

**Orchard Valley United Church
Council Meeting March 24, 2021
Minutes**

- 1) **Call to order: 7:03pm.**
 - a) **Present:** Thea Burton, Jane McDonald, Jean Millett, Harvey Gilmour, Gary Dunfield, Bill Simpson, Andy Pitter, Dale MacArthur, Rev. Don Sellsted, Mindy Vinqvist Tymchuk, Sue Smith, Susan Cater, Sylvia Jacquard, Ian Godfrey, Rebecca Godfrey
 - b) **Regrets:** Chris Seymour, Cynthia Bruce, Joy Waterbury

- 2) **Opening Prayer/Reflection:** Jane McDonald

- 3) **Approval of Agenda**
Moved: Harvey Gilmour; **Seconded:** **CARRIED**

- 4) **Approval of minutes February 24, 2021**
Moved: Gary Dunfield, **Seconded:** Jean Millett **CARRIED**

- 5) **Business arising from the Minutes.**
 - a) Update on Admin Salary concerns: With new part time job, Theresa will be paid for 20 hours/week with benefits. If her second job ends before the end of the year, the possibility of supplemental income will be revisited.
 - b) Meet your feet and moving forward: Small committee of 4 or 5 people is required to look at a re-opening plan for September. Jane McDonald will contact people who may be interested.
 - c) Bursary Request: Rhonda Schofield has made an official request for support for the coming year. As it is outside of the budget, this should be taken to the congregation for approval.
MOTION: The council recommends to the congregation that we support Rhonda Schofield in her education for minister in the 2021 calendar year in the amount of \$10,000.
Moved: Gary Dunfield; **Seconded:** Harvey Gilmour **CARRIED**
 - d) Updating information for Region: Guaranteed Basic Income. This information will be sent to Theresa to send to the congregation. The vigil is April 8, 12:30pm. Andy Pitter will take the information to WAICC. Jane and Andy will look over the information to see if there is anything more formal that our congregation can put together.

- 6) **Approval of actions of the Executive**
 - a) **For information** – Letter sent to Ministry & Personnel Committee in response to concerns. Appreciation of the work of the M&P was expressed.

- 7) **Committee Reports**
 - a) **Affirming Committee:** 247 views of the PIE service!! Feedback was requested and shared. They are anticipating the next AGM 2022 to be able to present to the congregation for acceptance.
 - b) **Christian Development:**
 - a. Donations to Open Arms are requested to support youth who are walking.

- b. Food Drive April 3 1:30-3:30 for food banks with activities for youth with an Easter theme. The food will be distributed to the three area food banks. Donations can also be received on Easter Sunday.
- c) **Communications:** Newsletter will be going out tomorrow.
- d) **Congregational Life**
- e) **Covenanter:** They need a new chairperson, and a new contractor for steeple repair.
- f) **Facilities Committee:**
 - a. Trustees are proceeding with materials to Region for approval of the land.
 - b. Fundraising committee is getting organized. Working towards to a late summer start on design and planning.
- g) **Finance:**
 - a. Treasurer - Financial update Up by \$2100. Envelope givings is higher than budget
- h) **Inter-church councils**
 - a. Kentville/New Minas, Valley Food Grains Bank, Food Bank
 - b. WAICC
- i) **Ministry & Personnel**
- j) **Outreach**
- k) **Region 15:** We need two new representatives. We are allowed four. Jane McDonald and Valerie Mosher will remain as representatives.
- l) **Property:** New chair of this committee is Bob Woodman. More members would be helpful as well.
- m) **Pastoral Care**
- n) **Trustees**
- o) **UCM:** Turkey dinner is planned for October 9th. Decision as to take out or eat in will be made at April meeting.
- p) **UCW**
- q) **Worship**

MOTION: To approve all reports as presented

Moved: Dale MacArthur; **Seconded:** Sue Smith

CARRIED

8) **New Business**

- a) **Review of Financial documents of OVUC & Trustees from 2020:** Bill Simpson presented reports as distributed.

MOTION: Council approve the financial reports for presentation to the congregation at the AGM

Moved: Bill Simpson; **Seconded:** Gary Dunfield

CARRIED

Review of Trustee statements as distributed presented by Gary Dunfield

MOTION: Council approve the Trustee reports for presentation to the congregation at the AGM

Moved: Gary Dunfield; **Seconded:** Harvey Gilmour

CARRIED

MOTION: Approval to pay Kelly Coombs \$4031 for financial services

Moved: Bill Simpson; **Seconded:** Ian Godfrey

CARRIED

The work of Kelly Coombs is appreciated. Finance recommends the continued use of the services.

- b) **Request to re-open Friday Morning Breakfast Group:** The re-opening plan was distributed. The document will be forwarded to the re-opening committee to respond.
- c) **No one is illegal:** Rev. Don shared a document on migrant workers support group. They are looking for OVUC to partner with them as a distribution center for food items and PPE, etc. during quarantine period. Any questions we have should be sent to Rev. Don to have answered in future conversations with the group. Once more information is received, we can decide how best to be involved.
- d) **BF Goodrich Thunder in the Valley survey:** This event takes place Oct. 9 and 10. They are requesting a waiving of noise regulations. Discussion points:
 - i) Not close enough for the noise to disrupt us
 - ii) No direct benefit to village, but economic benefit for hotels and restaurants
 - iii) Concern for the amount of emissions and gas used.
 - iv) May cause traffic concerns for our turkey dinner
 Rev. Don has asked that someone else who is more knowledgeable of the event to complete the survey.
 Susan Cater will look at survey and make a motion on how to respond. The motion will be sent to council via email.
- e) **MOTION: Council to approve presentation of the candidate for a 1-year appointment of part-time ministerial staff at the AGM.**
Moved: Gary Dunfield; **Seconded:** Bill Simpson **CARRIED**

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

Moved: Susan Cater; **Seconded:** Dale MacArthur **CARRIED**

10) **Clergy's Report:** Palm Sunday and 10:00 Easter Sunday are full. 1 pm. Service is not full. Good Friday is at 60% capacity.

11) **Next Meeting:** - Annual Congregational Meeting April 11, 2021, 1:00 pm

12) **Thank yous:** Jane McDonald expressed appreciation to the Council for all the work we do, and bids farewell. The council acknowledged great amount of work Jane has done from the early years of amalgamation to today. We are grateful, and wish her well.

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

14) **Adjournment 8:38:**

Moved: Harvey Gilmour