

## ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH BOARD

December 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. – online – Rockland, Ontario

Welcome and Opening of Meeting – Bill

Chair: Bill

Secretary: Marie

Attendance: Jane, Jacquie, Bill, Brian, Rudy, Barb, John, Hazel, Sue, Colette, Ray, Marie,

Regrets : Ron, Nancy.

Trustee Rep : Rudy

**Motion** : To grant visitors to this meeting correspondent status.

**Mover**: Rudy. **Seconded** Jacquie. **Carried**.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm. Opening prayer by Brian.
2. **Adoption of Agenda:**
  - a. Add to New Business: Set up of Budget Committee.
  - b. Other committee chair reports due Jan 1, 2022.
  - c. Add to New Business: Getting furnace advice from an expert.
  - d. Add to New Business: Food Bank Donations.

**Motion**: To adopt Agenda (with amendments) **Moved** by Ray. **Seconded** by Hazel. **Carried**.

3. a. **Minutes of previous Board meeting** (November 18, 2021) were sent out electronically.  
Errors or omissions:
  - b. Brian has indicated that previous annual reports from 10 years ago have been added to the church's website and three previous Board meetings minutes have been added. When the previous minutes become available (awaiting Tracey's emails) they will be posted. Jacquie pointed out that the minutes are available in hard copy in the binders in the office, and could easily be scanned.

**Motion**: To approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Board meeting. **Moved** by Barb. **Seconded** by Jane. **Carried**.

#### 4. **Business Arising:**

- a. Ownership and registration of our building/property deferred. This will be reported on as early as possible once the Trustees have been able to review the documents currently held by the previous Trustee chair.
- b. Property Management (special projects)  
Key Fobs. Steady progress has been made. Installation December 7<sup>th</sup>. The keys will still work. Any further report on this matter will be made under Property Management by Rudy.
- c. NHSP update. Type of shelving and configuration need to be worked at. Jane, Barb and Rudy will work at this and get an estimate. No pricing for assisted listening devices has been done yet. Estimates for freezer – Barb will work at getting more pricing. Ray has asked for the support letters back from the politicians before December 21<sup>st</sup>. Jane is hoping by Thursday to get the process started.
- d. Navigators. Bill mentioned that the Board had discussed this subject at length at the Nov 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and that he would like to deal with it formally at this meeting one way or the other and that a motion would be needed if it were to go ahead. He did not want a motion that would simply refer the matter to the congregation to make its own judgment but that the Board needed to give the matter full consideration and be prepared to recommend that St. Andrew's congregation approve the signing of a contract with Navigators as the Pastor has proposed. He asked if someone was prepared to make such a motion.

**Motion:** It was **Moved** by Jane and **Seconded** by Marie the Board recommend at the AGM that St. Andrew's congregation approve the signing of a contract with Navigators.

**Discussion:** Jane: The main objective is to promote discipleship. Many bible studies have not been approved by the United Church, such as Bethel and Awana. The purchase of the books is up to the individuals. Cost for Navigators is \$600/year. This is within our budget. Last year \$300 was used for Bible study materials. This would not have a great impact on the budget. Brian is not going to recommend anything detrimental to the congregation. It is renewable after one year.

Jacque: The \$600.00 cost is to pay Stefan. In addition, each person pays for study material. Will there be people who will join? There would be fewer than 30 people potentially involved, and currently fewer than 15. There are also healthy and safety issues in our facility that need to be completed and paid for before we consider the extra expense of this contract, especially with two new church groups asking to share our space.

John: Why can't the people taking the discipleship courses pay for their own materials plus the \$50 per month?

Brian: The goal is to strengthen the ability of our members to disciple each other and those in their circle of influence. Another way of putting this is to better equip people to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20 the Great Commission). Help newcomers to grow. It would be a stronger, healthier church in the end. We will have equipped our members to benefit the church.

We have used a number of programs to equip our membership, and each has played a role in deepening their faith, and we have enrolled most of the congregation in each one. But once everyone has completed a course, they need new opportunities to grow.

They would receive more knowledge intended equip them for service in the mission of the Church and deepen their own discipleship as well.

When we became members of our church we all professed our faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord, we committed to take steps to grow our faith and to participate in the mission of the church, thus fulfilling the Great Commission. We will be able to support each other more effectively and make disciples of all people. Engage in the growing of the church.

