Niverville United Church

Council Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2024 in person at NUC

**Attendees:** Gloria Nichol, Judith Hinton, Lesley Reimer, Rev Simba Mazhara, Judy Limpright, Roxanne Anderson, Bill McVicar

**Regrets:**  Ellen Gaudry, Terri MacDonald

Chair:  Lesley Reimer

Recording Secretary: Roxanne Anderson stepping in for Terri MacDonald

**Called to Order & Recitation of Mission Statement:** Meeting called to order at 7pm by Chair Lesley Reimer and she recited the Mission Statement of Niverville United Church.

***The mission of the Niverville United Church is to worship God, care for each other, seek justice, and deepen our faith within our Christian church family.***

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**Minutes:**   The minutes of January 23, 2024, distributed by Terri MacDonald via email on Jan 27. The minutes were reviewed and there were no Errors/omissions.

**MOTION #3:** That the minutes of January 23, 2024 be accepted as distributed.

 \*moved by Roxanne \*seconded by Gloria

 \*Carried, Unanimous

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**Thank you notes:** none to be sent

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**Treasurer Report:** Gloria Nichol has already distributed the financial documents by email and she presented them with some explanation.

**MOTION 4:**The February2024 Financial report be accepted as read.

\* Moved by Gloria \* Seconded by Judy Limpright

\*Carried, Unanimous

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**Discussion on Finances and Stewardship included:**

-The GIC of $61575 will be renewed. This money was the Building Fund and was established many years ago.

-The Niverville Credit Union provides statements to Gloria for all the church’s accounts except for the Sunday School Fund. It is considered to be an asset by CRA and needs to be included in the financial reports. Gloria will investigate who the co-signers are and further recommend that this account be placed under the umbrella of NUC accounts. In Feb 2020 there was a deposit made as a General Journal Entry. This was the last QuickBooks entry.

-The issues regarding Insurance were sorted out by Myra Kehler

***Old Business:***

-Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper was hosted by the Pastoral Care Team and the profit of $195 will be put into the Fundraising account.

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**New Business:**

-The search for the Anniversary Quilt has been resolved by Judy after a conversation with Joan Rempel. Back in 2007 the quilt raffle was won by Lou Gaudry. She gifted it back to the church. Someone placed the quilt it in a storage cupboard in the church. This led to discussion on displaying it in the church. This in turn led to a discussion on re-opening the plans for a Memorial Tree on an inside wall of the church. At one time this was in discussion by an ad hoc Memorial team, but it was discouraged by the ministry personnel of that time. Council agreed that the Memorial Tree will be looked at again.

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**Reports:**

* Minister- no report
* Cemetery - no report
* Worship- live streaming has begun. So far no glitches and the first Sunday has seven people watching online.
* Property - Bill is organizing a feasibility study on access to the pulpit due to the risers making in inaccessible to many. We want the sanctuary to be safe and accessible to all. We want people to be feeling included and maintain their sense of independence and dignity. Manitoba Hydro came to the church recently to assess for gas leaks.
* Pastoral Care - see New Business and profit of $195 from Pancake Supper.
* M & P - no report
* Trustee - no report
* Finance - -stewardship campaign will consist of events for both fun and fund-raising. The intent is to create a greater visibility and presence of our church in the community. The first event planned is Trivia Night on Saturday March 24. The stewardship team is open to any suggestions from others.  It was also suggested that we look into a link on the website for online donations and e-transfers. The church website includes info on donations by both etransfer and PAR and link to church email but not a link for online donations through a third party.

**AGM:** The Annual General Meeting of the Niverville United Church will be held on Sunday March 17, 2024. The bulk of this meeting will be to review the Proposed Budget for 2024.

-To encourage folks to stay after church for the AGM and to keep the meeting as short as possible, coffee and treats will be served immediately following the service but folks will take their refreshments back to their seats. The fellowship visiting can take place after the service.

-Stacy will put together the 2023 annual report and it will be available for March 3.

-Gloria reviewed the proposed 2024 budget which had been distributed to council.

-The 2024 budget is not balanced and that will present an honest look at the financial situation of the church. Gloria predicted that if the current rate of income and expenses does not change we may have only five more viable years. Gloria encouraged us to be thinking outside the box. For example, if we spent money on a new building it would be used for community groups, funerals and other outreach events. It could increase revenue as well as be a ministry for the entire community. In lieu of payment as a thank you we could offer gift cards.

**The overview included:**

- Worship expenses include the music/musician expenses, pulpit expenses, VMix and tech including tech licensing.

-The admin expense included cleaning supplies, paper products.

-The financial reports in the 2023 Annual Report have been verified by Bill McVicar.

-The fundraising income was entered as nil which Gloria hoped would encourage support for fundraising events.

**Motion #5:** The proposed budget for 2024 be accepted as presented.

\*Moved by Gloria Nichol \*Seconded by Bill McVicar

\*Carried, Unanimous.

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\***Legacy Giving**

-Discussed the current legacy policy and proposed having someone give a presentation in Niverville on legacy giving so that we can better understand it. Council felt most congregants were not prepared to give to the national church and would prefer instead to give to NUC.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm by Lesley.**

**Next meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 by zoom**