

**St. Andrew's Council Meeting**  
Lois E. Carey Parlour  
Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

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| <b>Welcome and Opening<br/>(6:34 p.m.)</b> | Doug McCausland opened our first official meeting in the newly named Lois E. Carey Parlour and welcomed everyone. Two members joined the meeting electronically. Since we had some new members of Council in attendance, everyone introduced themselves. Doug offered thanks for Pat Kirton-Bailey's work as Chair for the past two years.   |
| <b>Attendance</b>                          | Elizabeth Brownlee, Kim Delarosbel, Lorie Fairburn, Marg Fleming, Garth Goodhew, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Peter Haddow, Bill Ingwersen, Pat Kirton-Bailey, Donna Landry, Doug McCausland (Chair), Rev. Lillian Roberts (Interim Minister), Kimberly Robinson, Derek Stott, Howard Wurster (15)   |
| <b>Worship</b>                             | <p>Lillian Roberts opened a brief worship by lighting a candle and offering a reading from Luke 24. The theme of the worship was The Walk to Emmaus. Lillian asked members two questions:</p> <p>What conversations does St. Andrew's have along the way?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are talking about who we are missing.</li> <li>• There is talk of support and wishing people well.</li> <li>• We are missing the children.</li> <li>• When is the basement going to be finished?</li> <li>• There have been lots of complements about the church décor.</li> </ul> <p>How might Jesus inform our conversation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are encouraged to spread God's Word</li> <li>• We are encouraged to walk our mission in the world</li> <li>• We are encouraged to have faith and trust as we move forward.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Touchstones</b>                         | Karen Gooch read our Touchstones aloud.  |
| <b>Agenda</b>                              | <p><b>Motion 035/22</b><br/>Pat Kirton-Bailey/ Derek Stott moved that the agenda be accepted as circulated. <span style="float: right;"><b>Carried</b></span></p>  |
| <b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>         | <p><b>Motion 036/22</b><br/>Karen Gooch/ Marg Fleming moved that the minutes from the March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Council meeting be accepted as circulated with one typo correction. <span style="float: right;"><b>Carried</b></span></p>   |
| <b>Correspondence</b>                      | <p>Several pieces of correspondence were read aloud by Karen Gooch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were letters of resignation dated March 24<sup>th</sup> from Beth Ward and Natalie Wilson. Both resigned from Council and the committees they were involved with.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 037/22</b><br/>Pat Kirton-Bailey/ Kimberly Robinson moved that Council accept with thanks and regret the resignation of Beth Ward and Natalie Wilson. <span style="float: right;"><b>Carried</b></span><br/>Elizabeth Brownlee informed Council that a thank you note has been sent to both of them.<br/>The resignation letters led to a conversation about honoring that some people are feeling unsafe. In order to move forward, we need to examine what can we do to</p>   |

make people feel safe. We need to honour decisions that have been made by Council or the congregation in the past (flying the pride flag for example) and look towards how we want to be in the future. We need to offer opportunities for support and education and we need to talk about issues such as privilege and oppression. How do we reach everyone? It is Council's responsibility to show how we are moving forward. Simple things can go a long way. For example, learning the 2SLGBTQ+ acronym correctly can show you are making an effort. Also, we can speak up and challenge negativity and ideas that are hurtful or not true.

- There was a letter dated April 3<sup>rd</sup> from Nadzeya Salonovich asking if we might consider sponsoring a refugee family from Ukraine during this time of war. It was suggested that we contact the other local United Churches to see if there is interest in setting up a joint committee to explore this.

**Motion 038/22**

Pat Kirton-Bailey/ Lorie Fairburn moved that the Chair of Council write a letter to the local United Churches to see if there is any interest in forming a committee to welcome a refugee family from Ukraine. **Carried**

- An email dated April 18<sup>th</sup> was received from Peter Haddow. He suggested that as an Affirming Church we should consider how we use personal pronouns. He pointed out a change that we could make to our Council Handbook and Lillian Roberts informed us that this has already been done. Kim Delarosbel spoke about need to provide education about the use of pronouns and offered to help with this. It was suggested that we include a brief moment of education and awareness about this and other issues related to inclusivity during future worship services.

**Motion 039/22**

Pat Kirton-Bailey/ Peter Haddow moved that St. Andrew's Council invite the Worship Team and the Inclusivity Committee to work together to plan a 'minute for awareness' as part of Sunday Worship periodically. **Carried**

**New Business**

**Council Handbook** A copy of the new Council Handbook was circulated to Council members by email before this meeting. Council members are responsible for knowing what is in the Handbook. Note that his/her in section 7.3 has been changed to their, based on the feedback from Peter Haddow regarding the use of pronouns.

**Meeting Time** A discussion was held about how when our regular Council meetings will be held. It was agreed that we should stay with our tradition of meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month except for July, August and December. It was also decided that we would change the start time to 7:00 p.m. We will need to be conscious that the meetings do not run too long.

**Motion 040/22**

Derek Stott/ Marg Fleming moved that St. Andrew's Council will hold their regular meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (except for July, August and December) and that the meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. **Carried**

**Liaisons** Lillian Roberts outlined the role of the Liaisons. The main purpose of the Liaisons is to provide a two-way communication link between the Council and the committees. The Liaison may meet with the committees, but this is not required. Each Liaison can

decide the best way to share information. There is a need to rebuild some committees and the Liaisons and committee chairs should play a role in inviting and encouraging new people to get involved. It will be helpful to keep an up-to-date list of committee members. Committees should be encouraged to begin meeting again as we move out of the COVID restrictions.

