco for \$350 (including shipping) and a set of six 12" chairs is available at Cosco for \$220. The total price for the above furniture then comes to approx. \$1,500.

Discussion:

Stewardship can run a special campaign to help defer costs of the furniture.

Correspondence:

Apr 9/17 Vivian Mitchell, Knox United Church Council
Subject: Funding Cuts to the ESL programs in Manitoba
Referred to: File

Financial Report: prepared by Irene Bromley, presented by Vivian Mitchell.

Committee Reports:

- 1) *Ministry & Personnel (M&P):* Attached.
- 2) *Property:* verbal report by Roger Bright
 - Just prior to the rummage sale, a fan in the auditorium came unattached. It was taken down and reinstalled the next week.
 - It was discovered late last fall that the issue with water in the basement last year was associated with the water line to the outside tap - water had previously frozen and split the pipe causing water to seep into the basement throughout the summer. The water line has now been fixed.
 - There was a problem with office computer connecting to the internet that required service. This has been fixed.
- 3) *Minister's Report:* verbal report by Craig Miller
 - Craig has just completed 2 weeks study leave which included attending a 5 day course presented by the Canadian Churches Forum and held at Sandy Saulteaux – Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry. This was an intense and meaningful program, attended by a diverse group. Susie McPherson-Derendy was an intercultural mentor for the course.
 - As arranged by Ministry & Personnel, Joe Ball and Susie McPherson-Derendy provided pulpit supply during this time.
 - Craig will be away at end of May as he will be at the conference annual meeting. Orval Henderson will provide pulpit supply that week.
- 4) *Worship:* No report.
 - Diane Shepherd advised the committee has not met but will organize for the fall.
 - Craig Miller advised that while the committee hasn't met, they have been very active in carrying out their tasks and providing resources.
- 5) *Congregational Care and Membership (PC&M):* No Report
- 6) *Vice Chair:*

- 7) *Christian Education*: No report.
- 8) *Presbytery*: Attached.
- 9) *Trustees*: verbal report by Bernice Nerbas
-Knox has been asked by EDGE (resource to UCC congregations) to complete a National Land Inventory survey. This is being done by United Churches all over Canada. The trustees will be looking at it once they are all available.
- 10) *Stewardship*: Attached.
- 11) *Outreach*: Attached.

- (a) Refuge Brandon – verbal report by Deb Gray
 - The committee met and had a speaker from a drop in centre for youth, including teen refugees. The committee were very appreciative of this centre as it is felt it is important for youth refugees to have a place where they can be part of the community.
 - The Family Find Search Committee (sub-committee of Refuge Brandon) has been asked to participate in a community sponsorship for a specific individual as it was recommended as the best way to assist. To do this, Gerald Whetter will need authorization from council to act on behalf of Knox for this sponsorship (see new business). Much of the paperwork has been done, but there are still some requirements: Refuge Brandon needs to provide confirmation of funds. This can be done by asking the Credit Union for a bank confirmation.

Discussion:

- It was suggested we should get a legal opinion as to our part in this sponsorship.
- As part of a community sponsorship, the importance of being transparent was noted.
- With respect to the bank confirmation, we need to know if we are simply saying this money is available as a resource if needed, or if we are saying the money will be spent on the refugee in question.
- It was suggested Refuge Brandon contact Richard Bruce at the Westman Immigration Services for his opinion.

- 12) *Green Team*: verbal report by Wayne Digby
-Wayne Clayton talked to the Cub Scouts and they plan to do a butterfly garden on the southwest side of the church.
- 13) *Affirm Committee*: Attached.
- 14) *Chair*: No report

New Business:

- a. Request to Council to grant authority to Gerald Whetter to act on behalf of Knox with regard to a community refugee sponsorship.
-Presentation by Debra Gray (see Refuge Brandon report above).
-A decision was deferred until next meeting.
- b. Purchase of a Defibrillator
As discussed at the February 5 Annual Congregational Meeting, the congregation had requested Council to look into the purchase of at least one (preferably two) defibrillator(s).
-Roger Bright provided a guide put out by Heart & Stroke Foundation. Cost of a defibrillator can range from \$1,500 to \$3,000, depending on various factors. Anyone purchasing a defibrillator must register it with the Heart & Stroke Foundation.
-It was suggested this could be a project for our new Vice-Chair.
-Vivian Mitchell will also check with her lake association regarding their experience.
- c. June Council Meeting and Potluck Dinner
It was decided Council have their annual potluck dinner in the church auditorium on June 20, 2017, 6:00 p.m. All council/committee members (incoming, present and outgoing) are welcome to attend. The church office will send out an invitation. Following the dinner, council members will hold their regular monthly meeting in the chapel.

At this point, Diane Shepherd made a request that people bringing motions to council have them typed out ahead of time. This will better insure clarity of the motion being made, and accuracy in recording.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 20, 2017
Opening Worship for June: Green Team

Closing prayer was offered by Craig Miller.

Motion to Adjourn: Roger Bright