



**First-St. Andrew's United Church
COUNCIL MEETING
September 18, 2018
Proudfoot Hall, 7:00 pm**

Present: Linda Badke, Barb Dalrymple, Michelle Down, Doug Gonder, Terry Head, Kerry Hill, George Jolink, Laurel Kenney, Bill Knowles, Heather Locking-Cusolito, Bruce Moor, Jo Ann Silcox, Bob Swartman, Heather Vouvalidis, Allyson Watson, Katherine Wonfor

Regrets: John Eberhard, Jean Knowles, David Manness, Merran Neville

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

1.0 Invocation: The Rev. Michelle Down shared a reading from "The Book of Joy" by the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Carlton Abrams and opened the meeting with prayer.

2.0 Remarks from the Chair: George Jolink welcomed Council to the September meeting.

3.0 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Agenda of Tuesday, September 18, 2018 be approved.

MOVED: By Linda Badke, seconded by Barb Dalrymple. MOTION CARRIED.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2018 be approved.

MOVED: By Heather Locking-Cusolito, seconded by Kerry Hill. MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 Correspondence

5.1 London Conference

A letter was received from the Rev. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive Secretary of London Conference, thanking FSA for hosting the ordination service on May 26, 2018.

5.2 Camp Kee-Mo-Kee

A letter was received from the ReVitalize Kee-Mo-Kee Capital Campaign Team thanking FSA for the donation to the Camp.

5.3 Canadian Boomerfest

A letter was received from the Planning Committee of Canadian Boomerfest 2018 thanking FSA for its support of the event.

5.4 White Squirrel Golf Tournament

The Mission and Outreach Committee has received thank you notes from the recipients of Golf Tournament proceeds: ELUCO, St. Paul's Social Services, Camp Kee-Mo-Kee.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Ad Hoc Planning Committee

Written report circulated.

6.2 Faith Development – Allyson Watson

Written report circulated.

6.3 Communications and Marketing -- Doug Gonder

No report.

6.4 Finance – Kerry Hill

FSA Financial Statements at August 31, 2018 were circulated.

Heather Vouvaldis will be preparing expense reports for each Committee. Committee chairs are asked to review the reports and then make a projection of expenses for the remainder of 2018 and for 2019.

David Manness, Steve Elson, Michelle Down and Kerry Hill have been investigating Givepoint a donations kiosk. Givepoint kiosks are installed at Riverside United Church and the Grand Theatre. A monthly fee and a percentage of the donations are charged for the kiosks. Givepoint provides a convenient method of generating donations at events as well as being another method to give for regular contributors.

6.5 Membership and Nurture – Heather Locking-Cusolito

Written report circulated.

The Membership and Nurture Committee has reviewed and revised the Committee's Terms of Reference.

MOTION: To adopt the Membership and Nurture Committee's revised terms of reference as distributed. The terms of reference will be brought to the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Congregation for approval.

MOVED: By Heather Locking-Cusolito, seconded by Allyson Watson. MOTION CARRIED.

A Time and Talent survey has been drafted and will be circulated for discussion at the October Council meeting.

Work on a FSA Photo Directory is underway. Please encourage participation in this important FSA project.

6.6 Ministry and Personnel -- Bruce Moor

Barry Tiffin resigned as Atrium Steward in August. Barry's welcoming presence at the Atrium door will be missed.

A participant from the Bridges Out of Poverty program will monitor the door Monday evenings during their meetings.

M&P is discussing Sunday coverage. At present the Atrium door is unlocked from 9 am to the start of the service. The Narthex doors remain unlocked to provide access to the sanctuary during Sunday services.

6.7 Mission and Outreach – Barb Dalrymple

Written report circulated.

The annual Canadian Foodgrains Bank campaign was celebrated with a corn roast on September 9th. In 2018, \$5,770 was raised. The MO Committee expressed their appreciation to the Rev. Michelle Down for incorporating the Foodgrains Bank into the service.

Distributions from the White Squirrel Golf Tournament proceeds have been made:
\$4,200 ELUCO
\$3,500 St. Paul's Social Services
\$3,000 Camp Kee-Mo-Kee
\$1,000 Los Quinchos

The Stewardship Campaign will start in October. The Mission and Outreach Committee requested that a brief explanation of the Mission and Service Fund be included with the fall stewardship letters. MO will draft this statement.