I would encourage board to approve the contract. The cost is \$600/year for each of the next two and a half years. This is a pittance for the work in discipleship, considering it brings considerable expertise to help us grow our congregation.

Bill: We are a United Church congregation with a qualified United Church Pastor whom we are paying half time to do United Church things. We have in the past tried to engage our Pastor for more than half time but determined the congregation could not afford that. Therefore, we need to live within the half time limitations. I disagree with contracting an outside organization to send people in to instruct our members because the Pastor is already doing that within the half-time limitations. I have no problem with the use of Navigators materials and publications purchased using the normal allocation for study materials, noting that these are of course copyrighted materials and would incur additional costs for participants.

Colette: Firstly, why pay to have someone come in. Secondly, there is value to hearing from other resources. Who benefits? We are a small church. We need to grow. If we don't do an outreach, how can we grow?

**Motion:** Board will recommend at the AGM that the congregation review and approve a contract with Navigators.

In favor of motion: Jane and Marie. Two in favor.

Not in favor of motion: Rudy, Barb, Sue, Hazel, Ray, Jacquie. Six not in favor.

**Motion:** Defeated.

We are tabling this matter for the duration of the session.

- e. **Rental Contracts:** Waiting for both congregations to come back with their answer. We may be carrying them for a while until things settle and stabilize. Will check in with the other churches to see what they can afford. Nancy has submitted the first draft of a contract to be negotiated with Rockland Community Church. The private group that uses the church every 26 December (including this year) needs to be considered too. The Rockland Community Church will have to be informed of this pre-booking. (Bill will take care of this.)

**Senior's Group:** This is internal to the church. They are following Covid protocols, including contact tracing, wearing of masks and having vaccine status checked. Jane is wiping down the tables after use and will be wiping down the chairs.

## 5. Treasurer's Report - Jane

**Motion:** To accept the Treasurer's Report. **Moved** by Jane. **Seconded** by Hazel. **Carried.**

There was an amendment. The expense of \$4.99 for labels should instead be for Javex for the Kitchen. Also I have been in touch with Alex Mirhady in regards of our annual financial review; due to COVID we are behind 2 yrs and of course including this year will be 3 years. Alex will be meeting with me in the New Year if all restrictions remain static.

Epost Post Canada virtual mail has been discontinued this month. All other bills are through email but Hydro will not allow it. From now on, Hydro bills will be coming by regular mail.

**See Treasurer's report attached.**

Hazel: Asked about the \$126.00 transfer to Missions. She couldn't see it on Colette's report. Colette's time frame is different than Jane's. The bank also does not post on Sundays. The 31 Oct transfer will not be seen until 30 Nov.

## 6. Regular Reports:

**Benevolent Fund:** No draws on the fund this month. Barb has found a new service available through Social Services for physical therapy. Use of this service has already been started by a person in need.

- a. **Fellowship:** Well done, Barb and Team!

**Ray asked about reaching a wider audience.** Barb wished to start with our own church first given the Covid restrictions. Brian suggested that when we do collect contact tracing information we should ask "do you wish to be notified of church events?". Barb stated that after 14 days the names collected at the Bazaar will be shredded.

- b. **Ministry and Personnel.** Jane asked Rudy if he received notification of the cost of living increase from United Church. Rudy said report has been sent to Jane.
- c. **Missions:** Colette. **Report attached.**
- d. **Music:** Jacquie

The Dec 19<sup>th</sup> carol service at 4:00 will have feature a special barbershop quartet. The Église Évangélique d'Rockland and Rockland Community Church under Rev. Ruth Draffin might be participating. We will probably need to check vaccination status and discuss opening church up to more seating with the Worship Team. A reservation system could be used.

- e. **Pangborn Hall:** Nancy. No report.
- f. **Pastoral Care Report:** **Report attached.**

Barb stated the Ray is doing an excellent job writing the support letters to the politicians and would like him to write a letter of support to our MP and the mayor for a laundromat in Rockland for seniors.

