



**First-St. Andrew's United Church
COUNCIL MEETING
March 16, 2021
4:00 pm
Zoom Video Conferencing**

Present: Linda Badke, Steve Elson, Kerry Hill, George Jolink, Doug Jones, Erich Knapp, Heather Locking-Cusolito, The Rev. Dr. David McKane, Merran Neville, Jo Ann Silcox, Heather Vouvalidis, David Wardlaw, Jackie Williams, Katherine Wonfor

Regrets: Laurel Kenney, Bruce Moor, Allyson Watson

The regular meeting of Council was called to order at 4:00 pm by Steve Elson, Chair. A quorum was present.

1.0 Invocation: The Rev. Dr. David McKane opened the meeting with prayer.

2.0 Acknowledgement of the land on which we are meeting

3.0 Review and Approval of Agenda

The following addition was requested to the Agenda:
10J UCW

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Agenda of Tuesday, March 16, 2021 be approved with the above addition.

MOVED: By Heather Locking-Cusolito, seconded by Merran Neville. MOTION CARRIED.

4.0 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The United Church of Canada Conflict of Interest Policy was circulated to Council.

No Conflicts of Interest were declared.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2021 be approved.

MOVED: By Jackie Williams, seconded by Jo Ann Silcox. MOTION CARRIED.

6.0 Correspondence

6A Shopping Card Program

A letter was received from David Manness regarding the Shopping Card Program. The Program is in its eighth year and is an important fundraiser for church operations. David asked Council members to be leaders in the use of this Program and to encourage others to participate.

David Manness will be invited to a future Council meeting to discuss the Shopping Card Program.

7.0 Staff Report – David McKane

David McKane reported that the staff are planning services to June. The first Sunday in May is Legacy Sunday and leaves for the Proudfoot Tree will be dedicated along with memorial benches. May has been designated as Proudfoot Month at FSA.

David acknowledged the work of the staff members during this time of transition. During COVID restrictions, please contact the staff by phone before coming to the church.

8.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

8A Congregational Survey – Steve Elson and Heather Locking-Cusolito

A report presenting the results of the Congregational Survey was circulated.

Fifty members completed the survey. The results were mainly positive and Council was recognized as providing positive leadership to FSA. It was suggested that the congregation should be informed about the work of Council on a regular basis. The minutes of Council are posted to the FSA website. It was recommended that the minutes not be posted until approved by Council.

A concern was raised that there are silos in the church that do not always work together and may compete for resources. Council agreed that a discussion of the priorities of Committees and groups would be helpful. It was suggested that members of Council and key volunteers participate in a retreat.

MOTION: To receive the report of the Congregational Survey and post the report to the FSA website.

MOVED: By Jo Ann Silcox, seconded by Heather Locking-Cusolito. MOTION CARRIED.

8B Fundraising Proposal

At the February meeting of Council, a proposal was received from Bob Peel to obtain financial sponsors for virtual services. The proposal has been reviewed by the Finance and Worship Committees.

The Worship Committee suggested that each service begin with a request that viewers may donate on the FSA website.

The Finance Committee has considered sponsorship advertisements at the end of the service. The sponsorship would be in support of the technology.

Council discussed the proposal:

- It was suggested that the FSA website address be shown during services so viewers know where donations can be made.
- Currently a stewardship message is made at the time of the offering.

Bob Peel will be asked for more information on this proposal and at what point during the service the ads would be placed.

9.0 Reports and Topics for Discussion by Council

9A Finance Committee – Kerry Hill

A Finance Committee report and 2021 Income Statement at February 28 were circulated.

The Finance Committee is developing a forecast of cash flow over the year. Financial reports will be adjusted to reflect the pattern of givings and expenses.

FSA has received \$4,000 from the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) for employers who have seen a drop in revenue due to COVID-19.

FSA has received a loan of \$60,000 through the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA). The loan is to be paid by December 31, 2022. There is no interest due on the loan. \$20,000 of the loan is forgivable and this portion will show on the FSA Income Statement under Miscellaneous Income.

10.0 Reports and Topics for the Information of Council

10A Search Committee – Kerry Hill

Kerry Hill reported that the Search Committee is conducting interviews by Zoom. The Committee will discuss second interviews at their next meeting.

Steve Elson asked Kerry to extend the thanks of Council to the members of the Search Committee.

10B Worship Committee – Jo Ann Silcox

Report accepted as circulated.

10C Membership and Nurture Committee – Heather Locking-Cusolito

Report accepted as circulated.

10D Mission and Outreach Committee – Linda Badke

Report accepted as circulated.

10E Music Committee – Merran Neville

Report accepted as circulated.

10F Property Committee – George Jolink

Report accepted as circulated.

The Re-Opening Task Team has recommended that FSA continue with virtual services only until after Easter. Assuming that there is no change in restrictions, currently London is in the Orange zone, in-person worship would resume on April 11.

MOTION: That FSA resume in-person worship services on Sunday, April 11, 2021, if the Middlesex London Health Unit remains in the Orange or lower restriction level.

MOVED: By George Jolink, seconded by Jo Ann Silcox. MOTION CARRIED.

10G Antler River Watershed Region – Linda Badke

Report accepted as circulated.

Steve Elson will request that ARW add FSA Council members to the distribution list for their newsletter.

Kerry Hill and members of the Ministry and Personnel Committee have been taking part in ARW workshops. Kerry encouraged all members of Council to participate in workshops offered by ARW.

10H United Fresh Start – Steve Elson

Steve Elson has taken part in the on-line United Fresh Start Transitions module. The session covered an overview of the program.

10I Executive Committee – Steve Elson

The Executive Committee of Council met on March 2 and will meet on March 17. A paper is being developed with recommendations for establishing, supporting and sustaining positive working relationship among the staff, committees and lay leadership of FSA. The Ministry and Personnel Committee has reviewed the paper.

The paper will be circulated to Council for discussion at the April Council meeting.

10J UCW

Laurel Kenney is making and selling preserves with proceeds to support the work of the UCW. If you have jars to donate, please drop them off at the church.

11.0 Other Business

Council members shared the signs of spring they have observed.

12.0 Adjournment

The Rev. Dr. David McKane closed the meeting with a benediction.

The March 16, 2021 Meeting of Council was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Steve Elson, Chair

Katherine Wonfor, Secretary