6.8 Music – Terry Head

Written report circulated.

The first concert in the Woodfield Jazz Series will be held on September 28th. Sonja Gustafson has organized four evenings of jazz including vocal and instrumental musicians. Please support these FSA fundraisers.

6.9 Nominations – Bob Swartman

Written report circulated.

6.10 Property – George Jolink

Written report circulated.

Due to a City of London bylaw that prohibits illuminated electronic signage in the Historic West Woodfield Heritage District, the Property Committee is redirecting money raised for an exterior electronic sign to other capital projects.

- Approximately \$3,000 will be used to refurbish the existing exterior sign, including upgrading to LED lighting.
- The Committee is considering using some of the funds for an interior electronic sign in the Atrium entrance.

As part of the new Eco-Meditation Garden project the existing plants around the sign in the side garden will need to be removed. The plants are being offered to members of the congregation for a suggested donation of \$10 per plant.

Eight security cameras have been installed on the north and east sides of the building. The cameras are motion activated. Recordings will be kept for 30 days. The alarm system has

been automated to arm from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am. If the alarm is triggered, Proguard Security Services will respond. Signs will be installed at the entrances to inform people that the building is under video surveillance.

6.11 Trustees

Written report circulated.

7.0 Group Reports

7.1 Presbytery – Linda Badke

Written report circulated.

Canadian Boomerfest 2018 is being held October 17 to 19 at Siloam United Church. Sponsorships are available for FSA members to attend the event.

ELUCO's annual fundraising walk-a-thon will be held on September 30, 2018.

A workshop on Housing for Vulnerable Populations, sponsored by the Middlesex Presbytery Division of Mission and Outreach, will be held on November 3rd at Riverside United Church. Please contact Linda Badke for registration information.

7.2 UCW – Laurel Kenney

On behalf of the UCW, thanks were extended to Joyce Payne and the volunteers who hosted the reception following the ordination service in May.

A bequest to the UCW from Laura Swartman will be used to fund a bench for the church's garden.

The Boutique Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 17, 2018. Contributions and volunteers are welcome.

7.3 Staff – Michelle Down

Michelle is in discussion with other London Conference churches to explore what partnership opportunities are possible.

As part of our Affirming ministry, members of First-St. Andrew's will be attending the Grand Theatre's production of "Prom Queen: The Musical" the story of Marc Hall, a teenager who wanted to bring his boyfriend to the school prom. A celebration of young people standing proudly for themselves, this production features area high school students.

8.0 Other Business

8.1 Vertical Garden – Bob Swartman

Bob Swartman reported on the Vertical Garden that was installed during the summer. While squirrels and watering presented challenges, the garden successfully grew vegetables and herbs. The produce has been offered to the Bridges Out of Poverty program.

Council expressed their thanks to Bob for initiating this project.

8.2 Council and Committee Reports and Minutes

Council discussed how Council and Committee minutes and reports are archived. Printed copies of Council reports and minutes are kept in the church office.

It was suggested that an electronic file sharing system could simplify how reports are stored and make the reports more easily accessible. Doug Gonder offered to explore file sharing systems.

8.3 Financial Projections into the Future

At the June 2018 Council meeting, Trustees reported to Council about concerns regarding financial projections going forward. Two "red lines" were identified:

1. When congregational givings cannot pay for our M&P staff costs;
2. When the principal of the Trust Funds starts to erode away due to the need to support the annual ongoing operations of the church.

George Jolink reported that a group has met, with representatives from Finance and Trustees, to identify strategies to address FSA's financial future. A report will be brought to the October meeting of Council.

Council discussed whether a staff and Council retreat would be beneficial.

8.4 Ministry Students

Two students who are exploring different aspects of ministry will be auditing some of the programs at FSA during the fall. The students are under the supervision of Huron University College and Middlesex Presbytery. Please welcome these students to FSA.

8.5 Faith Development Committee

Allyson Watson submitted her resignation as chair of the Faith Development Committee.

The members of Council were asked to share what brought them joy at FSA. The Rev. Michelle Down closed the meeting with prayer.

The September 2018 Meeting of Council was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

George Jolink, Chair

Katherine Wonfor, Secretary