

## Church Council Meeting of Quispamsis United Church – Mar 13, 2024

**In attendance:** Chris Young, Stu Baker, Hally Kimball, Bob Crowley, Bill Whittaker, Bruce Amey, Brion Crossman, John Hill.

**On Zoom:** Sue King, Rev. Ian Manson, Barb McBean, Una Wilson, Marilyn Robertson, Dan Forret, Leslie Reid, Cindy Millican.

Chris Young opened the meeting at 7:35 PM. Rev. Ian offered a reflection on an article from a “congregational consultant” and a prayer. Chris acknowledged the statement of unceded territory.

**Approval of Agenda** – Bob Crowley moved approval of the agenda. Stu Baker 2<sup>nd</sup> Carried.

**Approval of Minutes** – Bill Whittaker moved approval of the minutes from Feb 14, 2024. Brion Crossman 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.

**Treasurer’s Report** - Brion presented the Feb 2024 treasurer’s report. It was an average month; the only unusual expense was for fire alarm inspection. Brion commented on the phone bill. Dan Forret will contact Bell Aliant to negotiate a better rate. The month ended with an \$900 surplus. **Brion Crossman moved acceptance of the treasurer’s report. Bruce Amey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**

### **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

- **Safe Church Committee update** – Bill reported no Covid deaths since last report.
- **Reality Check on Governance** – Sue reported that the Affirming Committee will remain independent of the Worship committee.
- **Where to from here discussion - Faith Profile Committee** – Bob Crowley reported sending the report to Region for approval. Some ideas in the report can be acted on prior to receiving Regional approval. An action plan will be discussed at the next council meeting.

**Correspondence:** None

### **New Business:**

Accessibility – Bill reported on a meeting of the maintenance committee with members of Harmony United Church to ask about their experience with the elevator. It was a very enlightening meeting, learning about the installation cost, requirements, troubles, and the ongoing maintenance involved with an elevator. Bill also relayed that the stair lift *platform* solution requires mounting the system on a load bearing wall. The conventional stair lift requires transferring from a wheelchair to the seat and back to the chair. Bill suggested it is not the ideal solution but may be the easiest and quickest solution. Discussion followed. Ideas about the location of an elevator or lift or, building a vehicle dropping off ramp to the front doors were bandied about. It was suggested that any choice would involve architectural design at an unknown cost. Cindy Millican offered to casually reach out to architect Bob Boyce to get a high-level overview of the kind of work that may be needed.

### **Committee Reports:**

1. Christian Life & Growth – *see attached report.*
2. Worship – *see attached report.*
3. Property Maintenance – *see attached report.* Bill reported that the Knitting Group and the Quakers have expressed interest in painting the “youth room”, in which they meet. Bob Crowley offered to reach out to the Quakers to find their level of interest.
4. Social Committee – *no report.*

5. UCW – *no report.*
6. Outreach – *see attached report.*
7. Pastoral Care – *no report.*
8. Ministry & Personnel Committee – *no report.*
9. Home Mission Council – *see attached report.*
10. Finance & Trustee – *no report.*
11. Youth Representative – *no report.*
12. Affirming Committee – *see attached report.* Sue encouraged attendance at the PIE DAY Celebration at Harmony United Church on March 16
13. Region & Home Mission Council – *see attached report.*
14. Minister's report – Rev Ian reported things are going well. The two study groups are well attended. There have been rich discussions at Worship Committee meetings. He reminded us that the Good Friday service will be held at St. David's. Leslie and Rev Ian will create Facebook posts and continue to update the website. Leslie requested that copy from the congregation, to post on the website, be sent to her.

Rev. Manson closed with a prayer. Diane Tonge moved adjournment at 8:59 PM.

Next council meeting will be in person at the church and on Zoom on Wednesday April 10, 2024, at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Hill

Rev. Ian Manson

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Region** - no report

**Home Mission Council** (Submitted by Bob Crowley)

2023 AGM held yesterday. Grants and scholarships are available for 2024. Some information attached for reference.

**Faith Profile Committee** (Submitted by Bob Crowley)

Faith Profile-report approved by congregation Mar 10/24 and sent to Region for approval on same date. It has been acknowledged as being received by Region and will let me know about timing.

**Christian Life & Growth** (Submitted by Una Wilson)

The March highlights are as follows:

- Kathryn McIntyre has retired from CLG because of health reasons. Rev. Ian will facilitate the next Broadview Banter on February 21 at 10 a.m.
- Planning for the Coed Spring Wellness Retreat on April 27 is going well. Tania Margeson will give a presentation on Anxiety, Karen Young will lead a chair or mat yoga practice, and Jane Barefoot will give a nutrition talk and cooking demo. Sobeys will provide sandwiches and dessert for lunch. Registration fee is \$15.
- On Easter Sunday the children will make Thinking of You Cards on the Activity Table. The cards will be mailed to church family members who are not able to attend services.
- CLG will work with Worship and the Affirm committee to plan the Celebration service at HRAA on June 9.

**Worship Committee** (Submitted by Sue King)

Upcoming services

1. Maundy Thursday in sanctuary at 7 pm to include people who do not have access to the church and want to join on zoom.  
Good Friday 10:30 am at St David's. Choirs combining to sing one song. Shared ministry.  
Easter Sunday 31st March 6:45 am at Meenans Cove. 9:55 Easter Celebration.  
April 28th Community Connections will be Sophia Recovery Centre.
2. There will be some changes to formatting of how the service starts. This will be directed by the slides and allow a more contemplative segue into worship.
3. Worship Committee discussed option of Affirming Committee join this committee. It was determined that the agenda is already full and often long and it would breach into time people didn't have. May also divide focus. The importance of maintaining the affirming process was discussed and agreed upon.

**Property Maintenance Committee** (Submitted by Bill Whittaker)

- a hand railing was installed on the side entrance up ramp going to the Sanctuary
- an LED security light was purchased and installed above the side entrance door
- reattached drainpipe, office side of side entrance
- six LED bulbs were replaced in the Sanctuary, three fluorescent bulbs replace in MacDonald Hall
- a ballast was replaced on a fluorescent light in the Youth Room
- LED Spotlight adjusted to properly shine on the church sign on the front of the building
- more research done on accessibility at side entrance with a Platform Lift and an Incline Platform Lift
- an information meeting was held at Harmony United Church re: their elevator
- on the evening of Feb 28th Kid Zone held a Parent Committee Meeting in MacDonald Hall
- on Sunday afternoon April 21st at 2:30 the Valley Girls are having a concert in our Sanctuary

- on Friday afternoon April 26th at 4:00 pm Dalhousie Medicine NB is having their Annual Memorial Service in our Sanctuary with a reception to follow in MacDonald Hall ( hosted by QUC )
- on Saturday April 27th from 10:00 to 1:30 the Wellness Committee is having a workshop on anxiety in MacDonald Hall

**Outreach Committee** (Submitted by Barb McBean)

Our current project is the clothesline project, and it will span a total of three Sundays, finishing up on March 17.

**Ministry & Personnel Committee**

No Report

**Pastoral Care Committee** - no report

**Affirming Committee** (Submitted by Sue King)

- Preparations for the joint United Church of greater Saint John event this Saturday at Harmony United are underway. Hoping it will help many churches explore the Affirming process.
- Sue King will be stepping down as Chair of the committee at the end of August.
- It was determined when discussed with Worship Committee that the two committees remain separate.