

Minutes of the Meeting of St. Paul's Congregational Board, November 10, 2015

Present: Derrick Grant (Chair), Frank Morrison, Ron Naugler, Kelly Simpson, Rev. Richard Bowley, Julian Walker (Acting Secretary)

Regrets: Ann Krause and Jack Simpson.

- Derrick called the meeting to order. A revised draft agenda was distributed as a result of several new matters being added.
- Rev. Bowley opened the meeting with a prayer.
- Derrick welcomed everyone to the meeting and the revised draft agenda was adopted: (Kelly, Ron.)
- The minutes of the Oct. 13, 2015 meeting were accepted with some discussion around one addition to the minutes. It was agreed that the JNAC committee report should be attached to the Oct. 13 minutes. (Kelly, Frank)
- A procedure to decide the membership of a Nominating Committee was discussed. This committee would work to ensure that the various committees of the church would have officers nominated for the New Year. It was moved that the Nominating Committee would be composed of the Chair of the Board, the Chair of Trustees and the Chair of M&P. (Ron, Frank). Given the importance of the committee it was recommended that we further discuss this topic at the Dec. 8, 2015 meeting. A key point for discussion would be whether the Chairs represent their committee for the nominating role or whether other representatives would be named for each committee.
- Derrick is to speak with Jane of the JNAC committee to determine if there are any pending financial or other items from the JNAC process.

Late breaking items added to the agenda:

- **Optimizing the Screens:** The board considered an offer from Bob Miller to look at ways to maximize the potential of the screen system. For instance, Rev. Bowley said he was looking into having the Nativity Story being told on Dec. 18 using the screens. Reservations for such events would need to be booked through the office. It was agreed that Bob Miller should pursue ideas to realize best use of the screens.
- **Proposal for a Ministry site of Two years at St. Paul's:** Rev Bowley tabled a communication from Kendall Harrison, Personnel Minister for the Maritime Conference, suggesting that St. Paul's explore the possibility of having a candidate for ministry who is also a member of the Canadian Military join the St. Paul's ministry team for a period of two years. The candidate's salary would be paid throughout the period by the military. The same offer is being made to two other churches, with one of the three to be selected. It was moved and seconded as follows:

"That the Board recommend that we proceed immediately to express interest in the proposal for a ministry site in order to explore the feasibility of such a learning site at St. Paul's." (Kelly, Frank)
- **Communication issues:** Derrick indicated that he has heard some concerns from the congregation about changes and innovations that are not fully explained in advance. A recent example was the changes in how communicants take communion, coming up to the front of the sanctuary as opposed to being passed trays in their pews. Both Derrick and Rev. Bowley expressed interest in addressing issues with the congregation and making sure that the members are communicated

changes in advance of implementation. Some of the developments in terms of a ministry site are a good example of the need to explain.

- **Committee Reports:**

These were brief due to a number of pressing matters before the board.

Property: The good work of the committee in spearheading the Screens project was noted. It was also pointed out that ongoing work is needed to further fine-tune the screens.

Christian education: There is a continuing need to identify further Sunday school teachers.

Finance: The church is currently operating with a deficit for the year of \$30,000, however the committee chair indicated that by Dec. 31 the deficit will very likely shrink to \$10,000 as in other years. The status of the Refugee Committee was discussed, and a request has been made to have another member on the committee from St. Paul's.

- With one resignation from the board and one member absent for some time, the question of quorum was discussed. It was agreed that at the next meeting a change in the quorum would be discussed. (Ron, Frank)
- The membership of Joint Search Committee will be finalized at the pending congregational meeting on Nov. 29. It was agreed that the recommendation of the JNAC committee will be the mandate for the Joint Search Committee.
- A new member will shortly be proposed for membership in the Church

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 (Frank).

Respectfully submitted,
Julian Walker (Acting Secretary)