



**First-St. Andrew's United Church  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 18, 2022  
7:00 pm  
Zoom Video Conferencing**

**Present:** Linda Badke, Paul Cooper, Janice Elliott, Steve Elson, Kerry Hill, George Jolink, Laurel Kenney, The Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence, Heather Locking-Cusolito, Bruce Moor, Merran Neville, Kathryn Skelly, David Wardlaw, Allyson Watson, Jackie Williams, Katherine Wonfor, Laura Wood

**Regrets:** Jo Ann Silcox

**Guests:** Mike Bancroft, Bob Peel

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

**1.0 Welcome:** Steve Elson welcomed Mike Bancroft and Bob Peel to the meeting. Laura Wood, incoming Chair of Finance, was welcomed.

Gratitude was expressed to Bruce Moor who is stepping down as Chair of Ministry and Personnel. Steve thanked Bruce for his dedication and sensitivity as the Chair of M&P.

**2.0 Invocation:** Pastor Joshua opened the meeting with prayer.

**3.0 Acknowledgement of the traditional territory on which we are meeting**

**4.0 Review and Approval of Agenda**

The following addition was requested to the Agenda:  
12A Ark Aid Fundraiser

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Agenda of Tuesday, January 18, 2022 be approved with the above addition.

MOVED: By Merran Neville, seconded by Jackie Williams. 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 December 21, 2021 be approved.

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

**7.0 Correspondence**

No correspondence was brought forward to Council.

## 8.0 Staff Report – Joshua Lawrence

A Pastor's Report was circulated.

Pastor Joshua has been meeting pastoral care needs by phone and email during COVID-19 restrictions. Joshua will be working with the Pastoral Care Task Group to discuss how pastoral care needs can be met.

In support of the Out of the Cold program, Pastor Joshua continues to work to strengthen relationships with FSA neighbours. Allyson Watson was thanked for coordinating volunteers for Out of the Cold.

Council was advised that the most efficient way to contact Kathryn Skelly is by email.

## 9.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

Item 12D Property Committee Report

Two toilets have been replaced in the Proudfoot Hall restrooms. The other toilets will be replaced if necessary.

## 10.0 New Business

### 10A Livestreaming FSA Sunday Services – Mike Bancroft, Bob Peel

Mike Bancroft and Bob Peel spoke with Council about the potential of livestreaming FSA Sunday services. A discussion has taken place at the Brown Bag Lunch Group and the Group has expressed their support of the initiative, including volunteer and financial help. The estimated cost of the required equipment is in the \$25,000 to \$30,000 range.

Many churches in London are livestreaming their services. Livestreaming gives people unable to physically attend church the opportunity to join services in real time.

#### DISCUSSION:

- Bob Peel has offered his expertise to launch livestreaming at FSA.
- A system where one person operates pre-mounted cameras is recommended.
- Funerals and weddings, as well as Sunday services, could be livestreamed.
- Livestreamed services would be available on YouTube.
- Members of the Brown Bag Lunch Group have made financial pledges toward this initiative.

MOTION: That a task group be formed to develop a plan for the implementation of livestreaming at FSA.

MOVED: By Kerry Hill, seconded by Allyson Watson.

#### DISCUSSION:

- The proposed plan will be brought to a future Council meeting.
- The delivery time for the equipment needed is eight to nine weeks.
- Merran Neville has agreed to chair the task group. Bob Peel, Mike Bancroft, Jim Silcox and Kathryn Skelly have agreed to sit on the task group. A representative from the Property Committee will be asked to join the task group.
- Tim Miedema will act as a resource to the task group.
- It was recommended that Jen Sadler be asked for her input.

MOTION CARRIED.

### **10B Afghan Family Sponsorship Initiative – Linda Badke, Janice Elliott**

MOTION: That First-St. Andrew's United Church Council supports the submission of a grant application to Hope Council, Antler River Watershed Region, to provide funding for the sponsorship of an Afghan family resettling to Canada.

