

St. Andrew`s Christian Church Board Meeting

June 16, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. – Google Meet – Rockland, Ontario

This meeting will be recorded.

Welcome and opening of meeting:

Chair: Bill

Secretary: Marie

Expected Attendance: Jane, Jacquie, Brian, Rudy, Barb, Hazel, Sue, Colette, Ray, Bill, John, Nancy, Yvon, Susan, Marie

Regrets: Colette

Trustee Rep: Hazel

Motion: To grant Yvon Larocque and Susan Leduc correspondent status to this meeting.

Moved by Ray. Seconded by Rudy. Carried.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. Opening prayer Brian.

1. Adoption of Agenda:

Motion: To adopt Agenda (with amendments if any) Moved by Hazel.
seconded by Jane. Carried.

2. **Minutes of previous Board meetings** May 12, 2022, sent out electronically. Errors or omissions:

Motion: to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2022 Board meeting. Moved by Marie, seconded by Barb. Carried.

Presentation by Yvon Larocque on Full Bellies.

From Yvon's perspective Full Bellies at Pangborn Hall has been an overwhelming success. It has been very well accepted and received. The presentation was done in three parts: Where we were, where we are and where we are going. We have developed an association with the Food Bank, Eastern Ontario Health Unit as well as Social Services. They have sent us people whom we have helped through our program. We've been involved with several young people, students from L'Éscale, RDHS, and the Hockey School. They've helped with the rescue of the fruits and vegetables, loading the trailer and cleaning the sanctuary. We discontinued the craft vendor table once we were made aware this was not approved, as well as the shed storage problem. We continue to use the food scraps to feed the animals at Papanack Zoo and Stephane's goats. We've also had some of our clients volunteer. We had to discontinue the practice of renting a truck because we didn't have the correct licensing to haul food produce from Quebec to Ontario.

Yvon and Full Bellies have tried different systems to tweak their presentation and product. This is ongoing. They have helped the Outreach Program with providing strawberries and apples as well as the sale of pies and meals. They have received endorsements from the mayor. Yvon had a conversation with him regarding a local vendor's permit. Amy, of course, has a vendor's permit but we wanted to make sure we were doing everything legally. They have received endorsements from the Food Bank and the Ontario Health Unit.

Yvon would like a six-month extension. Rockland Public School has reached out to him for a breakfast program beginning in September. He has also talked to Pastor Ruth Draffin about possibly doing a fundraising venture with them to help the Syrian family. She proposed that there may be a meal that they would do, such as a spaghetti dinner. Yvon has committed to providing the fruits and vegetables for this. In terms of dollars, last week we started with \$1148. Was the cost. We returned \$1070. There was a bit of a shortfall there but the extra food we didn't sell was returned to St. Isidore. This was about \$170. Yvon gave Amy \$100. This doesn't account for the travelling expenses. This is not a money-making venture. It is an outreach program. Full Bellies is not just about food, it is about reaching people. Full Bellies has done something for each one of our volunteers. It has given us a purpose.

Questions: The quality of produce. Rockland is at the tail end of the supply chain. Rockland receives the produce after St. Isidore, Vanleek Hill, and Alexandria. Clients are reporting a fair amount of spoilage. Another concern presented was that the volunteers are filling their bags with choice produce and store this in the office before the sale begins. The price point seems to be a bit steep for those of special status.

Answers: In terms of quality control there has been some trials in trying to provide the best quality as possible. This includes Yvon going to Montreal directly. The product we have is every bit comparable to Walmart/Giant Tiger. Full Bellies sells by volume as opposed to unit. The average \$22 box/bag is upwards of \$40 comparable to a local grocery store. Full Bellies rewards their amazing volunteers with produce. Most of the volunteers give their boxes away. These volunteers work several hours a week. The little bit of produce that they provide their volunteers is not sufficient compensation for their efforts but it's what they can do. In the future, Yvon would like the use of the kitchen perhaps to help show families how to use certain produce items.

Concerns: The sustainability of Full Bellies and it's overtaking the use of our hall. This reduces the opportunity for others. At the beginning of this venture, Yvon had stated that he would not be using the kitchen or the fridge but they are now using them and Yvon is proposing to use them more. The Board can deal with this, but it needs to be a known quantity.

Concern: Yvon having to go to Montreal with a different vehicle and not being reimbursed for that. Because Yvon is doing this at his own expense, it increases concern, because this tells us, as this is set up, it is not a sustainable operation. The operation is being provided with free transportation by him and it is being provided with free rent space by St. Andrew's and yet Full Bellies still lost money this past week. *Response:* There is profit in Full Bellies but not a great deal. Yvon wasn't sure last week was a typical week.

The other concern, notwithstanding, the stated intent, Full Bellies is incorporated as a regular business, is allowed to make a profit and yet St. Andrew's as a registered charity, is in effect subsidizing for a profit corporation because we are giving them free rent. This is an optic that we need to keep in mind.

Concern: If someone got sick from a produce does Full Bellies have insurance? *Answer:* Yes they do. Jane indicated that a copy of the insurance certificate is filed at the office.

Question: Yvon travelling to Montreal is with great expense. Is there not a local solution for this?

Response: He has worked for forty years at a local food distribution center, but they cannot compare to the price we have. National Grocers/Loblaws is out of Toronto. There are some subsidiaries out of Cornwall and then it is shipped from there. The product we get from Montreal is at the market in Montreal. The product is unloaded from the boats. This is where we are getting the best prices.

Answer: Amy is a registered business, but she has full transparency and if anyone wants to see what she is paying for various products she will produce the paperwork. You cannot buy locally what she is buying in Montreal. Amy wants to become a not-for-profit organization. However, there is a lot of red tape. She had to first become a company to protect people that may sue her from getting sick with her product. She had to take care of that first. Another concern raised was St. Andrew's is not being compensated for its use of the hall.

Questions: Is this six month an extension for while he is looking for another place and will he be back in six months and ask for another six months? Has Yvon looked into other locations that might be more suitable than ours? They don't seem to have the facilities he needs.

Answer: He believes St. Andrew's is quite comparable and has been very beneficial. St. Andrew's church reflects well in the community.

Question: Does Yvon provide a delivery service?

Answer: This is not part of the program but Yvon has provided this service at times. Another question raised was about advertisement only being on Facebook. Advertising has been done mostly by word of mouth. It was also pointed out that the Jewel radio station has advertised Full Bellies as well as on their own site.

Question: Wednesday night is garbage night and Yvon has started running the program on Thursday and Friday. If the garbage is kept for a week, then we would be running into problems. Does this exceed our limit of garbage output that we would be allowed?

Answer: Any garbage or food waste that is left over from Full Bellies is removed from the premises every Thursday night or Friday or whichever day we return the produce. Anything related to Full Bellies is removed on a weekly basis by Yvon or whoever else oversees cleaning up.

We would like to see a financial statement from Amy for six months indicating how much rent she is receiving from Vankleek Hill, Alexandria, and St. Isidore. Any profit after expenses should go directly to a designated charity. It cost \$200 to declare yourself a non-profit. What is the charity/charities that Amy is planning to give the profits that come from Rockland, Alexandria, St. Isidore and Vankleek Hill. This information would go a long way in putting our minds at rest over a further extension.

Yvon was thanked for his presentation by the Chair.

Yvon has requested a six-month extension to move beyond a trial.

Question: Is Yvon proposing that this no longer be a trial? Is this correct? Yvon's reply: Continue for another six months and if it's the Board's wishes that we seek an alternative arrangement, then that would give us six months to find another location.

A request was made for opinions from board members who participate in the Full Bellies program. From Jane: We've served over 795 families over the past 14 weeks. This is phenomenal. This has exploded. There has been an outpouring of gratitude for this program. It not only benefits our community, but it also benefits our church. It is in its infancy and there is so much room for growth. Nancy feels that the program has given her a purpose and a sense of pride and it's what was she is meant to do as well.

There is a concern for Yvon personally on the financial side. We wouldn't want him to lose money personally.

MOTION: That Full Bellies have an extension of six months for the use of Pangborn Hall. Moved by Jane. Seconded by Ray.

Nancy should be able to tell us if there has been any bookings of the hall, requests and time. The treasurer of the church has talked to Amy and Yvon and looking at the figures they have supplied so far verbally, they are using the hall for a 48-hour period. At this time of the year, there is no heat, but there will be in the winter and there is electricity. They do supply their own soap, cloths, water, knives etc. They are not using church supplies. As the designation of non-profit will be forthcoming, I think it is reasonable that they pay \$200/month which is \$50/week in rent. I think more than that would jeopardize the program because there is not a lot of money. It is a reasonable expectation that they cover the cost of heat and hydro.

As they're already using the kitchen and will in the future need the use of the kitchen and some refrigeration, the motion needs to be amended to include that.

1st AMENDMENT to MOTION: That Full Bellies continue with the use of Pangborn Hall and kitchen with the occasional use of the fridge, but nothing is to be stored in the fridge on a permanent basis, for an extension of six months at a cost of \$200/month. Moved by Jane. Seconded by Ray.

At Vanleek Hill, for four days, rent is paid at \$100/week or \$25/day. St. Isidore is 5 days a week in a commercial building. Jane is not aware of the cost of rent at St. Isidore.

