

**Orchard Valley United Church  
Council Meeting November 27, 2019  
Minutes**

1) **Call to order:** 7:00

a) **Present:** Jane McDonald, Bill Simpson, Harvey Gilmour, John Foote, Jean Millett, Rev. Don Sellsted, Sylvia Jacquard, Bruce Smith, Rebecca Godfrey, Susan Cater, Sue Smith, Joy Waterbury, Nancy Handrigan, Cynthia Bruce

b) **Regrets** – Cecil White, Andy Pitter, Ernie Draper

2) **Opening Prayer/Reflection:** Rev. Don Sellsted

3) **Approval of Agenda**

**Moved:** Nancy Handrigan; **Seconded:** Sue Smith

**CARRIED**

4) **Approval of minutes October 2, 2019**

**Moved:** John Foote; **Seconded:** Jean Millett

**CARRIED**

5) **Business Arising from the Minutes**

a) Committee Amalgamation: tabled until next meeting. Committees are requested to discuss the possible amalgamations prior to the annual meeting.

b) Covenanter roof: Ron Patterson is the Region 15 property committee chair. Request for permission to make the renovations is to be forwarded to him. ronspat@outlook.com.

c) Salary Increases: The recommendation from M&P and the Finance committee was a 3% increase.

**MOTION: ON behalf of Ministry and Personnel, it is moved that the 2020 salaries for staff include a 3% increase, which includes the cost of living increase.**

**Moved:** Nancy Handrigan; **Seconded:** Harvey Gilmour

**CARRIED**

6) **Correspondence:**

a) Information on the 2020 Explorer project through United Church of Canada was received. It is a 3-month opportunity for people aged 19-25. Host communities are needed to mentor a participant. The consensus of the board was to table participation in this program as a host site to next year. Don will meet with his colleague who has been a host/mentor, to find out more about the experience and bring back that information to the council. If there are interested youth locally the information can be forwarded to them. Jane will forward the information to the youth representative of Region 15, Max. Susan Cater will forward information to Brandon Rhodenizer.

7) **Business arising from Committee/Team Reports**

a) Christian Development

**MOTION: The council to give Sherbrooke Lake Camp a donation of \$555.00 in 2019 for their 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

**Moved:** Thea Burton; **Seconded:** Rebecca Godfrey

**CARRIED**

In January we will discuss:

i) how specified donations are handled in relation to our \$3000/yr commitment

- ii) how we handle “surplus” of sponsorship monies.
- b) Communications: Advent newsletter is coming out.
- c) Congregational Life
- d) Covenanter
- e) Facilities Committee: Report is coming on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. A mini-presentation after the early service, and major presentation after the 11:00 with the architect.
- f) Finance
- g) Inter-church councils
  - i) Kentville/New Minas, Valley Food Grains Bank, Food Bank
  - ii) \$2,900 came in at the Advent service. We have 17 boxes of blueberries which will be delivered on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Any not retrieved will be kept in the freezer until they can be picked up.
  - iii) WAICC-has asked Don to speak at an upcoming gathering.
- h) Ministry & Personnel: Louie Lightfoot will be presented with a gift and card thanking him for his service to the congregation tomorrow morning at 10:00. Thank you to all who signed the card.
- i) Outreach
- j) Region 15...next meeting is Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Still looking for a Treasurer. There are other opportunities for people to participate on committees.
- k) Property: Grateful for our new custodian, Doug MacKinnon, and all the help from committee members.
- l) Pastoral Care: 9 cards were distributed in October; 16 cards in November.
 

Our church directory is out of date again. A Church Members Photo Wall for our new facility was suggested to include anyone who wishes to be on the board.
- m) Stewardship: There isn't a functioning committee right now. The soup luncheon's and giving tree are continuing. A revamping of the Stewardship committee to focus on more traditional stewardship programs is recommended.
- n) Trustees: Investment committee report and the acquisition of land was discussed in a brief meeting.
- o) UCM: The men's club agreed to cover any short fall in the budget for the Christmas Hampers.
- p) UCW
- q) Worship: The budget is ready and will be forwarded to the Treasurer. If there is a need to adjust the requested budget, the committee is requesting to be consulted prior to any changes.

## 8) **Treasurer**

- a) Financial reports: as distributed and presented. End of November numbers:
  - i) Total offering: \$136,034 (\$4,150 less than budgeted amount)
  - ii) M&S offering: \$27,862 (\$862 greater than budget)
  - iii) Total Revenue: \$264,181 (\$1503 less than budgeted)
  - iv) Total Expense: \$258,489 (\$16,030 under budget)
  - v) Opening Surplus: \$5,692 (\$14,527 better than budget, which indicated a loss of \$8,835 as of Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>)

**MOTION: To approve all reports as presented:**

**Moved:** Susan Cater; **Seconded:** Nancy Handrigan

**CARRIED**

9) **New Business**

a) Search Committee: It has been very challenging finding someone interested in a half-time position. An update is requested for the congregation and council.

b) Explorer Program: as discussed under Correspondence.

c) Technology Upgrade for Treasurer: The current computer is kaput. A new computer has not been budgeted for, however, it is essential that the Treasurer have an adequate computer.

**MOTION: The council approve up to \$1000.00 to be used to purchase a new computer.**

**Moved:** Harvey Gilmour; **Seconded:** Bruce Smith

**CARRIED**

d) The refugee family we provided coats and boots to last Sunday is looking for more support. They currently live in Truro. Ken Hassell and Susan Cater will help connect him to the churches in Truro for support.

10) **Clergy's Report:** 19 new families since the Summer. In November, we have 8 new individuals wanting to join the congregation. There are 8 people willing to do the offering on a regular basis, so this can become more consistent.

11) **MOTION: Authority for Executive to conduct business on behalf of the Council between meetings.**

**Moved:** Joy Waterbury; **Seconded:** Cynthia Bruce

**CARRIED**

12) **Next Meeting: January 29, 2020**

13) **Closing Prayer: Rev. Don Sellsted**

14) **Adjournment**