

**Orchard Valley United Church
Council Meeting April 28, 2021
Minutes**

1) **Call to order.** 7:01 pm **Welcome to our new Chairperson:** Susan Cater

Present: Susan Cater, Thea Burton, Chris Seymour, Rev. Don Sellsted, Gary Dunfield, Vicky Austin, Bill Simpson, Cynthia Bruce, Andy Pitter, Rebecca Godfrey, Sue Smith, Harvey Gilmour, Mindy Vinqvist-Tymchuk, Joy Waterbury, Sylvia Jacquard

Regrets – Jean Millett, Bill Woodman

2) **Opening Prayer/Reflection:** Susan Cater (Chair)- Gratitude sharing

3) **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED: Harvey Gilmour; **SECONDED:** Gary Dunfield **CARRIED**

4) **Approval of minutes**

MOVED: Bill Simpson; **SECONDED:** Chris Seymour **CARRIED**

5) **Business arising from the Minutes:**

a) **Thunder in the Valley:** The Executive decided not to submit the survey as the majority of the folks who attend OVUC don't live in New Minas, so are not impacted other than for Sunday Service. We haven't experienced problems before. The deadline has passed.

6) **Approval of actions of the Executive**

MOVED: Harvey Gilmour; **SECONDED:** Sylvia Jacquard **1-abstained CARRIED**

7) **Committee Reports**

a) **Affirming Committee:** 298 views on PIE day service. Input on the vision statement requested. It has to be approved by the Eastern Canada Coordinator for Affirm United first before taking it to the congregation.

MOTION: To have Cynthia Bruce work in conjunction with Dale MacArthur to develop a draft Vision/Mission statement for becoming an Affirming Church.

MOVED: Vicky Austin; **SECONDED:** Bill Simpson **CARRIED**

b) **Christian Development:**

- a. May 9th Family Service requested to be done by Zoom. This will be decided after this coming Sunday's service is determined.
- b. Requested updated list of council members each year. Will ask Theresa to do this.
- c. The Zoom account information has been shifted from Jane to Susan. Other people can continue to use the accounts as necessary. Make sure to check what meetings are scheduled in ZOOM prior to creating a new meeting. Don't assume it will be free when you want it to be. Schedule in advance.

- c) **Communications:** Two projects
 - a. Update Photo Directory- can be done through Power Church. Whose responsibility is it to keep congregational contact list up to date? An ad hoc committee has done this in the past. Consensus is that it is not Theresa's job to update this list every year. She adds and deletes as changes occur, but does not do a full review of the list. For purpose of the Photo Directory, Communications determine how to update the information.
MOTION: The church will complete a self published photo directory.
MOVED: Sylvia Jacquard; **SECONDED:** Joy Waterbury **CARRIED**
 - b. Upgrade the Website with more photos, less text. Will need website design help. There is no money budgeted this year. Recommended that Communication do more research and planning, and be prepared to put forth a budget request for next year. Thea Burton will work with Communications to come up with a plan.
- d) **Congregational Life:**
 - a. Car Rally update. Still planning for it depending on any further COVID restrictions
- e) **Covenanter:** Applying to Region 15 to spend the money on renovations. No summer services due to COVID.
- f) **Facilities Committee**
 - a. Approval of Fund Raising committee: An ad hoc group to raise money for the building project. Does not need approval.
- g) **Finance:**
 - a. Treasurer - Financial Reports circulated and reviewed.
- h) **Inter-church councils**
 - a. Kentville/New Minas, Valley Food Grains Bank,
 - b. Food Bank: No food drives in Summer. This could be something to consider.
 - c. WAICC
- i) Ministry & Personnel
- j) Outreach
- k) Region 15
- l) Property
- m) Pastoral Care
- n) Trustees
- o) **UCM:** Won't be meeting for First Sunday in May due to COVID
- p) UCW
- q) **Worship:** Information in report has been adjusted due to recent COVID restrictions.
MOTION: To approve reports as presented
MOVED: Chris Seymour; **SECONDED:** Sue Smith **CARRIED**

8) **New Business**

- a) **Staff contracts:** M&P requesting Executive review contracts prior to signing. A copy will be sent to Susan Cater to share with Executive.

- b) **Sherbrooke Lake Camp \$3000:** Requesting the committed monies ASAP to help with rebuilding Cabin 8. Bill Simpson will forward the amount. Andy Pitter will forward the Treasurer's address to Bill. Matt Whynot has resigned. A new Executive Director has not been found as yet.

- c) **Stewardship request:** Our previous Stewardship Committee no longer functions. The focus should be about building a spirit of generosity, not just fund raising. Roger Janes offered virtual Stewardship training to congregations. 2 hour training session for 4 weeks. Don is looking for interested folks, at least 2 who would be interested. Don will send information to Theresa to include in next week's announcements to make the request to the Congregation. If you know of anyone who might be interested, forward to Don.

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

MOVED: Harvey Gilmour; **SECONDED:** Andy Pitter

CARRIED

10) **Clergy's Report**

11) **Next Meeting:** May 26, 2021

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

13) **Adjournment: 8:50pm** **MOVED:** Rebecca Godfrey