

Trinity Clifton United Church

Virtual Council Meeting Council Minutes December 7, 2020

Present: Graeme Linkletter, Judy Irwin, Rev Doreen Bird-Daley, Linda Dunning, David White (acting chair), Anne Love, Miriam Lank, Sylvia Gunn, Heather Cameron, Alma Mutch and Philip Floyd (acting secretary)

Regrets: Bruce Fitchett.

1. Acting Chair David called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
2. Agenda approval: Linda Dunning moved and Graham Linkletter seconded to accept the agenda with any items mentioned to be addressed under committee reports. **APPROVED.**
3. Approval of minutes of November 5, 2020: moved by Miriam Lank and seconded by Graeme Linkletter to accept the minutes as presented, with grammar and spelling corrected by Judy Irwin. **APPROVED.**
4. Old Business:
  - a) Opening of the Church for Services to 100 people: Linda reported that we have received approval from the Department of Public Health for two cohorts of 50, for a total of 100 people, to attend a church service.
  - b) Christmas Fair: Linda stated with the Mini Fall Fair and Mini Christmas Fair, we had two extraordinarily successful days with approximately \$15,000.00 raised. Miriam added that the online auction, set up and managed by Melanie Fraser, raised \$1,296.00. She also mentioned that there was a lot of crafts sold for gifts for the White Gift Sunday Service.
  - c) Philip Jenkins is willing to donate two burial plots in The People's Cemetery to Trinity. Phil Floyd stated he reached out to Ken MacDonald and Regional Council to see if, and how, we could accept the burial plots. He has not heard back from either to date but will follow up with both parties.
5. Business arising: None.
6. New Business:
  - a) Rev. Arthur Davies' appointment to Trinity Clifton Pastoral Charge: The Transition Team met with Rev. Arthur and, after their meeting, felt that he will be a good fit for Trinity. It is recommended by the Transition Team to accept Rev. Arthur Davies as our interim minister for a 1-year term, starting on January 1, 2021. Discussion was held. Questions were asked how Rev. Doreen would fit into the transition. Rev. Doreen said she was in agreement with the appointment of Rev. Arthur Davies and looked forward to whatever her future may bring her way. Linda moved and Graham seconded to accept Rev. Arthur Davies as our interim minister for 1 year. **APPROVED.**
  - b) Pastoral Letter to the congregation: A copy of the pastoral letter, which was written by Regional Council, was circulated to Council before the meeting. Linda moved and Alma seconded the motion to send the letter as presented to the congregation announcing Rev. Arthur Davies as our interim minister for a one-year term. **APPROVED.**

- c) World Day of Prayer 2021: A letter from Jeanette Scott was circulated to Council before the meeting indicating that World Day of Prayer 2021 will be on March 5<sup>th</sup>. It is Trinity's turn to host but, due to Covid19, discussion needs to happen to see how it would work. At this point we have no idea what the pandemic may look like in March and what kind of restrictions may be in place. The WICC (The Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada) has recommended that we do not have various people participate in the service as in other years. Instead, the WICC has prepared a video which could be shown in the sanctuary but also be broadcast by the WICC so that those who are not in attendance at Trinity could view it from home or other location. Sylvia mentioned that the speakers that go with the laptop do not work that well if we are looking to show the video in the Sanctuary. There were speakers donated to Trinity and Sylvia will check with Don to see if they work, and if they do not, then we would need to buy new ones. Judy will go back to Jeanette and they will reach out to the other churches to see what they would like to do regarding the service during this time of a pandemic. Since the service is not until March, we have time to prepare as well as see what restrictions may be in place at that time.
- d) Judy Profitt donation: David mentioned that Judy Profitt was willing to donate to Trinity in remembrance of her father Wendell Profitt. She had indicated the amount of approximately \$2,000.00. Discussion was held that if the donation was for something specific, then we could install a plaque indicating the donation.

