



CHRIST CHURCH, DARTMOUTH
A People United in Justice and Love

Unapproved Parish Council Minutes
January 27, 2022
Via Zoom

Call to order: 7:10pm

Opening Prayer: The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner

Chair of the Meeting: Don Murray

Attendance: Don Murray, Steve Smith, Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner, Barb Hart, John MacDonald, Beth MacDonald, Vanessa Turner, Carolyn Chenhall, Cathy Connors, Heather Downey, Rev. Canon David Greenwood, Judy Carter, Gail Teixeira, Janice Silver, John MacLeod

Regrets: Judy Carter, Judith MacDonald

Correspondence: Bishop Sandra (January 17, 2022) - Synod was to be held on Jan 29th. This has been postponed to Feb 19th.

Review of Agenda and Additional Items to be added: Passed unanimously

Review of the Minutes from November 27, 2021: Barb Hart/Janice Silver, passed unanimously

Business Arising:

1. Letter to Her Majesty the Queen (K. Wagner)

New Business:

1. COVID-19 Protocols update (K. Wagner)
 - This week will be an online service. The Diocese has opened, as of today, the option to have in-person services. This provision allows for 25% capacity, to 50 people, and 1 masked singer.
 - A question was asked if the Chancel area could be decorated again, as it was well received through Advent/Christmas as well as Thanksgiving.
2. Finance Report, as circulated, John MacLeod
 - We were able to get to a surplus due to Federal support from the pandemic and restrictions on spending.
 - Our membership is diminishing over time which impacts our giving's
3. Budget for 2022: John MacDonald/John MacLeod

- Background - 2021 ended up net positive due to federal COVID support, the decision to spread a larger bequest out in increments, and an increase in rentals
- Our visioning process has determined that Christ Church desires to grow attracting young families and youth and to be a force for the community and social justice in downtown Dartmouth. Priority activities include reimagined worship and improved external and internal communications
- Budget considerations for 2022
 - Funding for visioning priorities (\$34,500) - new service music supports, youth coordinator, digital marketing support, new service marketing budget
 - Expense increases (\$30,605) - allotment increase, staff salaries, heat, insurance
 - Diocesan/Governmental support (-\$43,472) some of this funding will continue in the interim
 - Projected Deficit -\$94,552
- The Finance and Executive Committee recommend transparent disclosure at the AGM with an appeal to the parish for the support of the Visioning initiatives, staff salary increases as well as a stewardship as and campaign to fill the expense and revenue gaps for 2022.
- We are in a good cash position as there have been a number of bequests which we have received.
- In order to do the activities and changes that have been highlighted in the visioning process we need on average \$5000/month from the parish.

- It is felt that a personal letter should be sent to each parishioner who has contributed to the Church, thanking them for their contributions through the year(s). We have the responsibility to thank those who have continued to support the Church. –
 - Discussion took place to determine if the letters should be sent prior to or after the AGM or before or after announcing a stewardship?
 - Could the Parish Council support the writing of these letters?
 - There are ways in which we can include feedback or anecdotal comments from various groups or organisations which reflect what the contributions to the Church have allowed.
- We will be applying for a variety of grants to support these initiatives.

4. Homelessness: Update (K. Wagner)
 - Recently one of our former tenters stopped by to check in, and to share how they were doing.

5. Warming Center/Emergency Shelter
 - There has been some turnover in staff at HRM. We had received a Memorandum of Understanding from the city, but we have had difficulty getting answers to a number of our questions.
 - Erica Fleck is still working for the city around Emergency Shelters and will be able to answer these questions. We are looking to have a final Memorandum of Understanding by next Monday.
 - Conversations with Karen at Margaret's house. It was noted that people are waiting outside of Margaret's House due to Covid restrictions. A verbal agreement was reached to allow them to wait in our Lower Hall while awaiting their number for their meal. When the new wave of Covid began this was put on hold.
 - There is an outreach group, MOSH, which attends Margaret's House to provide vaccines to the people who are there. Vaccine rates remain low amongst the homeless population for a variety of reasons.

6. Vision and Mission Task Groups (J. MacDonald)
 - Reimagining service and communication have been the main priorities of these task groups.
 - We should be receiving information over the next few weeks with regards to the new service which is being developed.
 - The Leadership Development group has met and have received the list of these task groups.
 - Susan Barthos has been supporting the Executive with determining what our organizational assets include and ensuring that we take the appropriate manageable steps for making change for our church.

7. Campus Visioning Sessions (J. MacDonald)
 - Unfortunately these have been put on hold due to the recent Covid restrictions. Sessions will be held in February, regardless of in-person or virtual, prior to the AGM with respect to housing and homelessness.
 - We need to determine what current partnerships or agencies do members work with and that we would like to extend to our broader church's participation.
 - We should also consider what elements of downtown Dartmouth need support which we may be able to offer.
 - Christ Church has been invited to participate in joining a group which discusses the issues of our city and how to navigate the policies of HRM.

8. Parish Council Membership for 2022: Nominations
 - We are coming up to our AGM. Steve Smith will finish their term as Warden. There is a

- person who has put forward their name for Warden.
- Barb, Geoff, and Cathy Connor all have to be replaced as a Member at Large
 - Natasha Buree-Edwards has been asked to be the Youth Synod Rep.
9. Lay Minister in Training: Motion for Gail Teixeira
- **Motion:** That Gail Teixeira enter the program as Lay Licensed Minister in training under the direction of the rector. Kyle/Vanessa - passed unanimously

Reports:

1. Rector's Report as circulated

- Bishop Sandra has asked Kyle to co-chair Diocesan Synod in the fall. He has accepted this.
- We are still in covid times - Rev Bonnie and Kyle meet regularly. They understand that many people are struggling with their mental health. As a result we will be having a parish wide phone call.
- Our pastoral ministry has been a success, Rev Bonnie was asked by the Diocese to give a presentation on how to do phone call ministry. This presentation maxed at 100 participants.

3. Pastoral Ministry, as circulated - Janice Silver

Next council meeting:

February 24, 2022, 7pm

AGM Feb 27, 2022

Motion to adjourn meeting. Vanessa

The Grace.