

**Minutes: ST. ANDREW'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH BOARD**  
**November 04, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. – online – Rockland, Ontario**

**Welcome and Opening of Meeting:** Hazel

**Acting Chair:** Hazel

**Acting Secretary:** Jacquie

**Attendance:** Jane, Jacquie, Brian, Rudy, John, Barb, Nancy, Sandra, Hazel, Colette, Ray, Sue

**Regrets:** Nancy, Sandra, Colette

**Trustee Rep:** Ron (resignation effective now as nominated trustee Rudy steps up)

**Visitors:** Bill Hawken, Marie Miville

**Motion:** to grant visitors to this meeting correspondent status (Bill, Marie)

Mover: Jacquie, Seconder: Rudy. Carried

1. **Meeting called to order** at 7:08 p.m. Opening Prayer: (with preamble) Brian.

**2. Adoption of Agenda:**

- a) add to New Business: report from Nomination Committee (Hazel, Barb, John). The Committee decided to leave the nomination of a person to fill the Vice-Chair position until the AGM 2022, when the parameters of that position could be decided upon. For Trustee, Rudy was nominated and accepted. Bill was nominated as Chair, and Marie as Secretary, each accepting. These nominations will be effective immediately, with the intention of reconfirming them at the next AGM. Bill will assume the position of Chair immediately after the Minutes of last meeting have been discussed and accepted. Marie will work with Jacquie for this meeting as she is new to our process.
- b) **Motion:** to accept these nominations effective immediately, after the Minutes have been voted on. Moved by Hazel, seconded by Barb, Carried.
- c) **Motion:** to move New Business to immediately after the Minutes, moved by Jacquie, seconded by Barb. Carried.
- b) add to New Business: discussion of re-placing former cushions on seats in the Sanctuary
- c) add to New Business: grant applications ongoing
- d) add to New Business: resignations received.
- e) add to New Business: discussion re option of moving to full capacity if vaccination status is checked

**Motion:** to adopt Agenda (with amendments). Moved by Jacquie, seconded by Barb.

Carried.

3. **Minutes of previous Board meeting** (September 23, 2021) were sent out electronically. No errors or omissions reported.

Note: updated report from Brian on whether he has found a person to post these and previous minutes on our church website: No, he has not yet.

**Motion:** to approve the minutes of the September 23/21 Board meeting. Moved by Jacquie, seconded by Rudy. Carried.

#### 4. **New Business:**

- a) **Nomination Committee report** was received, accepted, and acclaimed during the Agenda Adoption process.
- b) **Cushion re-placement:** Barb and Jane will work together on sorting out a pile of viable cushions for our congregation attendees to take to their own seat at each service. This pile will then be out of circulation for two weeks, while a second pile of cushions will be put out for the next service. Unusable cushions will be “retired” from service.
- c) **Grant Processes:** Now that the previous motion “My Main Street” has been set aside as not applicable, Jane is watching for further grant application opportunities. As part of that process, she asks that each person on the Board contribute to a revised priority list. 1) Raised garden beds with benches for seniors as a small community garden has been suggested. Looking into insurance and other details for such a project might be best handled by our Social Club. 2) For the aging and leaking sanctuary roof, repairs, replacement, or at least an estimate for such work should be sought by Rudy. 3) If a new storage shed is acquired through a grant, perhaps the middle storage area could be opened up for classroom use.

**Motion:** to rescind the previous electronic “My Main Street” motion. Moved by Jane, seconded by Rudy. Carried.

- d) **Resignations received:** Jacquie has tendered her resignation as Worship Supply committee chair, and also as a member of the Benevolent Fund committee. She was thanked for her long service. Jacquie indicated part of the work she has been doing on Worship Supply has been decorating the church for special occasions, particularly during the pandemic.
- e) **Full capacity of worship space:** After some discussion of this issue, it was decided that for the moment, we will not be asking publicly for proof of vaccine, and simply continuing our current practice of distancing, observing all Covid protocols. However, if the Worship Team (Brian, Jacquie, Bill, Colette, Marie and our ushers) note that attendance is increasing substantially, they may then start asking for proof of vaccination status.