We normally charge \$35/hr to rent Pangborn Hall. If we look at the actual usage of our hall, 15 hours of active use times \$35/hr equals \$525, add \$25/hr if the kitchen is used comes out to \$550/week or \$2200/mth. If this was a non-profit organization, I think we could consider cutting that in half to \$1100/month. My counter proposal to the Treasurer, is \$2200. Until they are a charitable organization or non-profit organization and then charge them half that amount. Maybe we can work around it to complete our regular fellowship activities in the hall.

Full Bellies did agree in the first meeting that they would work around the fellowship events. We should all be able to work together to find a solution for this.

There is a way to address the future rental inconsistencies if Full Bellies commits to becoming a not-for-profit organization within a reasonable length of time. If they are not within six months, then they would have to go elsewhere. I think the indication was that it should not take that long.

Chair asked Yvon what Full Bellies end-of-year was and when Amy was going to look into the non-profit status?

Yvon's response: Amy has looked into the non-profit status. There are complications and red tape involved. But this is what she is endeavoring to do.

Concern: It is very difficult for fellowship to run any events without the use of the hall. Answer: We did have a commitment originally with Full bellies that they would accommodate and work with Fellowship and Outreach. We will continue with this commitment with Full Bellies to accommodate whatever activities other than Full Bellies that are proposed for the church.

Most of our Fellowship events, dinners, craft shows, bazaars have been on the weekends, Friday night, Saturday. That is an important consideration. The church should have the priority in the use of the building.

Two things about charitable status: One related to us and one related to Full Bellies. Depending on whether Full Bellies feels that a non-profit or not for profit designation is the best choice for them, those paths can be convoluted in terms of the legal process and the registration with CRA, if there are lawyers needed to be involved to make sure the aims of the organization are properly expressed so they don't get into trouble down the road. There is complexity to that, and I understand an operation that has started up in the last year and a half, has not navigated that yet. I appreciate the Chair's proposal that we encourage Full Bellies to make it happen sooner rather than later. As far as our charitable aims as a church, in our CRA registration and our constitution, we have different aims as a church; about proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, doing the works of God in the world, helping the hungry, helping the homeless, helping people in need, is part of our charitable aims and we are quite right using whatever means, whether working with another non-profit or whether working with a business to achieve our charitable aims. If we agree that Full Bellies with the donation of food to needy, people meet some of our charitable aims, then our support of them is in line with our identity as a church. We can and have made specific provisions for organizations, such as Église Évangélique, and Rockland Community Church to give them a favorable rental agreement because they are seeking the same aims as we are. They are doing charitable work. Brian does agree that this organization would be better off to continue moving forward in its progress and become non-profit or not for profit as soon as possible.

Concern: It was stated that not for profit requires three things. 1. That they declare themselves legally and that is \$200. And she accomplish that in less than two months. 2. All of their profits go to a designated charity. 3. A tax declaration be made. Whether they end up paying taxes or not. We would like to see a version of this. If there are problems with this, we should be made aware of them before we proceed any further.

Bill stated that having the paperwork that we've asked for would go a long way to alleviating some of those concerns. A written commitment to go for the status of not for profit and show reasonable progress within a certain amount of time, would be another gesture of good faith.

2nd AMENDMENT to MOTION: Full Bellies shows progress in their application for non-profit status and financial information be provided to the Board in the next 60 days. Moved by Jane. Seconded by Ray.

3rd AMENDMENT to MOTION: To limit the extension to two months conditional upon the payment of \$200 per month and the submission of paperwork demonstrating financial responsibility and progress towards achieving not-for-profit status. If the Board is satisfied after the two-month period, then another extension of four months can be planned. Moved by Jane. Seconded by Ray.

The beginning date of this extension is June 16, 2022 with end date August 16, 2022 for the two-month extension.

A formal rental agreement needs to be drawn up. A request was made that our Property Manager oversee the contract for the next two months until we get the response from Amy in a positive way.

Seven votes in favour. Motion is passed.

3. Business Arising:

- a. Update on NHSP projects. Jane indicated that Barb and Rudy will be ordering chafing dishes. Brian is working on computers and the hearing device. He did speak to the Senior's group to find out what they need. We might be looking into some computer courses in the fall. The NHSP coordinator indicated it makes sense to replace the Seacan with two storage units. Jane has sent off a written request as such which has been received and we are now awaiting a reply. It was indicated that the chafing dishes have been ordered and should be in within a week.
- b. Garage sale report. See report submitted.

