

Online Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – May 11, 2022

In attendance via ZOOM: Rev. Richard Bowley, Bob Crowley, Chris Young, Barb McBean, Sally Allanach, Sue King, Una Wilson, Brion Crossman, Bruce Amey, Bill Whittaker, Dan Forret, Marilyn/Don Robertson.

Regrets from Stu Baker, John Hill, Diane/Ray Tonge

Bob Crowley opened the meeting at 7:32 PM. Rev Richard offered a prayer. Bob acknowledged the statement of unceded territory, followed by a brief discussion about changes to this statement, suggested by our Music Director Stephen Alexander. Consensus was to leave as is at present, as it reflects the use across the United Church.

Approval of Agenda -Motion- Bill Whittaker, 2nd- Chris Young, passed

Approval of April 13 minutes- Motion -Rev. Richard Bowley, 2nd-Bruce Amey, passed
Financial –

1)Treasurer’s Report- Brion presented the emailed statement , pointing out that Easter giving, fundraiser with envelopes, and memorial bulletin support, along with increased PAR givings, created a surplus of \$1768.95 for April, reducing the year-to-date deficit to \$3523.27. He reflected on this positive move, and he’s hoping that it continues so that we face the summer in better financial circumstances. He is optimistic about the revenue from the Mulch Sale on May 27, as well. Expenses in the summer months are reduced too- no snow removal, lower heating costs. **Motion** to accept-Brion Crossman, 2nd-Bill Whittaker, passed

2)Finance Letter to Congregation – draft circulated by email, drawn up by Rev. Richard Bowley, John Hill, Una Wilson, Chris Young. Revisions were made, reflecting the current month’s financial status. Brion Crossman suggested including a “thank you” to those who have increased their givings lately. Sally Allanach pointed out that some do give, just not through PAR. Rev. Richard will investigate feasibility of attaching a PAR form to the letter, or suggesting congregants contact Brion for PAR set-up. Barb McBean was appreciative of the inclusion for those who can’t give a lot, but who invest time and talent. We offered thanks to the sub- committee for the drawing up of this letter. The letter will be sent out by mail/email before June.

Business Arising from the Minutes-

1) Safe Church- Bill Whittaker spoke of upcoming meeting May 16 to review changes in protocol, in line with broader guidelines. Rev. Richard asked for Council members’ opinion regarding method of delivery for Communion. After discussion, Rev. Richard suggested a modified delivery by intinction, whereby congregants would line up to go to 2 servers at the front. They would be given a small cup from one server, a piece of bread by the other. Then they would return top their seats for consumption of the elements. Alternatives would be offered to those who required elements to be brought to them, or for those who wish to bring their own. We also discussed doors/entryways being multi directional for foot traffic- to be reviewed at Safe Church as well, May 16.

2) Reality Check for Governance- no volunteer has come forward for a second Regional Rep.

3)Regional Action on Ecological Justice- deferred until Fall 2022

Correspondence- none

New Business- Acknowledgement of Territory- brought up earlier when the acknowledgement was read.

Committee Reports-

1) Christian Life and Growth- Una Wilson reported there are 18 registered for May 14, 10-12 Zoom Spring Retreat entitled *Open Your Eyes & Mind through Visual Thinking, Art, & Music*. June 19 will be a summer kick-off with service for youth and graduates. Riley Winchester has applied for the Al Graham Memorial Scholarship. Hopefully the Canadian Safe Church guidelines will have loosened by then.

2)Worship Committee Sue King reported they discussed delivery methods of Communion, will consider modified intinction as mentioned earlier, awaiting input from Safe Church after next meeting. Easter services were reviewed.

May 22 for Rev. Richard's Study Leave, Layton Peck will be with us.

June 5- Communion/Pentecost/Pride Sunday, so the Pride flag will be at the Communion table.

June 12- Tracy Friars will participate and will present our Affirming Church certificate, as a representative of the last Church to fulfill that status.

Summer-Committee is working on a combined Saint David's/Hampton/QUC service in July. We'll be closed last week July, and first 2 weeks of August. There will be recorded music for last 2 weeks August with Tech Team and choir collaborating on that. There was good feedback on the reappearance of the M & S videos within the service, and they will continue on a monthly basis. There was also positive feedback on the sung "Lord's Prayer" at the end of the service although some would prefer the other choral version.

Rev. Richard spoke to the importance of valuing the hybrid services of both zoom and sanctuary and supporting people in their own choices in how they attend worship.

3)Property Maintenance- Bill Whittaker reported. Ray Tonge installed a railing on the side of the Baptismal font, for easy access to the mic on that side during announcements.

KV Quilters met in the sanctuary for their monthly meeting April 21 and gave us donation. They will meet again May 18. Outdoor cleanup went well thanks to Chris McIntyre, Bob Sherrard, Brion Crossman, Bruce Amey, Ray Tonge, and Carolyn and Hally Kimball. Bill also extended thanks to Marilyn Robertson for supplying sandwiches and bottled water, and Carolyn Kimball for muffins. May 2 the grand piano was tuned by Jamie Galbraith, a former student of Bill's! Bill resolved an emergency light problem. The Woodwinds have requested restart of the practices 10-12 on May 16. May 16, KVUCS is requesting use of sanctuary for their meeting.

Motion- Bill moved, 2nd Sally approval of 2 upcoming recitals- Cindy Dutton for June 3 or 10, plus Nancy Long, June 19, Fathers' Day. Motion passed.

4) Outreach- Barb McBean reported we have welcomed 112 refugees. The HMC \$1000 grant has been very helpful for the School Weekend Food Program. With a large influx of refugees

expected this year most of whom have been waiting 5-8 years, they are investigating options for maintaining the Welcome Bags at a satisfactory level.

5) Pastoral Care- Sue King reported the members are thrilled to be back to visiting folks in person.

6) Ministry and Personnel- Sally Allanach reported they have met with Leslie, reviewed and updated her contract. Stephen Alexander's contract as Director of Music Ministry has been set for September 2022. Shae Lynn Clarke's contract has not yet been reviewed with her.

7) Finance- no further report

8) Youth- no report

9) Affirming-Sue King reported and plans for June 12 are progressing well. Leslie will take photos on that day, and they will be posted on the Affirm United FB and website, in honour of our celebration. They hope to get a group photo within COVID guidelines, also. There will be balloons, banners, rainbow flags. Families will be polled for volunteers to make cupcakes with brightly coloured icing. Juice and cupcakes will be served to attendees in COVID fashion. Invitations will be sent to all those who helped us in our journey since Feb. 2018. This includes 5 clergy, and numerous guest speakers. Tracy Friars will offer entertainment, as well as our Jammers.

10) Region- no items to report.

11) Minister's Report-Rev. Richard Bowley reported that since April 4, he has been able to visit those of us in hospital if we specify, on hospital admission, that our religion is United. Rev. Kelly Hudson-Lewis verified to him that he can visit us whether or not he is listed as one of our limited number of visitors eligible during COVID-restricted visitation in the hospitals. He is once again able to do 2-4 visits/week, to shut-ins or those requesting visits. He will be on educational leave next week, except for emergency Pastoral Care. Rev Richard expressed thanks for the puzzle gift that he received from the Ministry and Personnel Committee on Easter Sunday. Now that he's mastered it, he appreciates it even more!

Closing prayer offered by Rev. Richard Bowley, with special thought for John Hill and Joan Tonge.

Bob Crowley adjourned the meeting at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted for John Hill, by Barb McBean