

**ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING January 25, 2017**

- 1. Call to order and constitution: 7:00**  
**Present:** Marion Buchan, Betty Curry, Rebecca Godfrey, Jane McDonald, Gary Dunfield, Sylvia Jacquard, Norma Mailman, Jane McDonald, Jean Millett, Chris Seymour, Bill Simpson, Bruce Smith, Sue Smith, Joy Waterbury  
**Regrets:** Thea Burton
- 2. Opening Prayer:** Rev. Ivan Norton
- 3. Approval of agenda: with addition of:**  
Business Arising: Handbook,  
New Business: Remits  
**Moved: Joy Waterbury; Seconded: Betty Curry ACCEPTED**
- 4. Approval of minutes from November 30, 2016 as amended**  
M&P: Should have read that there was a 1.1% increase in all salaries.  
**Moved: Gary Dunfield Seconded: Norma Mailman ACCEPTED**
- 5. Business arising from the Minutes**

  - a. Signage:** During the discussion after the motion it was determined that we change the sign to change the address if/when necessary. Even if we build we will still be here for two years. There is \$665 in the sign fund for this purpose.  
**MOTION: To purchase a two-sided 2'x3' sign with brackets at a cost of \$893 plus tax.**  
**Moved: Norma Mailman; Seconded: Sue Smith ACCEPTED**
  - b. Meeting about the Kitchen:** Details on communications and decision-making were made. The following minor renovations will be done to the kitchen to make it more usable: additional cabinets constructed, all cabinets labeled, new coffee maker purchased, added booklet where people will write down when

things need to be purchased or repaired. As well, an electrician has been engaged to fix some issues.

- c. Council handbook: The penultimate copy of the handbook was distributed to committee chairs with the request that they proof it and send their corrections to Judy. We want to have it ready to vote on at the next Council meeting so it will be ready for the JNAC, and to be distributed at the AGM.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

A thank you note was received from Ivan and Judy for the kindness shown to them at Christmas.

## **7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Communications
- b. Christian Development: The name of the committee was changed from Faith Formation to Christian Development to be in line with United Church terminology.
- c. Congregational Life
- d. Covenanter: The church has been booked by the Wolfville School and for a wedding in July. Sometime in February/March there will be a concert by Acadia Chapel choir focusing on music from the period of the New England Planters.

Unfortunately a squirrel had made a nest in the organ that as a consequence caused the motor to be burned out. The committee has voted to proceed with repairs.

Covenanter does a number of outreach initiatives: 1) the Service of Hope and Healing, which is a service of reconciliation and building relationships among the three founding cultures, 2) keeping the church open for tours and visits, 3) Ecumenical summer services, and 4) encouraging local participation in the church.

They currently have a balance of \$1914.07 of income over expenses (\$921 more income than they budgeted and they spent less than their budget). \$5000 was moved from the Heritage Fund into the Heritage Trust resulting in a total \$34,959. There is \$21,063 in the Enid Kelley Memorial Fund.

They have a balanced budget of \$8500 this year. Almost every year they are under budget in their expenses and over budget in income.

- e. Treasurer's report: We are \$23,320 Income over expenses and \$42,000 better than we thought as there is also no deficit. This will be taken to the auditors. See attached statements.  
Operating budget 2017: An \$11,000 deficit is projected.  
**MOTION: To add \$1799 to the proposed budget as an error was made in church pension calculations bringing the deficit to \$12,799.**  
**Moved: Bill Simpson; Seconded: Gary Dunfield ACCEPTED**
- f. Inter-church Councils:
  - i) Kentville/New Minas: The Christian Unity Service "Breaking Bread" will be held at St. James Anglican Church on Jan. 29 from 4-5:30 p.m. It will be followed by a supper.
  - ii) WAICC: They met last Sunday at four then had supper. Andy Pitter will be unable to attend these meetings for a while, and a substitute will need to be found.
- g. UCM
- h. Ministry & Personnel
- i. Outreach
- j. Pastoral care
- k. Presbytery
- l. Property: We need to add railing to the chancel steps.
- m. Stewardship
- n. UCW: This year's World Day of Prayer service will be held on Mar. 3 at Kings Presbyterian Church. Marion Buchan will decorate the sanctuary this Friday for Sunday's Celtic Service.
- o. Worship
- p. Trustees: The financial report has been sent to the auditor. The Chipman estate money is received at end of each quarter. The money received on Jan. 3 was backdated to December. It was much larger than normal as it is an end of year catch up (the amounts received through the year are based on a forecast with the last amount of the year being the actual amount earned in the year).

**8. MOTION: To approve all committee reports as presented  
Moved: Chris Seymour; Seconded: Rebecca Godfrey**

**ACCEPTED**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Remit: The purpose of the remit is to change structure or polity of the church. At the last General Council eight changes were proposed and three of these were voted on by presbyteries only. Five are to be voted on by Presbytery and congregations. They must be approved by 50% plus one. Congregations that don't vote are counted as votes against. All but one of the remits must be voted on by June 30, 2017. There is one due by next February but we might as well do them all at one time.

a) The first remit is the change the Council model eliminating the Presbytery Level. There would just be a regional governance (Maritime Conference) and General Council.

b) The Transfer and Settlement committees would be eliminated. Ordinands will be available for call and will negotiate their employment with congregations or other ministries.

c) An Office of Vocation would be established at the national level that would set standards for ministers and their education, approve new ministers, and provide support and discipline to ministry personnel.

d) Funding the new model would move from M&S, and instead fees would be levied against each congregation.

e) Not voted on by congregations.

f) The orders of ministry are being consolidated to Ordained, Diaconal and Designated Lay Ministers.

g,h) Also not voted on by congregations.

Hopefully we could discuss and vote on these items in two sessions. The first session would focus on the ministry issues 2/3/6, which would take approximately 1 hour. The rest of the items would take 1.5 to 2 hours. There are videos to watch, and a guide that will assist with the process. The voting is done by Council, on behalf of the congregation. We may invite others to attend, but only Council members vote. The information is available online. We will do the first session at the next Council meeting on Wed. Mar. 1 at 6:30 p.m. If, by chance we complete

the first session in a timely fashion we will be ready to do the second session at that time if it is the will of Council.

- 13. Authority for Executive to conduct business on behalf of Council between meetings.**  
**Moved: Norma Mailman; Seconded: Jean Millett    ACCEPTED**
  
- 12. Clergy's Report:**  
We were asked to hold Sandy Bishop in our prayers as she has lost her brother Ralph Stirling and her sister Maryann has had a serious stroke. We are looking for people to serve on the JNAC committee.
  
- 14. Next meeting: Wednesday, March 1, 2017**
  
- 15. Closing Prayer: Judy Norton**  
Valerie Mosher, as the Congregational Secretary, will take the minutes at the Congregational Meeting. Gary Dunfield will chair.
  
- 16. Adjournment at 8:07 p.m.**