

St. Paul's United Church Orillia
Leadership Team Meeting
December 6, 2023

Attending: Ted Reeve (Minister), Gloria Tozek (Chair), Chris Atkinson (Secretary), Harvey Watt, Craig Maltby, Fred Kallin

Regrets: Mary Johnston., Mary Phelps.

Guest: Jim Harris

Welcome and Opening: Gloria Tozek welcomed everyone and asked "What are we looking forward to at Christmas?" Family, Christmas Eve service, and looking forward to some time to rest.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to adopt agenda as amended was approved by Craig Maltby and seconded by Fred Kallin. Carried.

Minutes from November 2, 2023:

The November 2, 2023 minutes as presented were approved by Harvey Watt and seconded by Craig Maltby.

Fire Safety Plan Information/Action:

Jim Harris reported on the work he has been doing in regards to the Fire Safety Plan Information/Action Package required by the Orillia Fire Department. He rewrote the Fire Safety Plan to update the information for all who use the building. An overview of the plan will be available on the website. More details will be provided to all users with information as to where to locate emergency information. The next step in the process is to present it to the Orillia Fire Dept. for approval and then we can distribute the final copies around the church.

Jim Harris will work with Katrina to create a one page emergency information sheet to be handed out when outside people are looking to rent space in the building. This will be part of the package that Katrina already provides.

Leadership Teams needs to approve in principle the updated St. Paul's Emergency Plan. The Emergency Plan needs to be updated annually.

Motion to approve the Fire Safety Plan Information/Action in principle as presented. Carried.

Financial Report:

The deficit at the end of October was \$68,803. The Deficit appeal has brought in \$17,000+ in the month of November. Money has come in from the Trustees. The Finance Committee is projecting at \$30,000 – \$40,000 deficit at the end of the year. . The deficit does not include the CEBA loan

A motion to accept the report as presented was approved by Harvey Watt. Carried.

United Church of Canada loan to cover CEBA Loan:

Craig Maltby asked that a motion be made to approve that the Trustees obtain a loan from the United Church of Canada for \$40,000 in order to repay the CEBA loan.

A motion was made that the Trustees obtain a loan from the United Church of Canada for \$40,000 to repay our CEBA loan and authorize any 2 or more of the trustees to obtain this loan. Craig Maltby approved this motion and it was seconded by Fred Kallin. Carried.

Budget Process:

Committees have been meeting over the past few weeks and are working on their 2024 budgets. More information will come in by the end of December. Suggested that budgets need to be submitted prior to January 10th in order that discussions and recommendations can be made.

Update and next steps regarding financial options:

Gloria made a presentation to the congregations during worship on November 26, 2023. This was followed with lunch and learn after the service. Comments were varied in regards to her presentation but since there has been little response to presentation.

A: Kindred Works: Mariam Bolby of Kindred works met with Ted Reeve, Craig Maltby and Gloria Tozek. A clarified project description would be - St. Paul's Centre as a nonprofit corporation with the church being a rental of space. Want to talk to the Operations Committee

St. Paul's Centre would become a Nonprofit corporation board under the Regional umbrella.

How much rent can we afford to pay. How would we calculate the amount. Look at rental market. Is what we are charging a reasonable amount?

Sale of church – over \$1 million, \$200,000 given initially and then access to a portion of the dividends.

Pluses: more grants available, community arts would be increased if not a church, rentals may be too low.

Land Trust deal is not looking as positive as previously viewed.

More information needed. Possible meeting with Jody and other churches that have been through this scenario.

B: **City** – culture centre for the city? No official response at this time. Meeting was held but no response.

Need to think of all the components of that are part of St. Paul's. A group needs to be created to have more input to protect each other's health, is a very stressful time. Gloria, Ted, Michael, Eric, Craig agreed to help – Fred offered to help as well. To start meeting in January 2024. This will take at least 6-8 months to work through. Need a good recommendable option that then can be presented to congregation.

C: *Cluster model*: Dianne Matheson suggested that we talk to Kathleen Wolfe (New Hampton). Struggled to sell concept. Where not successful – had to go to a larger centre to make it work. Not cheaper. Some feeling of community - monthly meetings, choirs shared in Sunday services. Required a paid position to manage the technology and

Thunder Bay – Randy Boyd – updated networking -

D: *Shared Ministry*:

This would entail a change of 'call'. This is not a simple solution St. Paul's would need to apply to change the way the ministry is being facilitated at St. Paul's. This is done through the United Church Presbytery

Suggestion: A Part-time minister + lay ministry would help reduce the costs associated with salaries. It was suggested that this could possibly be a temporary solution but Ted Reeve explained that once we changed the 'call' it would be difficult and time consuming to change it back.

Update on Next Next Wave conversations:

There have been 31+ participants attending the sessions. The Ad Hoc Group will be meeting next week to go through responses and determining the focus moving forward. There have been many positive responses. More information will be forthcoming.

AGM Meeting::

Sunday, March 3, 2024 - Mary Phelps will be looking after nominations. Annual report to be available 2 weeks prior to AGM. Joe Cornelius will be advised of the AGM meeting date in order that he can start asking for the various reports from Committees.

Minister's Report:

Worship and Next Next Wave has seen positive responses. Evaluation of the current worship experiment to be discussed next week. The Aassooke event is to be held Saturday, December 9th. Ted Reeve is hoping to have a good turnout. The Wednesday evening potluck's were not well attended and therefore they have been cancelled.

Information Sharing:

Trustees:

Replacement members to the Committee of Trustees must be approved by the congregation during the AGM. Nominations are needed so suggestions are welcome.

The current Trustee Committee will be left as is for the moment but with the hope that in the future other members can be recruited.

United Church Anniversary:

St. Paul's next major anniversary is in 2025. Gloria Tozek will advise Robert Chapman.

Promoting St. Paul's:

Fred Kallin was concerned about the lack of information in regards to St. Paul's as a church. He reported that at least 3/4 of people he has talked to did not realize St. Paul's was still a church and not just St. Paul's Centre.

He suggested that we need a board or screen that promotes St. Paul's as a fully functioning church that it is still holds Sunday services, funerals, weddings, etc. The message needs be get out.

One suggestion: To see if the screen in Atrium could run a slide during various events that St. Paul's has a church service on Sunday. Fred will talk to Rick Brown to see if this is possible.

Second suggestion: The Peter St. Monitor could have one slide which would have the information re: Church service as part of the daily information. Chris Atkinson will talk to Katrina about this. She will also talk to Joe about adding more information on the website, facebook, and other social media platforms.

Adjournment:

Harvey motion to adjourn

Next Meeting:

Jan. 10, 2024 @ 4:30pm in the Parlour

Minutes Approved: _____

Chair, Gloria Tozek _____

Secretary, Chris Atkinson _____