

Kincardine United Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 14th, 2023

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

Regrets: Mary Phillips (Ministry and Personnel), Judy Zarubick (Programme), Jack Nancekivell (Trustee)

The Council of Kincardine United Church was called to meet in-person on Tuesday, November 14th, 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. As there were new people joining the meeting on behalf of Council members, Rod Coates went through some Council expectations during meetings.

Rod Coates called the meeting to order at 7:03 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:

“As we gather this evening, we acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of First Nations Peoples – Peoples who have lived on this land and by these waters for thousands of years. We gather as a non-Indigenous community of faith on the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibwe Nation, giving gratitude for their stewardship through the ages. We are newcomers to this land and we have gained so much in coming. Our gain, however, has come at a great cost to First Nations Peoples. We acknowledge that we have gained much within racist systems of our creation, systems which have benefitted those who are white, Christian and heterosexual. Our acknowledgement is only the beginning of our journey toward reconciliation, toward healing of all our relations with those we have belittled in this culture. Our words must now be followed up with action. We pray the Holy Spirit breathes forgiveness, hope and love into all our relations and sets us free from the evil of colonialism”.

3. Lighting of the Candle (Rod Coates)

As in his usual way, Rod Coates began with pun-making humour: “Did you know that lots of people have gotten fired from candle factories since they don’t want to work wick ends?” Rod Coates continued by leading Council in prayer: “As we gather this evening, let the lighting of this Christ candle draw us all closer in this sacred space, enveloped by God’s presence and love, the Holy Spirit in our midst, and the presence of Christ of all of us. Amen”.

4. Devotion (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar read from a book written by John Philip Newell entitled: Praying With The Earth: A Prayerbook for Peace. Gord Dunbar spoke about the many wars and conflicts around the world today and the idea that there is a lack of answers. Gord Dunbar stated that he is thankful for Council and the congeniality shared amongst members strengthens the work done on behalf of Kincardine United Church. Gord Dunbar 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 October 10th, 2023 be approved as distributed.
3. That motions and proposals be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Correspondence

1. Letter of Resignation from Art Danahy from the Trustee committee effective December 31st, 2023.

Rod Coates declared this consent docket approved by consensus.

6. Business Arising

i) More Discussion-Council Meetings – Zoom or In Person?

It was agreed upon that Council would like at least two meetings to be in-person per year and most meetings could still be by Zoom especially the winter meetings. The December and March meetings will be by Zoom. It has been the past practice for Council not to meet in January or February unless it is necessary to do so.

7. Reports from Committees-Standing Items

i) Administration (Donna Mowry)

Donna Mowry shared that the Evacuation Agreement with Trillium Court was renewed for January 1st –December 31st, 2024. The agreement was prepared and signed by Jack Nancekivell (Trustee) and Donna Mowry (Administration) and will be delivered to Trillium Court.

Donna Mowry continued by stating that a meeting was set up to discuss a reciprocal Evacuation Agreement with Davey-Linklater Funeral Home specifically with Steve Tiffin, Managing Funeral Director/Owner, who was agreeable to the plan. Kincardine United Church's Policy and Procedures will have to be updated to reflect changes to this agreement.

Thirdly, Donna Mowry let Council know that another \$1000.00 had been donated to the Memorial Legacy Tree designated to be given to the Trustees. The leaf has been engraved and installed for who is being honoured. Donna Mowry went on to say that all Memorial Legacy Funds given to the church for the purpose of being invested will now be transferred to the Trustees. Lastly, Donna Mowry stated that some investments may need to be cashed in and the Administration committee will be discussing this topic at their next meeting.

ii) Programme (Jim Zarubick)

In Judy Zarubick's absence, Jim Zarubick shared information about Programme's 2024 budget. Jim Zarubick stated that the supplies for Sunday School have been removed from the budget due to lack of volunteers, however, if there was to be Sunday School offered again, the committee believes there is enough curriculum to move forward.

8. Treasurer's Report (Liz Dillman)

Liz Dillman stated that revenue by the end of October would be within \$1000.00 of what it was last year at this time. Liz Dillman went on to say that all committees are under budget at this time. Liz Dillman is hoping that the trustees will not have to cash in any investments yet, however, if the funds for the capital projects are transferred, money will be needed for cash flow.

9. Review and Acceptance of the 2024 Proposed Budget

Liz Dillman went through the budgets of the committees for 2024 sharing the increases for each one.

During this time, Sheryl Elliot and Pam Plagos presented the 2024 Ministry and Personnel budget and Gord Dunbar excused himself during this time. A discussion ensued about the rate increases to staff salaries and the guiding principles used to reach a recommendation.

After a discussion ensued about all budgets, this proposal was offered:

The proposal is that Kincardine United Church Council accept and support the 2024 budget to present to the congregation at the congregational meeting on December 10th, 2023.

Rod Coates declared this proposal approved by consensus.

Rod Coates thanked everyone for their work on the budgets and for the discussion.

10. New Business

i) December Budget Meeting (December 10th)

Donna Mowry stated that she would lead the congregation through the budget discussion. It was also agreed upon that someone from each committee would be at the congregational budget meeting to present their respective budgets and answer questions. Angela Hazlewood, as Council Secretary, will be creating the agenda for the meeting. Gord Dunbar shared that he would along with Judy Zarubick ensure that there are copies of the budget available and will discuss any other logistics as necessary such as the PowerPoint slides.

ii) Draft Sign for the Church-Recommendation from Membership and Mission (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar presented the new draft sign for the front of the church that was created. A discussion ensued about the importance of having a new sign for the church building. It was agreed upon that Gord Dunbar along with Liz Dillman would pursue having this new sign created. Please see Attachment #1 of the draft sign design.

Closing/Prayer

The agenda having been completed and with no additional business to discuss, Rod Coates declared the meeting closed at 8:37 p.m.

Gord Dunbar led Council in prayer to end the meeting.

Next Council Meeting: December 12th, 2023 by Zoom

Signature of President

Signature of Secretary

Worship: 11:00 a.m. Sundays

*Finding meaning and purpose
in community.*



Minister
Gord Dunbar
Voluntary Associate
Minister
Judy Zarubick

