



**First-St. Andrew's United Church
COUNCIL MEETING
June 20, 2023
7:00 pm
Zoom Video Conferencing**

Present: Linda Badke, Barb Dalrymple, Steve Elson, Chris Fischer, Kerry Hill, George Jolink, Laurel Kenney, The Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence, Mary Mattar, Merran Neville, David Wardlaw, Allyson Watson, Jackie Williams, Katherine Wonfor, Laura Wood

Regrets: Paul Cooper, Jo Ann Silcox

Guest: David Manness

The regular meeting of Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by David Wardlaw, Chair. A quorum was present.

1.0 Welcome: David Wardlaw welcomed David Manness and Chris Fischer to the meeting.

2.0 Invocation: Pastor Joshua opened the meeting with prayer.

3.0 Acknowledgement of the traditional territory on which we are meeting -- Pastor Joshua

4.0 Review and Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Agenda of Tuesday, June 20, 2023 be approved.
MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by Linda Badke. MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

6.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023 be approved.
MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by Merran Neville. MOTION CARRIED.

The Minutes of Council meetings can be found on the FSA website under Council.

7.0 Correspondence

No correspondence was brought to the attention of Council.

8.0 Staff Report – Joshua Lawrence

A Pastor's Report was circulated.

9.0 Items for Decision Making by Council

9A Multipoint plan to ameliorate projected operating budget deficits for 2023 and beyond –
David Wardlaw and Council Executive

A revised version of the multipoint plan to address a sustainable operating budget for the FSA community of faith that was adopted in principle at the May 16, 2023 meeting of Council was circulated.

Item 4 which recommends a contribution to the operating budget for administrative and infrastructure support from fundraising events and activities and Item 5 regarding a contribution to the operating budget for administrative and infrastructure support from annual income from trust funds whose income is used for purposes external to FSA or within FSA but does not support operating were removed from the plan after feedback from Council committees.

Item 20 regarding long-term planning models was added to the plan.

MOTION: That the revised multipoint plan be adopted by Council and then be announced and made available to the congregation.

MOVED: By Kerry Hill, seconded by Jackie Williams. MOTION CARRIED.

9B Run FSA For A Day Campaign – David Wardlaw and Council Executive

A proposal outlining a stewardship campaign “Run FSA For A Day” was circulated.

MOTION: That the proposed “Run FSA For A Day” campaign as described in the document circulated to Council and dated June 17, 2023 be adopted and initiated as soon as feasible.

MOVED: By George Jolink, seconded by Merran Neville. MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSSION:

- The cost of operating and maintaining FSA’s physical infrastructure has been calculated to cost \$600 a day. Concern was raised that a donation of \$600 may prove a barrier to participation in the campaign.
- It was suggested that families/groups co-sponsor a day.
- A suggestion was made that different opportunities be made available at different price points so more people may participate (i.e. Run the Church School for a Day, Run the Music Program for a Day, Run Proudfoot Hall for a Day).
- It is considered important that the congregation be aware of the true cost of running FSA, but allowing people to support the program at different monetary levels would increase participation as we build a multi-generational congregation.
- The Run FSA For A Day campaign will be further discussed before launching to the congregation.

9C Needs Assessment Study for Facilities Maintenance and Management, Custodial Services and Technical Support Services – David Wardlaw and Council Executive

A memo was circulated to Council proposing the formation of a small, time-limited and focused task group to assess FSA’s needs in the areas of facility maintenance, custodial services and technical support services.

The former Facilities Manager resigned in June 2023 providing the opportunity to assess FSA’s needs and how best to provide for these needs.

MOTION: That the proposal to form a working group to assess FSA’s needs in the areas of facility maintenance, custodial services and technical support services be accepted and that the study begin as soon as possible.

MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by George Jolink. MOTION CARRIED.

9D Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada

A remit has been sent to regional councils and pastoral charges from The United Church of Canada General Council. Between March 15, 2023 and March 31, 2024 every regional council and each

pastoral charge's governing body will be asked to approve an amendment to the Basis of Union of The Manual establishing an autonomous Indigenous Church structure.

A study guide describing the purpose of the remit was circulated to Council in March 2023.

Pastor Joshua informed Council that the remit originated with the indigenous bodies of the church. The new organization replaces the former All Native Circle Conference.

MOTION: That First-St. Andrew's United Church Council vote in favour of establishing an autonomous Indigenous Church structure.

MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by Jackie Williams. MOTION CARRIED.

Katherine Wonfor, Council Secretary, will record the yes vote on the remit response form and send the form by registered mail to the United Church offices in Toronto.