7. Committee reports:

- a) M&P: Miriam Lank stated that the committee has met but nothing to report.
- b) Property Committee: Graeme mentioned that we had just spent \$3,000.00 on fixing up the manse and then the lessee moved out December 1, 2020 and the manse is now vacant. Graeme says that discussion on a long-term strategy for the manse needs to take place. Graeme reported that, prior to the meeting, he had circulated to the Council a proposal received from Andy Gagnon, our full-time custodian, concerning the use of the Manse. Andy's proposal is to move from a motel in Stratford into the manse for a reasonable rent, close to what he is paying now, of approximately \$700.00 per month. He would provide security by living there and, as well, he would clean and provide his labor for free, to complete work in the manse. Graeme suggested a rent of approximately \$500.00 to \$600.00, and with the work to be done his labor would be worth \$6000.00 over the next 6 months. We would rent the manse to him for 6 months and then monthly after that in case we were able to find a full-time tenant. Graeme moved and Miriam seconded to accept Andy's proposal for the manse. **APPROVED.** Graeme also mentioned that if anyone watched the Facebook service the last couple of weeks, we would have noticed that the audio was 5 to 8 seconds behind the video. Don explained to him that the new computer purchased in April of this year is not compatible and a new one needs to be purchased. Graeme moved and Heather seconded that a new, compatible computer be purchased. **APPROVED.** Discussion was held and someone mentioned that perhaps Judy Profitt would donate the funds for this new computer and speakers if required.
- c) Worship Committee: Linda stated that with the new two-week Covid19 restrictions (termed a Circuit Breaker) limiting us to 10 people in a service, we would only be allowed to have 6

people in the seats with 4 ushers. It was discussed and agreed that we would not have any in person services for the next two weeks. **AGREED.** As far as Christmas Eve we will wait to see if the restrictions will be lifted on December 21<sup>st</sup>, when the current restrictions are to be reviewed. Also, we will be looking at whether we will have one or two Christmas Eve Services.

- d) Finance Committee: David said he circulated the October financials and will send out November's as soon as they are ready. Discussion was held around sending out a financial update and it was agreed we would. David also mentioned he is working on the 2021 budget, and as far as expenses go, he would most likely use the same figures as 2020. Salary will be based on Rev. Arthur's salary and retaining the salary in the budget for the Christian Development part-time person, whom we hope to be able to put in place in 2021.
  - e) Pastoral Care: Anne mentioned that Mark and Sandra Richardson were putting together 72 gift baskets for delivery. They will be abiding by the Department of Public Health and the guidelines for Senior's Homes as to how to deliver these baskets.
  - f) Christian Development Committee: Alma mentioned she purchased a book for the library about a gay man fighting for equality.
  - g) Outreach Committee: committee met and approved grants as per the budget for 2020. Gift cards were delivered in November to Fitzroy Centre, Upper Room Ministry, and the Salvation Army to help with their hampers. The gift cards for the Salvation Army will be delivered with the White Gift gifts. The Turkey dinner usually provided for the Prince Street School will not happen this year due to Covid19. Sylvia said they discussed this with the school, and they came up with a pizza party for the students instead of the turkey dinner. The cost will be much lower than the turkey dinner. It was mentioned that, due to giving extra help this year, the Benevolent fund was down to approximately \$1,300.00. Rev. Doreen says she will mention this in her service, as we would normally hand out Benevolent envelopes at the Communion Service. Sylvia reported that she has spoken to Mary Cowper-Smith in relation to the request about the young refugee who came to PEI in 2019. Trinity donated \$500.00 towards his mother's operation as did all the other churches, so he was able to raise the sufficient funds for the operation. His mother had her operation, it was a success, and she is now home recovering. A good news story for sure. Sylvia also mentioned we received thank you cards from UPEI food bank, Fitzroy Centre as well as the Prince Street School for our support of their breakfast program.
  - h) Stewardship Committee: No report.
  - i) Trustees: No report as they have not meet.
  - j) Nomination Committee: No Report.
  - k) AD-Hoc: No Report.
8. Other Representatives to Council:
- a) UCW: Judy stated there was really nothing beyond the World Day of Prayer. She mentioned that there was no AGM and Luncheon this year, usually held in the beginning of December. She reached out any only a few were interested in meeting, most being fearful of Covid19.
  - b) Clifton: No report.

- c) Men's Club: It was mentioned that the Takeout Turkey Dinner was a success, raising approximately \$4,600.00. Linda reported they delivered the 202 meals curb side by 5:15 PM. Ellen will be doing up tax receipts for the dinner.
- 9. Correspondence: None.
- 10. Other Business:
  - a) NONE.
- 11. Words from the Clergy: Doreen asked how we should thank Ken MacDonald? She said that, during her service on Sunday, she would mention his hard work which contributed greatly to the success of the Takeout Turkey Dinner. She also mentioned that Emily Bryant reached out to her and said the Turkey dinner was great.
- 12. Closing: Meeting as adjourned at 7:56PM

Recording Secretary

Acting Co-Chair Council

Philip Floyd.

David White