

St. Andrew's Council Meeting
Held by *Zoom*
Tuesday July 11th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome and Opening (8:10 p.m.)	Doug McCausland welcomed Council members and thanked people for attending this special meeting of Council.
Attendance	Elizabeth Brownlee, Lorie Fairburn, Marg Fleming, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Garth Goodhew, Bill Ingwersen, Pat Kirton-Bailey, Donna Landry, Doug McCausland (Chair), Kathie Smith (Pastoral Charge Supervisor), Derek Stott, Howard Wurster (12)
	Regrets Kim Delarosbel, Kimberly Robinson Nelles
Agenda	This special <i>Zoom</i> meeting of Council was called to discuss the possibility of erecting a fence across the alcove at the front of the church. Two other agenda items were added by a consensus of Council members: an update from the M&P Committee concerning the hiring of a new cleaner and discussion of a proposal to rent the kitchen out to an outreach group associated with the Gathering Place.
Business Arising	
Alcove Fence	<p>A discussion was held about building a fence to control loitering in the alcove at the front of the church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been ongoing issues with people loitering in the alcove at the front of the church. The latest clean-up efforts resulted in a pickup-load full of items for disposable. There was also drug paraphernalia and human waste left behind. Other issues include damage to the windows, the outdoor tap being left running, wiring for the cameras and lights being cut and evidence of fires. • The issue of liability was raised. Will our insurance cover damage or injury as a result of these activities? Garth Goodhew has inquired about this and the answer is unclear, but we should be doing what is reasonable to keep our property safe and discourage loitering. We have been instructed by the police to inform them if people are lingering in the area and have done so. We have installed cameras and lights around the alcove. There are members from the congregation who drive by the front of the church fairly regularly (but not on a schedule). Garth will make further inquiries to see if more he can find out more about what constitutes 'reasonable effort'. • Lorie Fairburn observed that the problems appear to be less than last summer and this may be because more people are around the church since pandemic restrictions have been lifted. • We discussed the possibility of installing a vertical wooden fence with a gate (for access to the alcove if needed) that is the maximum height allowed. Several members had objections to wood on the grounds that is quite possible that people will climb it (and hide behind it), damage it for firewood or cover it with graffiti. Others felt that a wooden fence is not theistically pleasing and is a symbol of unwelcomeness.

- The idea of a wrought iron fence was also discussed and although the cost will likely be higher, Council members generally seemed more receptive to this option as it is less obtrusive and harder to damage.
- There are several funding options that may make the more expensive fence a viable option. It was suggested that Council approach the Memorial Committee about contributing to this project. As well, Derek Stott has received word that the Ontario government is again offering grants to organizations that need money to cover security expenses. We received \$7,500 last year through the *Anti-hate Security and Prevention Grant* which helped pay for lights and cameras and we are eligible to apply again. Derek offered to fill out the application, which has an August 31st deadline. We could receive between \$3,000 and \$7,500 which must be spent before the end of March 2024. Derek also proposed that \$1,000 of any grant money be spent on a camera at the Algonquin entrance.
- It was agreed that we should further explore the costs and funding options and approve the building of a wrought iron fence in principle.

Motion 058/23

Howard Wurster/ Derek Stott moved that St. Andrew's Council approve in principle the installation of a wrought iron fence across the alcove at the front of the church. Funding options and costs will be explored before final approval is given. **Carried**
Pat Kirton-Bailey abstained

Motion 059/23

Lorie Fairburn/ Garth Goodhew moved that St. Andrew's Council approve that Derek Stott will prepare an application for the *Anti-hate Security and Prevention Grant* offered by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism to help fund a security camera for the Algonquin Street entrance and a wrought iron fence. **Carried**

Other Business

Cleaner Donna Landry updated the Council about the efforts to hire a replacement part-time cleaner. The job was posted online and 43 applications were received and reviewed. Interviews were arranged with 3 of them. It was agreed by consensus that Donna will inform Council once the M&P Committee has reached a decision about who will be hired. The job description and pay remain unchanged from what is currently in place.

Kitchen Rental Lorie Fairburn brought a proposal to Council that we consider offering kitchen space to an outreach group associated with the *Gathering Place*. This group prepares frozen meals for distribution by local social workers to people in need. They are losing their current work space in a few weeks. They would be in our kitchen space during the day Monday to Friday and although they have no funding to pay rent, they have up to \$500 a month to pay for hydro costs. Several Council members had questions before they consider offering approval for this:

- How will this affect movie rental income? It may not be an issue in the short-term due to the strikes in Hollywood that are affecting productions. What about other church related activities (i.e. funeral receptions during the week)?
- Do we need to check with the Health Unit?
- Insurance is likely covered by the *Gathering Place*.
- How much storage space do they need? Is there room for their freezers and will this affect the electrical load at the church?

- How many people will be entering the building for pick-up and is the group aware of parking restrictions in the area?
- Why are they considering St. Andrew's?
- Could we offer space for a limited time while they search for a permanent home?
- Lorie will follow up with the group based on the Council feedback.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Next Council Meeting

Wednesday September 20th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Lois E. Carey Parlour

Chairperson, Doug McCausland

Secretary, Karen Gooch