



**First-St. Andrew's United Church
COUNCIL MEETING
January 19, 2016
Proudfoot Hall, 7:00 pm**

Present: Linda Badke, Paul Cooper, Audrey Coulthard, Michelle Down, John Eberhard, Doug Gonder, Harold Jackson, George Jolink, Laurel Kenney, Jean Knowles, Brenda McManus, Paul Merritt, Bruce Moor, Jo Ann Silcox, Louise Slater, Bob Swartman, Allyson Watson, Jane Westmorland, Katherine Wonfor

Regrets: Tara Gonder, Bill Knowles, David Manness

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

1.0 Invocation: The Rev. Michelle Down led Council in A Covenant of Faithful Leadership.

2.0 Welcome Remarks from the Chair: Jo Ann Silcox welcomed Council members to the January meeting of Council.

3.0 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Agenda of Tuesday, January 19, 2016 be approved.

MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by Doug Gonder. Motion carried.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the Council Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2015 be approved.

MOVED: By Allyson Watson, seconded by Linda Badke. Motion carried.

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Meeting will be held on February 21, 2016. A catered lunch will be offered before the meeting. A free will offering will help to defray costs.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Christian Development – Allyson Watson
Written report circulated.

6.2 Communications and Marketing – Doug Gonder
Written report circulated.

6.3 Finance – Harold Jackson

Financial reports at December 31, 2015 were circulated.

Financial results for 2015 were presented.

- Due to the deficit reduction plan implemented in 2015, which included an additional \$30,000 in support from trust funds investment income, a surplus of \$16,000 is recorded on the balance sheet as an increase in the operating fund.
- Givings are \$20,000 below 2014 levels.

A proposed two model budget forecast for 2016 was presented to Council.

- Committee budgets as submitted to the Finance Committee are used in both models.
- Estimates for 2016 are developed using 2015 actuals in both models.
- The initiatives implemented in the 2015 Eleven Point Plan for deficit reduction remain in place for 2016 in both models.
- Mission and Service Fund commitment is shown at 18% for the “status quo” model and at 10% of givings for the “tithing” model. The “tithing” model will balance the 2016 budget forecast.

MOTION: That Council approve the Two Model Budget Forecast for 2016 for presentation to the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 21, 2016. It is proposed that the two model budget forecast be circulated to the congregation in advance of the meeting and that the congregation vote on the scenario they support by secret ballot.

MOVED: By Harold Jackson, seconded by John Eberhard.

DISCUSSION:

- The formation of an ad hoc committee to explore options for how FSA supports the Mission and Service Fund was approved at the October 2015 meeting of Council. Recommendations from this committee will be presented to the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Congregation.
- Council discussed if 2016 M&S support at a level between 10% and 18% would be possible while still considering the need to balance the budget.
- Support was voiced for presenting a balanced budget to the congregation. Council discussed the importance of the church living within its means.

AMENDED MOTION: That a balanced 2016 Budget Forecast be presented to the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 21, 2016.

MOVED: By Paul Cooper, seconded by Doug Gonder.

Motion carried with opposition.

It was requested that Harold Jackson provide members of Council with an outline of how the 2016 budget was developed so they can share the information with their committees.

An Extra Fundraising Application Form regarding the sale of Freezer Meals in support of the operating budget was circulated.

An Extra Fundraising Application Form regarding the dinner theatre presentation of “Love Letters” to be held on March 11 and 12, 2016 was circulated.

MOTION: To approve the Fundraising Application Forms for the Freezer Meals project and the dinner theatre presentation of “Love Letters”.

MOVED: By Harold Jackson, seconded by Jean Knowles. Motion carried.

MOTION: To obtain a liquor licence and serve alcohol from a cash bar on March 11 and 12, 2016 for the dinner theatre presentation of "Love Letters".
MOVED: By George Jolink, seconded by Jean Knowles. Motion carried.

A CRA policy commentary regarding Gifts of Services was circulated for review.

6.4 Membership and Nurture – Audrey Coulthard

Written report circulated.

New members will be welcomed on January 31st.

6.5 Ministry and Personnel – Bruce Moor

M&P appreciates the submissions received from Committees regarding their vision for a new Director of Music. These submissions will be compiled and used to lead the conversation at the February 7th meeting with the congregation. A Selection Committee for the position of Director of Music will be approved at the Annual Meeting on February 21st.

6.6 MOE – Linda Badke

Written report circulated.

6.7 Music – Paul Cooper

Written report circulated.

6.8 Nominations – George Jolink

A preliminary slate of candidates for 2016 committee membership was circulated. The list will continue to be amended as changes are received.

6.9 Property – George Jolink

Written report circulated.

The Musicians of Orchestra London (#weplayon) are interested in using FSA as a venue for some of their performances. They would require the elimination of the front row of pews in the sanctuary. This extra space would also be of benefit to FSA programs.

MOTION: That the Property Committee be allowed to remove the front row of pews from the east and west sides of the sanctuary.

MOVED: By George Jolink, seconded by Jean Knowles. Motion carried.

The ad hoc Technology Needs Committee, approved at the December meeting of Council, is investigating sound system software, sanctuary lighting, projection capabilities in the sanctuary and meeting spaces, and updating the sign at Queens and Waterloo.

6.10 Stewardship

Harold Jackson circulated a report showing results from the fall stewardship campaign.

- pledge forms returned: 41% (137 of 334 mailed)
- total amount pledged: \$330,000
- forecast revenue for 2016: \$414,000 (includes amount pledged, PAR and envelope giving estimates)

6.11 Trustees – John Eberhard
Written report circulated.

The Board of Trustees have been notified that FSA will receive a \$50,000 bequest from the estate of Ruth Stewart Thompson.

6.12 Worship – Jane Westmorland
Written report circulated.

7.0 Group Reports

7.1 Presbytery – Jean Knowles

Council members were asked to keep our sister and brother congregations in our hearts and prayers as many congregations are struggling.

7.2 UCW – Laurel Kenney

February 10th at 1:30 pm a “Rag Doll Tea Party” will be held to make dolls for the “Bread Not Stones” project. Over 80 dolls are required and all help is appreciated.

7.3 Staff – Michelle Down, Brenda McManus, Paul Merritt

- A reminder: Help to ensure that FSA is a fragrance-free facility by refraining from using perfume and cologne.
- Membership and Nurture will be carrying out a membership update in February. Members will be asked to complete a profile form and have their picture taken at Coffee and Conversation.
- Council was asked to remember Barry Tiffin who is recovering from surgery.

The Rev. Michelle Down closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Jo Ann Silcox, Chair

Katherine Wonfor, Secretary