

Kincardine United Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 10th, 2023

Present: Rod Coates (Chairperson), Gord Dunbar (Minister of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care), Judy Zarubick (Programme), Liz Dillman (Treasurer, Regional Council Representative), Mary Phillips (Ministry and Personnel), Charles Ludlow (Membership and Mission), Angela Hazlewood (Council Secretary)

Regrets: Donna Mowry (Administration)

The Council of Kincardine United Church was called to meet via the ZOOM platform on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023. Notice of this meeting was given nine days prior to the meeting via e-mail by the secretary and a second e-mail was sent to let Council members know that all documents had been added to the shared drive.

Rod Coates called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Constitution of Meeting (Rod Coates)

Rod Coates called this meeting duly constituted in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church, for whatever business may properly come before it.

2. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of the Territory (Rod Coates)

Rod Coates shared these words with Council:

“For thousands of years, long before there were settlers, there were people here with a long tradition of stewardship of the land known as First Nations. Their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and of their spirituality. As we meet this evening to do the work of our Council, we pause to remember that our church is situated on the unceded territories of several First Nations peoples whose culture, traditions and stewardship of the land we recognize with respect, acknowledging the unceded territory of the Chippewas of Nawash First Nation and the Saugeen Ojibwe. Keep us mindful of the covenants that have been made – and broken – with First Nations peoples. May we grow into living with respect on this land, walking into reconciliation through peace and friendship with all who live and work and worship on it”.

3. Lighting of the Candle (Rod Coates)

As in his usual way, Rod Coates began with pun-making humour: “I once wanted to start a candle making company. But my family didn't think it would be a good idea – I had to keep reassuring them that it made scents.” Rod Coates continued by leading Council

in prayer, “As we gather this evening, lighting this Christ candle reminds us of God’s presence and love in our midst. And Christ within all of us. Amen”.

4. Devotion (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar shared a recent publication written by Alex Neve who is a lawyer, as well as, an Adjunct Professor of international human rights law with the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa. Alex Neve has also served as Secretary General of Amnesty International and is a former member of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. The publication was written in light of what has been happening in Israel and Gaza. Alex Neve talks about his feelings about the murder and war crimes against humanity. The message is to be able to see the human behind the actions. Alex Neve states that he understand the emotions, but does not understand the brutality and feels that all horrific things like death, killing, and violence do not resolve anything. Gord Dunbar ended the devotion with the idea that we must ultimately live in love in midst of the horror. Gord Dunbar then led Council in prayer.

5. Consent Docket

A. Enabling Actions

1. That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.
2. That the minutes of the Council meeting from September 12th, 2023 be approved as distributed.
3. That motions and proposals be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Correspondence

1. E-mail from Nancy Dykstra regarding Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization, dated September 15th, 2023.

Rod Coates declared this consent docket approved by consensus as amended.

6. Business Arising

i) Approved Collaborative Agreement

Judy Zarubick stated that the Region had approved the Collaborative Agreement and shared the fact that the agreement will become permanent January 2024. The following was approved at the Congregational Support Commission meeting on September 19, 2023: That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Regional Council approves the Collaborative agreement between Bervie Kinloss Pastoral Charge and Kincardine United Church. CARRIED.

Judy Zarubick continued by adding that Mary Phillips' contact information as a representative of the Ministry and Personnel committee, had been shared with Bervie United Church in case it was needed due to the Collaborative Agreement. Mary Phillips requested that she be given contact information for Bervie United Church's representatives for the Collaborative Agreement as she had not yet been contacted.

7. Reports from Committees-Standing Items

i) Administration/Trustees (Jack Nancekivell)

Jack Nancekivell stated that there is \$26000.00 for the legacy fund which needs to be transferred to the trustees as they have been designated to be invested, however, at this time, it is still in the general fund to support cash flow. It is the hope that more funds will be raised and as a result a Capital Campaign has begun. The Trustees do not want to collapse any investments at this time. Jack Nancekivell stated that we are "asset-rich" and "cash flow short".

ii) Ministry and Personnel (Mary Phillips)

A discussion ensued about David Hamilton's leave. The Council meeting proceeded into the "Committee of the Whole".

Council moved out of the "Committee of the Whole".

8. Treasurer's Report (Liz Dillman)

Liz Dillman stated that Kincardine United Church is still in a deficit position, however, the deficit is not increasing. Liz Dillman asked if any Council members had any questions. Liz Dillman continued by saying that committees are not over-spending, however, more income is needed. Liz Dillman added that it is beneficial that the church has rental income to support the church. Rod Coates stated that it is nice that the church is being used by outside agencies. Liz Dillman shared that \$27000.00 will need to come out of the bank for capital projects and funds will need to be added to support cash flow. A discussion ensued about fundraising and that letting the congregation know what has been raised thus far would be helpful.

9. New Business

i) **New Members of Council – Self-Nominated** (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar shared that Randy Norris has asked how to get on Council. It was discussed that Council has the power to appoint in between the Congregational meetings. Rod Coates had let Randy Norris know that Council would welcome guests to meetings and that Regional Council Representatives are needed.

ii) **Committee Meeting Dates/Times** (Rod Coates)

Rod Coates stated that it would be helpful to add information to the announcements as to when all committee meetings are held.

Closing/Prayer

The agenda having been completed and with no additional business to discuss, Rod Coates declared the meeting closed at 8:18 p.m.

Gord Dunbar led Council in prayer to end the meeting.

Next Council Meeting: November 14th, 2023 (In-person in the Resource Room of the church)

Signature of President

Signature of Secretary