

Minutes of Annual General Meeting - March 9, 2025, 10:15 am
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

1. Call to Order by Chair - Peter Oickle

2. Opening Prayer - Olive Joudrey

3. Remarks from the Chairperson: Peter welcomed those who came to AGM (approx. 30). Peter noted that Council accepted a Synod Covenant (access online) that details our relationship with the Eastern Synod.

4. Adoption of Agenda: No additions

Marshall made motion to accept the Agenda as circulated, seconded by Melinda

Motion Passed

5. Approval of Minutes:

Judy moved the adoption of February 25, 2024 AGM Minutes as circulated, seconded by Belinda

Motion Passed

Business Arising from AGM Minutes 2024: None

6. COUNCIL REPORT

Chairperson Report:

*SSODA - Another year agreement signed (3rd year). Note: We are now the only Comfort Centre in Bridgewater (support of SSODA Program).

*Peter introduced current Council members

*Church parking lot has been paved by Halifax Paving (the Town has concerns about water runoffs) that is being looked into.

*The Transition Ministry after Rev Paul's resignation went well. Farewell event for Paul was a huge success.

*Andre returned as Treasurer with CRA Guidelines to be followed.

*SSLSM progressed during the fall of 2024 and 2 Pastors were hired - Victoria Featherston and Annette Smith. They will provide 6 services per month, starting in 2025.

*The Youth Ministry will be discussed with SSLSM Council.

* St. Paul's was in need of new hall doors (replaced)

*St. Paul's failed to provide Sunday School and Vacation Bible School for our children - no staff available.

Peter made motion to accept his report, seconded by Karen Field

Motion Passed

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Treasurer's Report:

Andre has returned as Treasurer and Council member.

He reviewed the Financial Statements with Congregation present, ending December 31, 2024.

The Internal Review Statement was signed by Lucille Wentzell and Darlene Slauenwhite.

With Rev Paul's resignation, significant savings were realized.

Questions: SSODA - The government pays for their staff and food.

Youth Program - no concrete discussion has been held to date on Youth Programs. Meeting with Pastors to get their perspective on what could happen. No action.

Discussion on funds from the Hall Estate and monies from SSODA for Youth Programs.

Andre made motion that the Review Reports for year ending December 31, 2024 be accepted as presented; seconded by Belinda

Motion Passed

Question: How are the new Pastors paid?, as well as funerals and other events to be covered?

Each church/parish pays for their own services to SSLSM. The best route to provide other services (funerals etc.) is to make contact with our Church office, Gail, to forward to SSLSM administrator to see who can provide coverage. Direct contact by the church through the office can be made. Hospital visits by a Pastor can be arranged the same way.

8. REPORTS TO THE CONGREGATION

Statistical Report:

Peter and Gail - Peter reviewed this report with those present. Motion to accept this report by Darlene, seconded by Olive

Motion Passed

Ministry Team Reports: Many thanks to all Teams for their Annual Reports.

Aesthetics - Question on the need to complete another kitchen. It was stated that SSODA has 24/7 access to our present kitchen and that there is need for a 'kitchenette' for Church functions. The cost for such is questionable.

Human Resources - Question on why Staff Performance Appraisals have not been completed. Only Brian is on this Team (help needed). Council to review process (2025).

Church Library - Question as to where will the books go upon dismantling of the Library. Olive will call other Churches to see whether they would want any such books. Probably the attic will be their destination.

Motion by Melinda to accept Team Reports, seconded by Donald

Motion Passed

9. NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Peter called for nominations. Karen Field and Lucille Wentzell put forth their names to join the Church Council, to have a constitutional number for 2025. Ann will stay on for 1 more year.

Suzanne made motion to accept Karen and Lucille on Council, seconded by Donald

Motion Passed

2025 National Synodical Delegate: Judy Wile was nominated to attend, dates are July 10-13, 2025, in Winnipeg

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Presentation for 2025: Andre reviewed his 2025 budget with Congregation. Increases to be expected for Staff employees.

Andre made motion to adopt his 2025 Budget, seconded by Melinda

Motion Passed

Action on installing new Windows (hall, kitchen etc.): Two quotes were obtained. Peter reported we now have 1958 or 1968 versions and need for replacements (replace with inserts). Decision to go with NOVA (quote of \$28,192.32). The 2025 Budget allotted \$35,000 for such, for contingencies.

Motion to proceed with new windows by Marshall, seconded by Andre

Motion Passed

11. Closing Remarks: Peter expressed how pleased the Congregation was with our 2 new Pastors, Victoria and Annette. So lucky to have them at St. Paul's and other Parishes.

12. Closing Prayer by Olive Joudrey

Meeting adjourned - 12:50 pm

Respectfully submitted Judy Garber, Secretary

Approved:

SSODA = South Shore Open Doors Association

SSLSM = South Shore Lutheran Shared Ministry