4. **Treasurer's Report – Jane.** See report submitted. Jane indicated that she has submitted the new anti-hate grant. It will take 10-15 days. We should hear whether it has been approved next week. Jacquie asked if a cheque for the Food Bank would be forthcoming. Jane indicated she would speak to Colette about the amount. The money for the high school will be going directly to the high school but they will still need a presenter. The high school will let us know the names of the recipients.

A concern about the offerings being lower was presented. Brian spoke about this in the past when offerings have been down where he has made appeals during the offering time to let people know that we need the support. He has not been made aware of the decline, so no attempt was made to address that.

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

Regular Reports:

- a. Benevolent Fund: Brian, Barb. No further draws in the last month.
- b. Fellowship: Barb. Nothing to report.
- c. Ministry and Personnel: Rudy. Brian has requested vacation from July 4th-10th and August 7th-14th which has been approved.
- d. Missions: Colette. No submission.
- e. Music: Jacquie. See report submitted. Jane stated her appreciation for all of Jacquie's hard work. Jacquie is continuing as the music coordinator until the end of August. Hazel stated she has

enjoyed her music. Her dedication and her professionalism are absolutely amazing. The chair expressed his gratitude on behalf of the board to Jacquie for her hard work.

- f. Pangborn Hall: Nancy. One booking for the hall next week for a few hours.
- g. Pastoral Care Report: Barb. A report has been submitted. Jacquie expressed gratitude on behalf of all of us for the thoughtful cards that were given.
- h. Regional Council: John. The Regional Council had their annual General Meeting online at the end of May. I attended on the Friday evening and most of the Saturday morning sessions. There was not anything that directly impacted St. Andrew's.
Jacquie commented that next week is the Aboriginal Day of Prayer and she was asking if our church would be recognizing that in any way. Do we have some special way of appreciating that? Brian will do his best to include something in the upcoming service.
- i. Property Management: Rudy. See emails regarding this. Mr. Lapensee, the refrigeration technician, indicated the compressor was leaking. It would be more expensive to repair than to buy a new one. There will be \$105 call-out fee from Lapensee. He recommended using another fridge. Please see a further email report on this.
Jacquie asked Rudy if he had a comprehensive list of all the people who have key FOBS.

John indicated there is an electronic record in the system that is available. Brian indicated that John built in a function that writes a report with a list of all the key FOB holders and what their schedules are. Brian asked John if he could print out another report for the Property Manager and Bill. The chair asked what the rationale is for issuing FOBS. How many are out there? Answer: For one-time rentals you can remove the access when the event is over. The main concern is about regular access and about what they have access to. Bill would like to see some deliberate control on that and see the rationale for how that is determined, and he believes this falls under the Property Management. He asked that the three of you work together on that and he would like to see an update on that. Property Management would also like access to the FOB list.

- j. Rockland Manor: Sue. The residents enjoyed the music and Brian's visit. They loved Barb's cards.
- k. Social Club: Jane. Slowly getting back up to speed. 16 were present on Tuesday.
- l. Stewardship: Ray. Report submitted.
- m. Sunday School: Nancy. Nothing to report.
- n. Trustee: Hazel. No updates currently.
- o. Worship Supplies: position vacant.
- p. Pastor's Report: Brian. This past month marked 30 years since my ordination in Carden Ontario. I received a large envelope in the mail from General Council thinking it was about my 30 years. It was mostly a form letter from the moderator congratulating me on 30 years of service. It was touching to receive the hand-written note from Richard Bott, who is our moderator. Richard and I have been friends for the past seven years. In my assessment of this meeting, I am very pleased to see how well people conversed, how well people compromised and found common ground and came up with a solution that was acceptable to so many. Thank you for caring and listening to each other.

Over the years, Jacquie's commitment, and sense of responsibility to the Music Ministry has been immense. She has brought us music week after week, to Rockland Manor and to another home, St. Louis Residence in Orleans on a regular basis. I don't think I am the only one who has noticed that through the years, Jacquie's playing has become more relaxed, more enthusiastic, and more creative. She has taken on some wonderfully complex arrangements and made them postludes and preludes and just filled our worship with music. I know that I am not just speaking to this Board gathered here but people who have gathered through the years for worship week after week that have been blessed by her ministry. To Jacquie and Bill – a great thanks to that Ministry and I pray

that we find people that can do half of what you've done. God Bless You and thank you very much.
Reverend Brian Wilkie

Motion: To accept all regular reports as presented. Moved by Rudy. Seconded by Jacquie. Carried.

New Business:

a. Repairs on kitchen fridge. See previous comments under Property Management.

1. Next meeting scheduled for July 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm.
2. Closing Prayer: Brian

Adjournment 9:17 p.m. Moved by Barb.

St. Andrew's Christian Church respectfully acknowledges that Clarence-Rockland is situated on the unceded traditional and ancestral land of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Nations.