MOVED: By Linda Badke, seconded by Heather Locking-Cusolito.

DISCUSSION:

- The application would request a grant of \$40,000. \$20,000 to be received in 2022 and \$20,000 to be received in 2023.
- The estimated cost to sponsor a family is \$100,000.
- FSA would hold and be accountable for the funds.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: That First-St. Andrew's United Church Council approves the Mission and Outreach Committee approaching outside funding sources for the sponsorship of an Afghan family resettling to Canada.

MOVED: By Kerry Hill, seconded by Allyson Watson. MOTION CARRIED.

Linda Badke reported that the Afghan family has obtained identity cards and will be applying for passports.

### **10C Year-end Financial Statements – Kerry Hill**

Kerry Hill presented the 2021 year-end financial statements to Council.

Envelope, PAR donations and rental income were over budget. Government COVID-19 relief funds were received in 2021.

Ministry and Personnel was below budget in 2021 due to staff vacancies.

A year-end surplus is projected.

### **10D 2022 Proposed Budget – Laura Wood**

Laura Wood presented the 2022 proposed budget to Council.

Revenue:

- Revenue figures were forecast by averaging revenue received from 2019 to 2021.
- Government COVID-19 relief programs are not expected to be available in 2022.
- Bazaar revenue of \$5,000 is budgeted.

Expenses:

- The Music Director is budgeted to start at June 1.
- The Shared Youth/Young Adult Minister is budgeted to start February 1.
- Hiring for a Pastoral Care Minister has been deferred in 2022.
- The Property budget has a contingency line for unexpected repairs.

The 2021 surplus will be retained to reduce the 2022 projected deficit.

Trust Fund income will be drawn on to balance the budget.

MOTION: To accept the 2022 proposed budget and for the budget to be presented to the January 30, 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting for approval by the congregation.

MOVED: By Laura Wood, seconded by George Jolink. MOTION CARRIED.

Laura Wood was thanked for her work developing the 2022 budget.

A meeting of Council Executive will be held to discuss fundraising and sustainable revenue generation. The results of the meeting will be presented to Council for discussion.

## **11.0 Reports and Topics for Discussion by Council**

### **11A Fall Retreat Follow-up – Steve Elson**

#### **i. United Fresh Start**

A memo from Steve Elson and Rev. Laurie O’Leary regarding the United Fresh Start program was circulated.

The first session, “Transition”, will be held Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 10 am to 3 pm. Further sessions will take place in June, September and November.

Sessions are open to all members of FSA and will be advertised in advance.

### **11B Annual Congregational Meeting – Steve Elson**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 30, 2022. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the meeting will be held by Zoom.

A report from the Nominations Committee was circulated. If there are changes to be made to the slate of candidates, please contact Steve Elson.

## **12.0 Reports and Topics for the Information of Council**

### **12A Ark Aid – Out of the Cold**

Joshua Lawrence, George Jolink and Tim Miedema are meeting weekly with Ark Aid staff to address any issues that arise from the Out of the Cold Program.

Allyson Watson has volunteered to coordinate FSA volunteers for the program.

Kerry Hill reported that FSA shopping cards can be purchased and donated to Ark Aid for Out of the Cold. Ark Aid will issue tax receipts to card donors. David Manness was thanked for organizing this initiative.

### **12B Music Committee – Merran Neville**

Report accepted as circulated.

### **12C Property Committee – George Jolink**

Report accepted as circulated.

### **12D Membership and Nurture Committee – Heather Locking-Cusolito**

Report accepted as circulated.

## **13.0 Message from Incoming Chair David Wardlaw**

On behalf of Council and the members of FSA, David Wardlaw expressed gratitude to Steve Elson for Chairing Council for the past two years. FSA has been blessed with Steve’s leadership and many contributions to the life of the church.

#### **14.0 Benediction**

Pastor Joshua closed the meeting with a benediction.

The January 18, 2022 Meeting of Council was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

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Steve Elson, Chair

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Katherine Wonfor, Secretary