**Motion:** moved by Jane, seconded by Ray, that the Worship Team be given the mandate to react to higher attendance rates, and begin asking for vaccination

status when and if the current situation changes substantially. Carried.

## 5. **Business Arising:**

- a. **Trustee Position:** This has now been resolved, and the Board thanks Ron for his long and faithful service. Thank you to Rudy for accepting the position.
- b. **Ownership of our Building/Property:** this is a very complex issue. Rudy will meet with Ron and Jane to receive the file and other updates on the work done to date. Rudy will provide us with an initial report at the next Board meeting.
- c. **Property Management (special projects)**
  - Key fobs – John will provide a progress update next meeting. Rudy will have a few more keys made.
  - Audio equipment – completed.
  - Electrical plan and labelling of outlets – John is ready to do this next time he is in at the church.

## 6. **Treasurer's Report – Jane**

Report sent in advance by email for September 2021. Discussion and questions. Barb and Brian were both interested in some kind of percentile donation qualification (established members, new donors attracted by livestream, those choosing to only participate by livestream) that would allow the Board to make better future spending decisions, and also to find ways to more completely connect with exclusively remote participants.

**Motion:** to accept the Treasurer's Report. Moved by Jane, seconded by Hazel. Carried.

## 7. **Regular Reports:**

- a) **Benevolent Fund:** Brian, Barb: some questions have been raised about frequent use of the fund by certain persons, understanding special circumstances. It is appreciated that Benevolent Fund personnel and Pastoral Care committee members are working closely to provide not only funding, but guidance and support from local Social Services organizations. These connections are growing and will be helpful in other situations that arise, allowing our helping hands to be even more effective. Expenditures should be authorized first by the Committee, then submitted to the Treasurer for reimbursement.
- b) **Fellowship:** Barb reported on the exciting preparations being made for our Christmas Bazaar. This year it will be overseen by Susan Leduc. Baking, cooking, take-out meals are underway to be sold at the Bazaar – orders for these items will be accepted, but not filled until after the Bazaar. 17 tables featuring local vendors have been rented at \$40 each. A flier (to be prepared and printed by Brian) with church details on one side, vendor contact information on the other, will be handed out with each purchase or as

requested.

- c) **Ministry & Personnel:** Rudy acknowledged Brian's return from three weeks of study leave.
- d) **Missions:** Colette was absent.
- e) **Music:** Jacquie- annual piano tuning will take place Nov. 23/21 at 9:30 a.m. Estimated cost is \$220.
- f) **Pangborn Hall:** Nancy was absent.
- g) **Pastoral Care Report:** Barb reported that her group has almost completed their Christmas Outreach bags. Barb has completed the Advanced Pastoral Care course (documentation to be filed in the office) and was very pleased with the learning provided. Some members of the congregation are undergoing difficulties and have asked for prayers.
- h) **Regional Council:** John had nothing new to report, but will attend the next meeting of Regional Council on Nov. 27 by Zoom, as will Ray.
- i) **Property Management:** Rudy completed most of his reporting during New Business. With consideration of the snowy season ahead, Rudy asked if we would like the two young persons who cleaned off our front steps last year be asked to do so again, and also if they would shovel the walkway to Pangborn Hall. That proposal was happily accepted. He will let us know if the arrangement is acceptable (\$200 honorarium for the season in total). Nancy and Yvon are currently sharing the workload of cleaning the hall and sanctuary. Nancy will take on that solo responsibility soon, and payment for her services will begin.
- j) **Social Club:** Jane plans to start up with Social Club Nov. 9. The team of Jane, Paul, and Brian will be asking about vaccination status (although probably not looking for proof – Brian is checking into that requirement). No lunches will be served until January.
- k) **Stewardship:** Ray hoped that everyone got his “lights on in the fridge” joke in the last newsletter! On a serious note, Ray reminded us all, (and asked Brian to publish and announce) that as the end of the year approaches, In Memory donations will be accepted and published in the Annual Report (no amounts).
- l) **Sunday School:** Nancy (on hold)
- m) **Trustees:** Rudy – no report yet!
- n) **Worship Supplies:** position vacant
- o) **Pastor's Report:** Brian – written report submitted.