Goals/Priorities **Appendix I**

To help establish some goals and priorities for the next year, Council members were invited to consider what we must do, what we should do and what would be nice to do and then post their ideas under the appropriate heading on the walls. Members were asked to think about the spiritual, the finances, the building and our mission work. Some themes that emerged were communication, rebuilding trust, making St. Andrew's a safe space, ensuring our finances are in order, community building within our congregation and with the other North Bay churches. A list of all the comments is in Appendix I.

Council Installation It was agreed that we will install the new Council during the worship service on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Post June Plans Lillian Roberts updated Council about worship plans for the summer. Lillian's last Sunday with us will be June 12<sup>th</sup>. St. Andrew's will look after worship for the month of July and the Worship Team has pulpit supply guests in place. Currently, arrangements have not been made for pastoral care coverage. Lillian will approach Kathy McCallum and Rick Throne to see if they can help. Trinity will look after the services and Pastoral care for the month of August.

Finances The following items related to the finances were noted.

- There are now requisition books available for each committee chair to use. A requisition must be signed in order for expenses or reimbursements to be paid. Invoices or receipts are required any reimbursements.
- A current financial statement was not available for this meeting, but work is being done to bring everything up-to-date before the next meeting. Lorie Fairburn and Pat Kirton-Bailey have been working with Janet Ross as she familiarizes herself with the bookkeeping software.
- To the end of March, there has been revenue of about \$53,000 which includes offerings, PAR, rentals, a \$5,000 bequest (belfry) and about \$1,800 for Loaves & Fishes.
- In April 2020, a motion was passed to make the signing authorities for St. Andrew's any two of the following: the Council Chair, the Council Vice-Chair, the Church Treasurer, the Council Secretary, the Finance Committee Chair and the Office Administrator (Motion 066/20). It was agreed that having the Vice-Chair included was not necessary, so the following motion was presented for a vote:

**Motion 041/22**

Pat Kirton-Bailey/Lorie Fairburn moved that signing authority be given to the following people: the Council Chair, the Church Treasurer, the Council Secretary, the Finance Committee Chair and the Office Administrator. Any two of these will be required to sign.

**Carried**

Karen Gooch will contact RBC to arrange the change.

**Self Assessment** The Support to the Communities of Faith Commission has put together a self-assessment survey. The United Church now requires that all Communities of Faith complete this annually. Kim Delarosbel agreed to complete this task and Bill Ingwersen offered his assistance. A copy of our annual report must also be sent to the Regional Council. Karen Gooch will do this.

## Other Business

**Inter-Church Committee** A meeting with all of the North Bay United Churches is planned for April 28<sup>th</sup> and we will need a representative to attend. Pat Kirton-Bailey will ask the Chair of the Outreach Committee, Stuart Bailey if he can arrange this.

**Fundraisers**

- Lorie Fairburn spoke about a fundraiser that she is interested in planning a fundraiser called *Cooking with St. Andrew's*. This would involve a cooking demonstration for a number of online participants. Lorie is hoping that she can find a donor who will match any money raised from the small registration fee.
- Doug McCausland stated that we have some of the original 1904 bricks from the belfry and these will be sold to help recoup some of the belfry project costs.

**Flooding Update** Howard Wurster provided a brief update on the flooding restoration work. They have begun to replace the flooring in the gym and the Church School room off the gym. The hope is that the boilers will be installed in a few weeks. There have been discussions with Reliance about the hot water tank rental. A 75-gallon tank will be installed.

**Round Table** Doug McCausland asked everyone to think about 3 positive results from this meeting and invited each member to speak.

- People were glad to be at an in-person meeting.
- There seems to be a determination to make St. Andrew's as a safe space.
- We identified goals and some common themes emerged.
- Some were feeling good about the recent AGM
- There was some good discussion particularly around the use of pronouns.

## Adjournment

Lillian Roberts offered a prayer and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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## Next Council Meeting

Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Lois E. Carey Parlour

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Chairperson, Doug McCausland

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Secretary, Karen Gooch

## Appendix I

### Must Do

- Better communication
- Learn to give people space (safe)
- Check in on our shut-ins
- Appoint St. Andrew's rep to the city-wide United Church committee to discuss the future of the United Church in North Bay
- Start discussions with other United Churches
- Connect with the missing members of the church
- Bring back our diversity
- Bring back kids
- Increase our congregation
- Share our faith
- Get the finances in order
- Establish admin system
- Reach out to members not back at church
- Fundraising – brick campaign
- Increase the 'engagement' and thereby increasing the number of people who call St. Andrew's 'my church'
- Belfry fundraising
- Reach out to more people to be part of worship – schedule of ushers and readers
- In-person social events and fundraisers
- Rebuild an atmosphere of safety and trust
- Become a community
- Raise money
- Discuss joining with another congregation

### Should Do

- Have an outdoor gathering with music, food and friends
- Connect with talk, humour and laughter for all ages
- Reach out to as many people as possible – old members as well as those attending on Sunday
- Promote stewardship – time, talent and treasure offerings
- Stabilize our finances
- Re-instate some community gatherings
- Plan more church community events
- Finance stability
- Bring back kids
- Do bible study, spiritual/religious education
- Be transparent

### Nice to Do

- Develop some new traditions to reflect our 'rebirth'
- Bring a friend to a church service or event (new or old or someone who has not come in a while)
- Apologize to those 2SLGBTQT who feel unsafe
- More family-oriented functions (Messy Church)
- Sponsor a refugee family
- Cooperate with other North Bay United Churches
- Joint church conversation
- Parties, games, tea and coffee with lots of food
- Make a joyful noise
- Finish the year in the black