



**First-St. Andrew's United Church
COUNCIL MEETING
March 19, 2024
7:00 pm
Zoom Video Conferencing**

Present: Linda Badke, Paul Cooper, Barb Dalrymple, Steve Elson, Glenna Hall, Kerry Hill, The Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence, Merran Neville, Barb Ridgewell, David Wardlaw, Allyson Watson, Katherine Wonfor, Laura Wood

Regrets: George Jolink, Laurel Kenney, Jo Ann Silcox, Jackie Williams

Guest Observer: Kathryn Skelly

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 members of Council to the March 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, March 19, 2024 be approved.
MOVED: By Merran Neville, seconded by Steve Elson. 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 January 16, 2024 be approved.
MOVED: By Barb Dalrymple, seconded by Allyson Watson. MOTION CARRIED.

7.0 Correspondence

A letter of thanks was received from Ark Aid Street Mission for the recent donation of the free-will offering from a congregational lunch.

8.0 Staff Report – Joshua Lawrence

A Pastor's Report was circulated.

9.0 New Items for Decision Making by Council

9A Approval of Participation in Doors Open London 2024 – David Wardlaw

A motion was circulated by email from David Wardlaw, Chair, to members of Council on January 31, 2024.

MOTION: That First-St. Andrew's United Church apply to take part in Doors Open London being held September 21 and 22, 2024, and to participate therein if our application is accepted.

MOVED: By Steve Elson, seconded by George Jolink.

MOTION CARRIED on February 3, 2024.

9B Update on Doors Open – Linda Badke

FSA's application to participate in Doors Open was accepted. Linda Badke has agreed to co-ordinate the event on behalf of Council. This is an opportunity for FSA to share its activities with the public. The Music and Outreach Committees have expressed an interest in taking part in the event.

10.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

10A Management and Development of Information Technology (IT) – David Wardlaw

David Wardlaw reported that a report on the management and development of information technology at FSA has been received from Terry Peters. The report was approved at the meeting of Council Executive in January 2024.

Implementation of the plan has begun under the supervision of Terry Peters and George Jolink, Chair of the Property Committee.

10B Tidings – David Wardlaw

Future issues of Tidings will feature a "Behind the Scenes" column highlighting the work of FSA's committees and groups.

David Wardlaw requested two committees or groups submit columns for each issue of Tidings.

Kerry Hill, Ministry and Personnel, and Glenna Hall, Membership and Nurture, offered to write columns for the next issue of Tidings.

Merran Neville, Music, offered to write a column for the September issue.

11.0 New Items for Decision Making by Council

11A Mission and Outreach Committee – Barb Dalrymple

The Mission and Outreach Committee has requested a name change to the Outreach Committee. This change has been approved by the Committee.

MOTION: That the Mission and Outreach Committee be renamed as the Outreach Committee.

MOVED: By Steve Elson, seconded by Allyson Watson. MOTION CARRIED.

12.0 Reports and Topics for Discussion by Council

12A Update on the Feasibility Study being Undertaken by Kindred Works – Steve Elson

A report was circulated from Steve Elson, Chair of the Planning Committee, regarding Kindred Works.

Kindred Works is finalizing a feasibility study based on the option of developing residential housing on the grounds of FSA. A Zoom meeting with Kindred Works staff to receive their report and findings will be held in early April. Council will be kept informed of developments and next steps.

Kindred Works is working with White Oaks United Church in London and has started making contacts with the City of London.

A project with Kindred Works would require congregational approval.

12B Finance Report – Laura Wood

A finance report at February 29 was circulated.

- Donations are over budget and ahead of February 2023.
- Utility expense is under budget and behind February 2023.
- After trust fund assistance, a deficit of \$11,200 is being reported.

12C 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada – Linda Badke and David Wardlaw

Preliminary discussions have been held regarding how FSA will celebrate The United Church of Canada's 100th Anniversary in 2025.

Council suggested:

- A joint event with other London United Churches.
- A series of articles in Tidings on the history of the United Church.

An ad hoc group will be formed to lead the project.

13.0 Reports and Topics for the Information of Council

13A Afghan Refugee Project – Linda Badke

An update on the Anwari family was circulated to Council. The family has passed their biometrics and medical exams. The family's arrival date in Canada is still unknown.

13B Update on HVAC Project – David Wardlaw

The project to update the HVAC system and replace the existing heating system is on hold as FSA is currently undertaking a feasibility study with Kindred Works that could involve the redevelopment of the building.

The boiler worked without issue during the winter months.

13C Update on the Business Case Study Based on FSA by Jeanette Eberhard – Steve Elson

A case study "Mission Survival: choosing a path forward for First-St. Andrew's United Church" was circulated to Council.

The case study was developed by Jeanette Eberhard for Western University business students. Jeanette Eberhard is presenting the study at a conference to receive feedback from colleagues.

Strategies developed from the study would be of interest to FSA and other churches undergoing change.

13D Special Congregational Meeting – David Wardlaw

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2024 directly following the service. Marilyn Arthur has completed the qualifications to be commissioned as a Diaconal Minister in The United Church of Canada. The purpose of the meeting is for the congregation to vote on extending a provisional call to Marilyn Arthur to the position of a Diaconal Minister in the joint

position of Minister of Youth and Young Adults. Siloam and Metropolitan United Churches will also hold congregational meetings.

Steve Elson, Past Chair of Council, will chair the meeting.

13E Fundraising for the Operating Budget – David Wardlaw

David Wardlaw, Chair of the Fundraising Group, reported that the Fundraising Group is discussing holding a catered dinner with entertainment in September 2024. The event will be held in Proudfoot Hall with the goal of 100 to 120 paying guests.

A suggestion was made that FSA revive the annual Rummage Sale as a congregational event.

14.0 Benediction

Merran Neville closed the meeting with prayer.

The March 19, 2024 Meeting of Council was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

David Wardlaw, Chair

Katherine Wonfor, Secretary