



MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, July 22, 2021
Held in the Green Cathedral at 4:00 p.m.

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Members Present: Charles MacDonald (Chair), Mary McFadden (Council Secretary), Virginia Scott (Christian Development), Lynne Desjardine and Lois Gill – Co-chairs (Fellowship & Outreach), Bryan Beattie – (Finance/Treasurer), Rosalind MacDonald (Lay Pastoral Minister/WOW), Steve Northey (Ministry and Personnel), Deb Gill (Property Management), Bob Illman (Trustees/WOW), Ruth Ann Eagleson (Worship/WOW), Wilma Harris (Worship)

Absent: The Rev Dr. Kate Crawford (Minister), Vacant (Accessibility), Janice Sinker (Affirming),

Guest: The Rev. Laurie O’Leary (Supervising Minister)

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER – 4:08 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY (READ BY Charlies)

3. CANDLE LIGHTING

4. OPENING PRAYER – Rev Laurie O’Leary appreciative of being included to our first “in person” meeting since the pandemic began.

- **The meeting broke** at this time and resumed at 4:40 p.m.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **MOTION was made to approve the agenda. Moved, seconded and carried.**

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- **E-mail:** From Alex Petric, Research Assistant at the University of Guelph requesting an interview in regard to Faith-Based Institutions in Rural Canada. The interview was completed on Saturday, July 10. The content was basically what we are up to. It went very well, lasting about an hour and a half.
- **E-mail: From Sarah Levis,** representative from Community Innovation Hub, requesting an interview to tell the HSUC story to the EDGE audience on our journey. Scheduled for Monday, September 13.
- **Letter:** from Peter Challen received on July 8, 2021 (**attached**) in regard to embarking on a formal process that leads to the Pope apologizing for the Roman Catholic part in the Residential School trauma. Along with Peter’s letter, Charles at a later date forwarded an email response from John Scott, Right Relations chair. Also forwarded was a link to the response from our Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott’s statement on Residential School Burial Sites (**attached**). With all this information, Charles asked if Council was ready to approve that Peter’s letter be sent to WOW Regional Council for action. A discussion followed with:

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE (cont'd)

- Rev. Laurie offering advice and suggesting that the Right Relations Working Group meet with a representative/representatives from the local Indigenous community (Kettle and Stoney Point Nations) to get a feel of their thoughts on this letter.
- Charles suggested that we conduct a special Council meeting made up of: the RRWG , representatives from the Kettle and Stoney Point Nations, Peter Challen and Council members to discuss the content of the letter.
- Council agreed by consensus.

7. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION was made to approve the Council meeting minutes of June 24, 2021 as amended. Moved, seconded and carried.**
 - **Corrections:**
 - **On page 83 under Finances, strike out the word Annual in "Special Annual Congregational Meeting".**
 - **On page 83 in COVID-19 UPDATE, last bullet, last line add "Declined at this time".**

8. BUSINESS ARISING – Bob Illman: Security cameras still pending.

9. COVID-19 UP-DATE – Charles MacDonald: Now in Phase 3, which allows up to 25 to meet indoors. Need to follow all protocols – masks and three meters apart for meetings and services. On Sunday, July 25, an outdoor service will be conducted with 25 in attendance which will include the worship leader, approximately seven overseeing technology and the remainder have been invited. A sign-up sheet will be monitored.

10. TEAM REPORTS

- **PROPERTY – Deb Gill:**
 - In the Team Reports, under Actions Pending, a correction was made in the spelling of perennial.
 - Commented how hard volunteers are working on the Community Living Room and how pleased she is with the progress.
 - Grateful for a possible donation of \$2,000 toward the CRL.
 - Parking letters – as the parking situation has grown to be a real concern, these letters will be delivered by Deb to all the tenants in the apartments across the street on Queens Avenue. Towing cars away will be used as a last straw. The parking signs will be updated to reflect the new policy.
 - Indigenous art – will be featured from different artist in the CLR. The wooden sign in the front of the building needs updating. It will be combined with local indigenous art. Plaque from the Historical Society will be placed in CLR Peace Garden.

- **FINANCE – Bryan Beattie: Refer to Operating Summary – (attached)**
 - Contribution 10% down at same time. Due to financial update notice in Shorelines, June was better than May.
 - Grant from Federal Government a blessing.
 - It's been suggested that Sherrie Smith (bookkeeper) leave in the HST when receiving invoices and then submit for rebate at a later date. The funds would then be disbursed to the appropriate accounts.
 - A pie chart update will soon be in Shorelines.
- **LAY PASTORAL MINISTER – Rosalind MacDonald: No further report.**
- **AFFIRMING TEAM – Janice Sinker (absent)**
- **MINISTRY & PERSONNEL: Steve Northey: No further report.**
- **CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT – Virginia Scott: No further report.**
- **FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH – Lynne Desjardine/Lois Gill – Co-Chair: No further report.**
- **WORSHIP REPORT – Ruth Ann Eagleson and Wilma Harris:**
 - Welcome back ceremony for Rev. Kate is in planning stage.
 - Complimented Rosalind and Leslie Bella on the work toward "Worship by phone". An announcement will be in Shorelines with Leslie's photo.
- **SABBATICAL W.G – Charles MacDonald: No further report.**

GRAND BEND PLACE – Bob Illman: Today, Gus Karamountzos (with the Obsidian Group and overseeing the renovation of Chuck's Roadhouse, The Tenderspot and the Colonial Hotel/Gables and the construction of the Brenner House), spoke with Bob. In conversation, he asked if he could have a tour of our church. After going through, he commented to Bob that he'd be very interested in using our facility for certain functions.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- **Charles McDonald** – received an email from an individual asking the cost of the security system and the shade sail for the Green Cathedral. Charles was asked which project he felt had the most priority. Not long after the email conversation, Charles received a phone call from this individual donating \$5,000 to cover the cost of installing the security system!
- **Deb Gill** – is submitting a grant to cover the cost of the shade sail. If successful with the grant, the sail could be installed by next April.

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11. NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

- **Deb Gill** – will forward an email from residents on Deerfield Drive who are organizing a “Christmas in July” food drive on Wednesday, July 28. Goods will be taken to Blessings Community Food Bank. Encouraged Council to support this outreach. A suggestion was given to support Blessings by funds received from the “Park Here” donations
- **Virginia Scott** – asked if Sunday School is possible in the fall. Charles stated that we could be in Phase 4 soon. He explained what the next couple of weeks and leading to September will look like for meetings and worship. At this time, it was undecided whether to start a Sunday School program. If there is one, the 2020 curriculum will be used.
- **Charles McDonald** – shared some really good news! Tourism Sarnia-Lambton are providing a free WiFi hotspot covering a certain area of Main Street and our church will be included in this hot spot.
- **Charles McDonald** - will report back on the date of the Special Council meeting with Peter, RRWG, Indigenous representatives and Council.
- **Virginia Scott** – asked if it would it be possible to have Jeffery George provide a live painting session in Community Living Room. The paintings would be sold with the proceeds going to the wall painting. Council agreed by consensus.
- **Rosalind MacDonald** – spoke on some very interesting facts provided by Helen Desjardine during Thursday’s Chat on the Green. Helen, being our very own historian, spoke on the history of the blue spruce tree in the CLR (according to Helen, this tree has three more years of life), the “Believe” and “Desarata” stones placed in the front gardens.

12. NEXT MEETING: Thursday, August 26 at 4:00 p.m. in the Green Cathedral (weather permitting).

13. MOTION to ADJOURN at 5:57 p.m.

Charles MacDonald,
Chair

Mary McFadden,
Council Secretary