With regard to the tentative requests received from two other churches to rent use of our sanctuary, there were several questions raised. Parking of course will have to be carefully observed and managed, with consideration of those who need the most accessible spots. During the snowy season, keeping the laneway beside the church plowed might ease a little of the congestion. Another issue raised is that of Sunday School. There are some different options on the table, such as scheduling a separate time for the children, apart from

regular service times, and perhaps combining the children from all three churches. It was agreed that further correspondence and negotiations with these two churches be forwarded to the Board for discussion and before being finalized. Nancy as Hall Manager needs to be consulted as soon as possible, as she will know what other groups have regularly booked the church facilities in the past.

With regard to the portion of the report dealing with Navigators (Navigators Church Ministry - NCM) and the agreement entitled Growing an Intentional Disciple-Making Culture, there were several questions asked, looking for more information, compelling rationale, more financial information, costs of materials for participants, leaders, and surveys plus analysis. For example: why do we need the NCM when we have a fully-qualified half-time minister already? Why have all the other courses and approaches Brian has taken or promoted not been enough? Why should the congregation pay the NCM to do the job Brian is already doing on his own? Is there any connection to the United Church of Canada, or any area United Church? Why does Stefan Cherry (NCM coach) need so much money for this, if (Brian thinks) he's interacting with 4 or 5 other churches as well as working half-time with the Orleans Bilberry Baptist Church? What happens to this money when he forwards a portion of it to the NCM, especially as Brian recommends we sign up to send them \$100 a month, instead of the proposed \$50? What sort of active evangelism process is being advocated? If a less-expensive survey mechanism is used than the Reveal system, who will set it up and then analyze it appropriately? Why is the whole congregation being asked to pay for this, when only certain people will take the training and follow it up? How and when will the congregation be informed about this possible process, its costs and the existence and contents of the two and a half year contract? This discussion continued for an hour. Brian indicated this is another method, of many he has already implemented or considered, of helping people to grow their faith. He hopes it will help our church and him, to reach people that have not yet developed their faith as fully as they would like (to quote Jane, another tool in Brian's toolbox). NCM is a para-church organization, and is considered non-denominational, although Brian thinks they are somewhat more traditional or conservative in their beliefs than some churches are. On questions of direct evangelism, Brian thinks this is more of an "internal joy of sharing faith" process, rather than door-knocking or street preaching. The study groups already set up in the church have begun learning about discipleship, NCM's main focus. If the Board formally approves, the NCM process will be gently explained in portions to the congregation over the course of several services, and then brought up for formal discussion and decision-making at the AGM or some other future General Meeting. For more questions and answers, Brian invites the Board to contact him directly over the

next month. This discussion will be continued at the next Board meeting.

**Motion:** to accept all regular reports as presented. Moved by Jane, seconded by Barb. Carried.

**8. New Business:**

- a) Ray noted that October was Pastor Appreciation Month, and thanked Brian for his contributions.
- b) Thanks were extended to Hazel and to Jacquie for filling in after recent resignations, as Interim Chair and Secretary.

9. **Next Meeting** scheduled for: Dec 2 or 9, or another convenient day. The secretary will coordinate this with Board members. Time will also be determined.

10. **Closing Prayer:** Brian

11. **Adjournment:** 10:15 p.m. Moved by Hazel.

**Note:** Ray congratulated Bill on having chaired both the shortest (23 minutes) and the longest (3 hours and 14 minutes) Board meetings in recent memory!