

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes – Sept 16, 2021, 6:30 pm

Present: Belinda Josephson, Ann Joudrey, Karen Field, Wilfred Feener, Andre Brideau, Marshall Robar, Helen Sarty, Sarah vanderWal, David Zwicker and Judy Garber Absent: Rev Paul and Cedric

1. Call to Order by Belinda

Opening Prayer & Scripture reading by Karen Oct Prayer - Sarah

2. Approval of Sept Agenda – Motion to approve by Sarah, seconded by Wilf

3. Approval of June Minutes: Motion to approve by Ann; seconded by Helen with One amendment: “Brooke paid for extra time at student rates” Emergency Meeting Minutes approved by Karen, seconded by Wilf

4. Financial Report: Andre moved adoption of his reports sent via email, seconded by David Motion Passed

5. Pastor’s Report: Rev. Paul’s reports for June, July & August were received via email. One addition to August’s report: He attended the Worship & Praise meeting held on Aug 19th.

6. Old Business:

a. COVID 19 Update:

NS Covid restrictions were not lifted on Sept 15th. Due to increased rates in cases, restrictions will not be reviewed until Oct 4th. Our Church will keep the ‘status quo’.

Discussion on the upcoming funeral on Sat 18th and how it will be conducted. 50-60 people can be present in the Church and 50-60 people in the Church hall. Status quo rules to be followed. Karen will contact/review procedures with the Ladies who are doing the reception for this funeral.

Eventually, vaccination cards may need to be available at all Church functions.

b. Update re: Church Plumbing & Electrical Repairs: Repairs addressed at Emergency & Congregational Meetings. Removal of asbestos will be at least two weeks away. Marshall will keep the Council informed of the process via email.

Follow-up with Oickle's Electrical will be on Tues Sept 21st. At the same time, the addition of more outlets will be discussed. Costs and the ability for our system to handle more outlets will be considered.

c. Update Youth Program: Grants received from the Provincial government but to date, grants not received from the Federal government. d. Paul's Request re: Update of Teams and their Responsibilities: Work in progress. Paul is hoping to add new members to each Team.

"Retreat for Worship" is being planned for sometime in November. A Survey will be sent to our Congregation shortly, with the hope that our Congregation will help guide us in future services.

**Any documents should be sent via PDF format so that all members can open & print the document.

Rev Paul will be attending the "Vital Church Maritimes" conference in Truro, Oct 14-16, in person.

7. Correspondence:

a. Suzanne Jodrey has requested to attend the Oct 14-16 conference, in person. Council's decision on this request was to encourage Suzanne to attend via Zoom.

Motion made by Helen to support Suzanne's request for her participation via Zoom and that Council will cover any expenses for registration fees, seconded by Ann.

Motion Passed A reply will be sent to Suzanne on Council's decision.

b. Virginia Oickle's request to consider hiring a 'full time Youth Ministry support' person was discussed. A reply will be sent to acknowledge her request but such a position is not feasible at this time. Judy will send a reply.

c. Peter Oickle's letter re: heat pumps & solar panels: A 'Thank You' response to his suggestion will be sent. Both Marshall & Andre are willing to sit on an ADHOC Ministry Team to pursue such at St.Paul's.

Motion to support Peter's ADHOC Team made by Helen, seconded by David Motion Passed
Other name to be considered - Energy Adhoc Team (from Church Council)

8. Ministry "Team" Reports:

a. Property: Work in progress. Congregation approved for Council to move forward on necessary repairs to both plumbing and electrical at St.Paul's.

b. Worship and Praise: Survey questions to be sent out to our Congregation soon to help determine what Service is the preference in the future. Is the document ready to go?

Communion will now be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Suzanne's report from the conference held on June 25&26 will be placed in the next Pulse. Request will be given to Olive. Sarah Wentzell is interested in assisting with our Organist at St.Paul's.

At the Reconciliation Service on Sept 26th, members are asked to wear 'orange'.

c.Stewardship: The next meetings are being planned for during the day. This does not allow for Andre to attend unless the meetings occur on Saturday - to be reconsidered.

d.Fellowship: No meetings for some time. Special 'Thank You' will be sent to Judy Wile for her continued support since 2013.

e. Learning: No meeting scheduled.

f. Technology: Special thanks given to Andre for all his assistance in setting-up our new camera system.

All Teams will be encouraged to have ZOOM meetings.

9. New Business:

a. New camera setup is definitely a plus for televising our Sunday Services

b. Sheena is doing some work from home. Ann, Olive & Lucille will be the other office staff.

c. Offering & Membership: It was noted that views of services occur after the actual Service. General funds from weekly envelopes are decreasing from 2019 to 2021. Government funding will cease as of Oct 2021. Concerns raised - Discussion - Why are offerings decreasing from members not attending Sunday Services?

d. Membership List: Tabled

Discussion re: Sarah's suggestion to include corporate prayer and short meditation at our Council meetings. Sarah will start this process at our October meeting, Wed Oct 20th at 6:30 pm.

10. Closing Prayer by Sarah

Next meeting: Wed 20th Oct, 6:30 pm, Family Room

Respectfully submitted Judy Garber, Secretary

Approved: