

Parkwood Presbyterian Church, Ottawa

The annual congregational meeting of Parkwood Church, Ottawa was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall.

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by the minister, James T. Hurd, at 6 p.m., following a congregational potluck supper.

Opening Devotional Exercises

Following a call to worship from Psalm 96 and prayer, the congregation sang "Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return". Thereafter the minister read Isaiah 62 and offered a brief exposition and comment thereon, and led in prayer, after which the congregation sang hymn #465 - "God of grace and God of glory".

Attendance

In addition to the minister, forty-seven members and adherents were present, as follows: Daniel Akat, Dora Brown, Brenda Creighton, Gayle Dumsday, Jean Elder, Stewart Elder, John Fair, Martha Fair, Brenda Featherstone, Dennis Featherstone, Sibby Fennema, Marcia Harten, Carolyn Herbert, Ivan Hooper, John Huber, Karen Hurd, Susanne Johnson, Ted Johnson, David Lee, Holly MacDonald, Alta MacFie, Don MacMillan, Kris Marion, Andrew McGregor, Dan Moffet, Carrie Morris, Michael Morris, Kathy Newton, Robert Newton, Dianne Nickerson, Scott Nickerson, Don Pestaluky, Pamela Pestaluky, Judy Reeves, Stewart Reeves, Lorne Roach, Margaret Roach, Jean Sida, Ed Steenhorst, Vicki Steenhorst, Barbara Townsend, Duane Townsend, Dale Tuck, Alice Visser, Tim Visser, Diane Walford, and Gord Walford.

Those present at the supper before the meeting also included: Placid Akat, Gregory Newton, Louise Reid, and Majari Sutherland, and five children.

Regrets

Regrets were registered by Jan Sheridan and Harry Van Dyk.

Election of Secretary

The chair called for the election of a secretary for the meeting.

Several nominations, each unseconded, were made and declined.

D. Nickerson nominated D. Featherstone. The nomination was seconded by D. Moffet. D. Featherstone accepted the nomination.

The chair called for further nominations. None were forthcoming,

On motion duly made and seconded, it was agreed that nominations cease.

The chair declared D. Featherstone elected secretary by acclamation.

Agenda

A motion to adopt the printed agenda was sustained. (Brenda Creighton/Scott Nickerson)

Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting (February 20, 2016)

A motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting was sustained (Marcia Harten/Brenda Creighton)

Minutes of the Congregational Meeting on June 14, 2016

A motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting was sustained (Scott Nickerson/Dale Tuck)

Reports of Session Officers

A motion to receive and consider the six reports was sustained. (Kris Marion/Don MacMillan)

For the Communion Clerk Report, it was agreed to add a note: “19 people were served at the Pastoral Care Communion on October 25”.

A motion to adopt the six reports as amended was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/John Huber)

Reports of Ministry Teams

A motion to receive and consider the 10 reports was sustained. (Dan Moffet/Kris Marion)

Policy and Planning

A motion to adopt the report of the Policy and Planning Team was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Brenda Featherstone)

Finance and Maintenance

It was agreed that the phrase “unlocking and unlocking” on page 19 should read “unlocking and relocking”.

A motion to adopt the report of the Finance and Maintenance Team, excluding the financial statements, was adopted. (Dan Moffet/Kris Marion)

Outreach

A motion to adopt the report of the Outreach Team was sustained. (Kris Marion/Scott Nickerson)

Fellowship

A motion to adopt the report of the Fellowship Team was sustained (Don Pestaluky/Susanne Johnson)

Worship Coordination

A motion to adopt the report of the Worship Coordination Team was sustained. (John Fair/Dianne Nickerson)

Christian Education

A motion to adopt the report of the Christian Education Team was sustained (Pam Pestaluky/Holly MacDonald)

Mission

A motion to adopt the report of the Mission Team was sustained (Stewart Elder/Kris Marion)

Pastoral Care

It was agreed to insert “John Fair assisted with providing worship at Starwood” to the report (top of page 46, left side). A motion to adopt the amended report of the Pastoral Care Team was sustained (Dora Brown/Barbara Townsend)

Leading with Care

In response to a question, Kris Marion indicated that a fire drill is being planned for some Sunday during the spring. A motion to adopt the report of the Leading with Care Team was sustained. (Kris Marion/Holly MacDonald)

Personnel

A motion to adopt the report of the Personnel Team was sustained (Gord Walford/Duane Townsend)

New Business

Facility Planning

A motion to receive and consider the report of the Facility Planning Team was sustained. (Kris Marion/Don MacMillan)

It was agreed to add the names of the members of the team to the report: Alta MacFie, Brenda Featherstone, Dan Moffet, Dale Tuck and Rev. J. Hurd, ex-officio)

It was agreed to interpret re-transferred in Recommendation A simply as transfer.

A recommendation to transfer \$10,180 from the building loan balance to the Operating Fund was approved. (Dennis Featherstone/Dale Tuck)

A recommendation to allocate \$3,730 from the building loan balance to a Furnishings Fund was approved. (Dianne Nickerson/Dan Moffet)

A recommendation to allocate \$16,000 from the building loan balance for the completion of the ductwork as originally planned and approved by the congregation for the construction project was approved. (Dennis Featherstone/Dale Tuck)

A recommendation was made that the target for donations and funds raised for the Loan Repayment Fund be a minimum of \$10,000 for 2017. (Dennis Featherstone/Dianne Nickerson) An amendment was proposed to change \$10,000 to \$15,000. (Gayle Dumsday/Don Pestaluky) The amendment fell. The original motion was sustained.

A motion to adopt the report as amended as a whole was sustained. (Gord Walford/Andrew McGregor)

Budget Team Report and Recommendations

A motion to receive and consider the report and recommendations of the Budget Team was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Kris Marion)

A recommendation that the congregation approve expenditures for local purposes of \$232,761 for 2017 was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Gord Walford)

A recommendation that the congregation approve a target of a balanced budget for local purposes in 2017 was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Kris Marion)

A recommendation that the congregation approve a target for offerings for local purposes of \$219,361 in 2017 in order to balance the budget was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Dale Tuck)

A Session recommendation that the congregation approve a target of \$20,000 for Presbyterians Sharing in 2017 was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Scott Nickerson)

A motion to adopt the report as a whole was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Ed Steenhorst)

Audit Team Report

A motion to receive and consider the report and financial statements was sustained. (Kris Marion/Judy Reeves)

Corrections in the report: On page 26, the last line under Note 3 should read December 31, 2017 and on page 30, in the lower table for Disbursement Details, the heading for the second column should read 2016 Actual.

Kathy Newton provided some additional explanation of cash flow.

There was a round of applause for the work of the Audit Team.

A motion to adopt the report was sustained. (Dennis Featherstone/Kris Marion)

Appointment of Audit Team

A motion to re-appoint the members of the Audit Team for another year was sustained. (Kris Marion/Ed Steenhorst) The members of the team who were present agreed to be on the team for another year: Kathy Newton, Brenda Featherstone and Stewart Elder. Kathy will check with Harry Van Dyk to see if he is willing to continue on the team.

Election of Treasurer

A motion to nominate Lorne Roach as Treasurer was put forward. (Dianne Nickerson/Ivan Hooper) Lorne indicated he would stand providing a plan for succession is developed. The congregation expressed agreement with the need for such a plan. The motion to appoint Lorne Roach as Treasurer was sustained. There was a round of applause for another year of Lorne's important and demanding volunteer work.

A motion that Session develop a plan of succession for the position of Treasurer, including the consideration of separating the “envelope” accounting and the basic Treasury work, was sustained (Dianne Nickerson/Dan Moffet)

Membership of Ministry Teams

Betty Paul’s name was added to the list of members of the Pastoral Care Team.

Michael Morris volunteered to join Worship Coordination Team.

Dan Moffet indicated that Duane Townsend was retiring from Finance and Maintenance after serving many years in a variety of capacities with the team. A round of applause was given to Duane.

A motion to affirm the amended list of membership was sustained. (Dan Moffet/John Fair)

Other New Business

A recommendation was made that the balances in the Lancaster Bequest Fund (\$24) and the Nekrassoff Fund (\$161) be transferred to the Reserve for Capital Expenditures. (Gord Walford/Kris Marion). It was proposed in amendment that “to the Reserve for Capital Expenditures” to read “to a new General Endowment Fund”. (Dennis Featherstone/Stewart Elder) The amendment fell. The original motion was sustained.

The idea of organizing a fund-raising team was suggested by Carolyn Herbert and Dennis Featherstone. Michael and Carrie Morris as well as Diane Walford volunteered to start the formation of this team. Some ideas for fund-raising were suggested, including a review of the approaches used at Trinity Kanata.

The secretary (clerk of session) indicated that it was agreed at the last annual meeting to have “an annual spring-time meeting of the congregation to discuss the spiritual direction of Parkwood Church”.

Both the clerk of session and the minister asked the congregation for input into shaping the theme and format of the meeting for 2017, indicating that session had not yet set the date for it.

The minister reported that the session had concluded that a key priority for the congregation for 2017 was to build and deepen interpersonal relationships. The development of the new photo directory was intended to aid this process, enabling people to greet one another by name. The organization and development of small groups is one way to address the goal of strengthening relationships, and elders were encouraged to foster such groups, involving others willing to host gatherings to share food, fellowship, conversation, study, and service together. The organization of the groups would not be restricted to elders’ districts, but be developed on the basis of shared interests wherever appropriate.

In the discussion, there was general agreement that one goal of the meeting should be how best to initiate and organize small groups. The preference for a “loosely structured” format for the meeting was also expressed by several people.

Other ideas for building relationships were expressed, including: to hold again newcomer dinners; to develop ways to encourage more people to stay for refreshments after the worship service; and to include small groups as activity groups around a shared interest or project.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was sustained. (Dianne Nickerson/Judy Reeves)

Closing Prayer

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer, including a memorial prayer for Jim Kritsch, Hie-Kwong Tan and Syvelyn Gayle.

The meeting closed at 8:35 p.m.

Dennis Featherstone

Secretary

Rev. James T. Hurd

Moderator