10.0 Reports and Topics for Discussion by Council

10A Update on activities of the Stewardship Working Group – Steve Elson, David Manness

A memo regarding recent activities of the Stewardship Working Group and information on donating gifts of securities was circulated.

The annual fall Stewardship Campaign will be launched in mid-October. The Campaign will highlight the work of FSA and our partners.

Information regarding donating gifts of securities was mailed to members of the congregation who donated \$3,000 or more in the past year. David Manness reported that donors require time to consider this type of gift and need to discuss the financial implications with their investment advisor and tax accountant. The church office has experience accepting securities donations. The church's investment advisor, Paul Creighton at BMO Nesbitt Burns, has generously waived the fee for selling securities for FSA.

10B Finance Update – Laura Wood

A Finance Report at May 31, 2023 was circulated.

Laura Wood reported that 2023 envelope and PAR givings are 9% behind 2022.

Expenses for the boiler repair were not budgeted for and further expenses are anticipated.

10C Update on the Heating System – George Jolink

George Jolink reported that at the end of April FSA experienced boiler failure regularly which resulted in costly service calls and inconclusive repairs. The issues will continue when the heating season starts in the fall. The Property Committee is committed to researching upgrade options for a new heating (cooling) system. This extensive project will require significant support from Council and the Board of Trustees.

Discussion:

- There is no contingency in the Property budget to cover the required repairs.
- To date 2023 boiler repairs total \$8,000.
- A new HVAC system was identified as a priority in the 2008 Avis Report.
- The cost of a new system is estimated to be \$500,000.
- The facilities managers at Metropolitan United Church and Colborne Street United Church have been helpful in offering their expertise and information about the HVAC solutions used in their churches.
- The Property Committee advises that FSA requires an engineering study on the HVAC system as the first step towards a new system.

10D Naming the Youth Room – Allyson Watson

Faith Formation has proposed naming the Youth Room after Jane Dockrill.

MOTION: To name the Youth Room after Jane Dockrill.

MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by Jackie Williams.

DISCUSSION: The proposed date for dedicating the room is September 24. A plaque will be installed.

MOTION CARRIED.

11.0 Reports and Topics for the Information of Council

11A Report from the Minister of Music – Chris Fischer

A report from the Minister of Music was circulated.

Chris Fischer updated Council on the programs and priorities of the Music program.

- Chris Fischer is working with Chris Lindsay, Children's Program Coordinator, to relaunch FSA's music ministry with children and youth. Opportunities to partner with El Sistema are being explored.
- A priority is to increase the number of intergenerational and interactive elements in Sunday worship.
- Chris Fischer has taken on a leadership role with the Aeolian Pride Chorus which rehearses at FSA.
- The Music program will work on linking major choral concert events with local and global outreach projects. Members of the London musical community will be invited to join FSA in these events.

Chris Fischer was thanked for the energy, creativity and enthusiasm with which they are leading the music program.

11B FSA Priority Scorecard – Steve Elson

A memo "Acting on the defined priorities for FSA – follow up to the FSA Scorecard" was circulated.

It is recommended that all standing committees use the evaluation scorecard to review, consider and define future actions and report on their progress to Steve Elson who will compile a report for Council.

11C Ministry and Personnel Committee – Kerry Hill

Tim Miedema, Facilities Manager, resigned June 7, 2023. George Jolink has the passwords for the computer system. Tim provided documentation that will be given to Kathryn Skelly.

11D Fundraising Component of the Multipoint Plan – David Wardlaw, Kerry Hill

David Wardlaw is recruiting a fundraising committee. Kerry Hill, Janice Elliott and a representative from Music have offered to serve.

The committee would like to plan a fall event.

11E Meetings with Local United Churches – Joshua Lawrence, Steve Elson, David Wardlaw

Meetings have taken place with representatives from FSA, Dundas Street, Metropolitan and Colborne Street to share ideas and explore areas where the congregations can partner.

The conversation will continue over the coming months.

12.0 Other Business

12A Format of Council Meetings 2023-24

While meetings benefit from face-to-face discussion and interaction, there have been benefits in meeting by Zoom especially when weather is a factor.

Council agreed that there will be a mix of in-person and Zoom meetings for up-coming Council meetings.

13.0 Round Table

Council members shared their plans for the summer months.

14.0 Benediction

Steve Elson closed the meeting with prayer.

The June 20, 2023 Meeting of Council was adjourned at 9:18 pm.

David Wardlaw, Chair

Katherine Wonfor, Secretary