- g. **Regional Council:** John attended a Winter meeting last Saturday. It was a business meeting, with listening to reports and rubber stamping them. There was installation of new ministers. Nothing pertinent to our church was mentioned.
- h. **Property Management:** Rudy. I've been trying to touch base with Dave who will be doing the repairs to the roof around the tower. The repairs may be done this winter, weather permitting, otherwise, will be done next spring. Regarding the furnace: We may need to find a company to service the furnace. Richard Joubarne will be given us some advice on what level of filter we will need.

Bill expressed a thank you on behalf of the Board to Colette's daughter, Jessica, on the air quality report and the work completed for it. December 9th she will be coming in with moisture testing equipment.

Jacque: Rudy, do we need to stock up on salt or is that included in the fee for the snow blowing?

Rudy indicated the salt is purchased by Yvan.

Bill: Is somebody spreading the salt when needed?

It should be done by the first person to arrive Tuesday morning. Rudy did say he will check with Yvan to see if he is doing the broadcasting of the salt.

- i. **Social Club:** Jane stated we are getting 12-14 people per week. We were up to 32 pre-Covid. We do offer outreach meals.
- j. **Stewardship:** Ray. There is an article in the December newsletter about In Memory Donations.
- k. **Sunday School:** Nancy (on hold).
- l. **Trustee:** Rudy. Nothing to report until I talk to Ron.
- m. **Worship Supplies:** Brian stated there are enough communion supplies for a while. We replace candles as need be. Jacque said there is a worship supply binder near the piano with what is needed for every season.

A thank you goes out to Barb and Lydie-Anne for the beautiful decorating work done for the Advent season.

Barb asked if both churches would maintain their own worship supplies. Brian said the Rockland Community Church asked to use our communion supplies this week, but this was an extraordinary request and he expects they will be paying their own way going forward.

- n. **Pastor's Report:** The Carol Service, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm, will be unique with three churches participating and bilingualism. The December 24<sup>th</sup> service at 4:00 pm will be just our church participating. The Rockland Community Church may be planning a service at 7:00 pm December 24<sup>th</sup>.

I am recommending for the Christmas season that our congregation tune into The Chosen. This film illuminates the life of Jesus. I would like to organize this event to be held at our church on December 14<sup>th</sup>. It is a ticketed event with tickets available at a link provided on our website. Cost is \$12.00 US adult, \$10.00 US child.

Bill asked about how we would advertise this. Brian indicated through the newsletter, emailing other churches, on local radio and cable channels. Jacque mentioned that as this would be a wider audience vaccination status would have to be verified. Bill indicated that approval from the Board is not needed and Brian will move forward with this. Volunteers are needed. Ray asked about a web site for this. Brian indicated TheChosen.TV. Barb asked about the time it would be presented. Brian indicated 7-9pm but would take advice on that.

## 7. New Business:

- a. Setup of Budget Committee. There are three volunteers for this, Hazel, Bill, and Rudy. Committee will be chaired by Jane.

- b. Vacant position: Benevolent Fund Committee and Worship Supply. A nominating committee is not needed. Brian and Barb will find volunteers for these two committees to present to the Board for approval.
  - c. Reminder to each committee chair three reports are needed for the AGM and should be in by the latest the start of the new year.
    - 1. Annual general report goes to Nancy.
    - 2. Annual financial end-of-year report goes to Jane.
    - 3. Proposed budget line suggestions for upcoming year by each committee chair with spending authority.
  - d. **New reporting position:** Jacquie: Brian has been doing a lot of outreach work at the Manor. Sue is a good contact for the Manor. For example, Sue can keep us posted on requests for copies of the Daily Bread. Brian said she is well qualified and this would be advantageous for us. Bill asked if Sue would accept this position. Her answer was yes. Her report would be a stand-alone report. Sue would report only if there were news to report.
- Expert Furnace Advice:** Rudy was asked to find 2 or 3 quotes for professional furnace management, which would include emergency services, annual check-ups and advice on filters. Richard Joubarne is willing to give us advice on the furnace filter. This will go primarily to Rudy, and Bill and Brian, as they work on maintaining good air flow and quality inside the sanctuary.
- e. **Food Bank Donations:** Jacquie asked about the final total over to Food Bank. Jane said she would leave it at the church as soon as she can. Barb mentioned there is a bag of food left from the Bazaar.

8. Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> Time 7:00 pm

9. Closing Prayer: Barb

10. Adjournment 9:15 pm **Moved** by Hazel.