

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH

CHURCH BOARD MINUTES

OCTOBER 15, 2024

1) Present: Rev. YongSeok Baek; Sue Cote; Sue Foss; Linda Hardaker; Rev. Doug Jones; Sandra Macdonald (Chair); Larry McRae; Marianne McRae (Secretary); Bill Utting; Nancy Utting and Marie Vahrmeyer

Absent: Steve Hardaker

2) Opening Prayer: Rev. Baek

3) Acceptance of Agenda: moved by Linda Hardaker and seconded by Bill Utting to accept the agenda for this meeting. Carried

4) Acceptance of Previous Minutes: It was moved by Nancy Utting and seconded by Sue Foss that the minutes of the September 17, 2024 meeting be accepted as printed. Carried

Continuing Items arising from the previous minutes:

4.0 Financial Update to Congregation: Linda will update the Congregation during the coffee hour on October 27th. Things are not looking as bleak as forecasted only because the deficit is not as substantial thanks in large part to an increase of the donation from the UCW to a total of \$9,600 to cover the increased cost of insurance. We are almost \$10,000 ahead of our budget, but still means a deficit of \$29,000. Cash reserves are healthy now, but dwindling each time we must dip into them.

4.1 Boiler Review: Bill reported that this is covered in the Property report. His committee needs to make a plan for applying for grants to help cover the cost of a replacement. Larry reminded us that funds could be available from the Extension Council as a loan with 5 year rates at 4% and when 50% of the principal is repaid, then the other 50% can be converted to a loan against future sale of the property or at 2% if the loan is for the full term.

4.2 The 100th Anniversary of the United Church: a celebration will be held on June 10th. The decision as to when we will observe the anniversary is still to be decided. Discussions should include Lisa Brillon. The other members of the committee are Steve (Chair) and Sandra.

4.3 Email address: Larry asked if our webmaster, Wayne Irwin, had been contacted yet about setting up an email address for the church so that we can receive e-transfer donations. Linda offered to remind Steve to do so. The name suggested is donations@stdavids-queenston.ca

5) Consent Agenda: Linda commented that these reports seem to come in scattered and at different times. She offered to combine them and circulate them as 1 file if they are sent to her prior to meetings.

A motion to accept the Consent agenda was moved by Bill Utting; seconded by Nancy Utting and carried.

6) New Business:

6.0 It was mentioned that the Lions Club community breakfast is to be held on Sunday, October 27th. Steve wondered if we should be blocking off parking spaces for our congregants. It was felt that there has never been a problem in the past, so no action should be taken.

6.1 Trustees have met and, wished to present the following motion: It was moved by Rev. Doug that the price of a single burial plot in the St. Davids-Queenston cemetery be increased to \$1250. This was seconded by Linda and carried. A plot will hold 1 full casket plus 4 urns.

6.2 Rev. Baek requested that users of the CE hall be asked to return the tables and chairs to the original setup so he doesn't have to do it alone on a Friday. Sue Cote noted that Margaret would have trouble washing that floor with furniture in her way.

7) Facility Requests: None

8) Correspondence: A letter was received re: making a Heritage Designation for our church. It was moved by Nancy; seconded by Linda and carried that this will not be pursued.

9) Committee Reports in addition to those in the Consent Agenda:

9.0 Regional Council: Larry reported on a recent meeting held via zoom which took place on the evening of Friday, October 4th and all day on Saturday the 5th. Some items were deferred, then tabled for future discussion re: proposals for General Council. The 1st item was re: enhancing our conciliar church as too much power is now in the hands of non-elected officials. It may turn into a country-wide election. Currently there are no set terms for positions so it is suggested that be 4-year terms with 1 renewal. Electronic elections would be held. The 2nd item was re: senior management accountability. All ministers are responsible to the Office of Vocation. Senior management is now reviewed by the Executive Minister and the General Secretary, neither of whom has been elected, rather appointed. The suggestion is to have an unbiased review team in place. The 3rd item is re: the remit and property integrity policy. The Executive of General Council can use the “proposal process” which could be in direct opposition to the remit. For example: designated lay ministers are offered the chance to take a course, then they are deemed to be ordained. By comparison, Rev. Baek has 8 years of higher education including a Masters degree. The next meeting of Regional Council will be held in late January or early February and the question will be how we choose to vote on the proposals. Rev. Baek will send out these proposals prior to that meeting. Larry concluded his report with information that the Congregation Support Commission is discussing what to do with money from the sale of churches.

9.1 Finance – Marianne – nothing further to Linda’s report

9.2 Worship & Faith Life – Nancy - nothing further

9.3 Christian Education – Sue Foss - nothing further

9.4 UCW – Nancy – nothing further

9.5 Trustees – Rev. Doug – nothing further

9.6 Fundraising – None

10) Last Call for additional items/issues: None

11) Adjournment: Marie moved adjournment, seconded by Sue Foss and Carried

12) Closing prayer: Rev. Baek led us in prayer.

13) Next Meeting: will be held on Tuesday, November 19th at 7 p.m.