

St. Paul's United Church
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Minutes - Annual General Meeting

St. Paul's United Church, Warkworth

2023 04 16 11:30 am

Attendees: Aaron Eddie, Margaret Gemmell, Brian Hamilton, George McCleary, Anne McCleary, Margaret Real, Don Real, Bob Rowe, Bill Stableford, Susie Stowell, Tammy Timlin, Barb Trotter, Rev. Janet Stobie (representing East Central Ontario Regional Council)

1. Election of Chair and Secretary

- Moved that George McCleary be appointed Chair and Don Real be appointed Secretary for this meeting.
- Moved by: Tammy Timlin, Seconded by: Margaret Gemmell.
Carried

2. Opening Prayer

- Rev. Janet Stobie

3. Motion to accord voting privileges to all adherents for this meeting

- Moved by: Tammy Timlin, Seconded by: Margaret Gemmell.
Carried

4. **Additions to the Agenda**

- There were no additions to the agenda.

5. **Approval of the Agenda**

- Moved by: Margaret Gemmell, Seconded by: Aaron Eddie.
Carried

6. **Annual Meeting Minutes for 2021 Church Year (held March 20, 2022)**

- Moved by: Aaron Eddie, Seconded by: Margaret Real. Carried

7. **Mission and Vision Statement** (page 9)

- It was noted that Page 9 had been revised to reflect the Values approved in 2016. There was a discussion regarding the importance of reviewing this page on a regular basis and commenting on the activities at St. Paul's that supported the Mission, Vision and Values.

8. **St. Paul's United Church Committees** (page 10)

- It was noted that this list reflected the committee structure of St. Paul's for 2022.

9. **First Call for Further Nominations**

- The Chair called for further nominations for committees
- There was a discussion regarding amalgamating some committees due to declining membership. This item was tabled.

10. **Ministry and Personnel Committee** – (page 11)

- Aaron Eddie commented that there were no outstanding issues.
- Rev. Stobie inquired regarding the fact that this committee only had 2 members. Aaron Eddie noted that it was very difficult to find committee members.

11. **St. Paul's on the World Wide Web 2021** (pages 12-13)

- Don Real thanked Brian Hamilton for his assistance in improving the sound quality of the live stream of the Sunday Service.
- It was also noted that more volunteers would be helpful, especially when the regulars cannot be here. Brian noted that someone else to operate the camera would allow him to work on the sound being live streamed.
- Don Real commented that he was reading a book by a minister in Calgary in which John Pentland had commented that it was a mistake for churches to think that just putting a camera on the service they always did would attract an online following. During the discussion, Rev. Stobie commented that it was difficult to "talk to" those online and those in the congregation when the camera was at the side.

12. **Events Coordination Committee** – (page 14)

- It was noted that Ruth Widdowson had a list of media contacts that she would share with anyone wishing to promote an event.

13. **Milestones, 2022** (page 15)

- It was noted by Bill Stableford that Betty Dawn O'Halloran's Celebration of Life (August 18, 2022) had been omitted from the list
- Bill Stableford also suggested that the title Burials on the Milestones page be revised. There was general agreement that Celebration of Life would be a more appropriate title.

14. **Annual Session Report** – (page 16)

- Elaine Mann was absent on personal business. The Session is to be commended for their efforts in engaging Pulpit Supply for the Sunday Service.

15. **Music Directors' Report** – (page 17)

- Kate and Stephen Rapos were absent due to illness. Their efforts in providing engaging music for the Sunday service were noted.

16. **Affirm Committee**

- There was no report for 2022.

17. **Approval for Further Nominations**

- The Chair called for further nominations; no further nominations were presented.
- After discussion, further action on the committee members for 2023 was tabled until it can be established that all 2022 members have agreed to continue in their present role.
- Moved that the Slate of Committee Members for 2023 be referred to the next Official Board Meeting.
 - Moved by: Tammy Timlin, Seconded by: Don Real. Carried
- Moved that Susie Stowell contact each committee member on the 2022 list of **Committee Members** as to their intentions for 2023.
 - Moved by: Tammy Timlin, Seconded by: Don Real. Carried
 - **Note:** Susie Stowell will endeavour to have this report ready for the next Official Board Meeting.
- During the discussion of the church committees, Rev. Stobie noted that there should always be a Nominating Committee. This committee's mandate would be to check with all committee members to see if they were willing to continue in their present role and if there was a need for new committee members, this committee would try and recruit new members. The results of their efforts would be included in the annual report as a Nominating Committee Report.

18. **United Church Women** – (pages 18-19)
- Janice Laver and all members of the UCW were thanked by George McCleary for their great support of St. Paul's. It was noted that the UCW had recently donated \$8,000 to St. Paul's.
19. **Cards for Cash Fundraising Program 2022** (page 20)
- Sue Hugginson administers this program. Last year's results were excellent.
20. **Stewards & Trustees Report to AGM** (pages 21-22)
- *"The "Church Experience" has definitely changed. As a church with financial issues, we are not alone and it is not a "particular denomination" issue. It is everywhere."*
 - There was some discussion regarding next steps for St. Paul's but this issue was left to the meeting on May 2, 2023 with St. Paul's ECORC supervisor.
21. **Financial Report** (pages 23-27)
- It was noted that the line item for Minister's Salary had been moved to Session since Pulpit Supply is handled by the Session.
 - Bob Rowe pointed out that in the first quarter of 2023, St. Paul's had a surplus of \$10,156. It was noted that this likely resulted from \$8,000 donation from the UCW.
 - Moved that the Financial Statement for 2022 be accepted.
 - Moved by: Bob Rowe, Seconded by: Bill Stableford. Carried
 - Moved that the Budget for 2023 be accepted.
 - Moved by: Bob Rowe, Seconded by: Bill Stableford. Carried
 - Copies of both documents will be forwarded to Patti James

22. **Motion to Approve all other Reports**

- Moved that all other reports be approved.
- Moved by: Aaron Eddy, Seconded by: Margaret Gemmell. Carried.

23. **Official Board Chairs**

- Kate Rapos and Bob Rowe were thanked for their efforts this year in their roles as co-chairs of the Official Board.

24. **Final Comments/Questions**

- George McCleary thanked all committee members for the work they have done to keep St. Paul's moving, especially during this period when St. Paul's no longer has the guidance of a minister.
- He also thanked Rev. Stobie for her support of St. Paul's; her suggestions during the meeting were helpful and informative.
- Tammy Timlin also noted that we all need to be supportive of the paid staff at St. Paul's; in the absence of a minister, they have more responsibilities. We all need to be supportive of their efforts in this time of change.

25. **Closing Prayer**

- Rev. Stobie's closing prayer reminded us of the need to keep in mind our Mission Statement "St. Paul's is a welcoming, inspiring, spiritual fitness centre" as we move through this time of change.

26. **Motion to adjourn**

- Moved that the meeting adjourn at 1:25 pm
- Moved by Barb Trotter, Seconded by Margaret Real. Carried