

**Brunswick Street United Church
Regular Meeting of Church Council
Wednesday, May 21, 2003**



**Minutes
030521regBSUCC
page 03-05r-1**

as called by the Chair

Location: Brunswick Street United Church, 2107 Brunswick St., Halifax, Nova Scotia

Chair: Scott Barber

Recording Secretary: Sharon LaFramboise

Present: Scott Barber, Sharon Laframboise, Lorna & Gus Pendelton, Vegenci Ward, Beverly & Lindley Johnston, Elnora Roue, Dianne & Jeff Martin, Renee Duffy, Hazel Andrews, Don Royal, Susan Lefort, Lucinda Monti---, Shirley Carmichael, David Hartley, Hugh Creighton, Jim Sykes, Dineen Munteneau, Lisa Jarvis, Burt Loveless

Quorum:

Meeting began: 7 pm

Welcome and Prayers

Greeting, call to order and Prayers: Gus opened our meeting with a prayer. Let it be known that Gus spent the day with Noreen, Agnes & Marie Ford.

Church Finance: Hugh went over the budget and explained each item. For the Audit, Mr. Cecil Decker did the audit and he is willing to do them again this year. **God Bless his soul!**

Good News: Due to the news footage that was aired by Eastlink, some funds have started to come in. A gentleman from Sydney came by and offered his assistance to us.

Jim gave his view on the finances—he feels that we are saving money by not having a secretary and that the major renovation that was done last year (shower installment) is what was part of reason why we were in so much dept.

A comment was made by Gus. Lorna commented that community services will help her with the trustee program, the World Trade and Convention Centre will be hosting a fundraiser on our behalf, and Jim Lakhi will be donating his services to our office from Monday - Friday 9 am to 5 pm for as long as need be.

Presbytery: Scott thanked us for our help and special thanks went to Dianne and Jeff for all of their hard work and extra time they put in to ensure that the supper for Presbytery went well!

Scott introduced himself to Presbytery and acknowledge Lorna's bravery in opening up the "Back Door"—ex: a member of Presbytery went to HRDC without consent; due to this person's actions, HRDC retracted their grant to BSUC. Lorna explained in more detail. Lorna asked Carla of Presbytery not to make contact with HRDC however; Carla chose to do it anyway. Scott read the letter he had sent by e-mail to the Secretary of the Maritime Presbytery Catherine Gaw.

Gus referred to the United Church's Manual, that Presbytery can not close a church if we have a worshipping congregation. Presbytery was cutting their funds by \$5,000.00 per year-but Gus went along because he did not want the church to become too dependant on that money! He also mentioned that there is one church in Vancouver that does not have Presbytery overlooking their every move!

Reports/Updates: Renee who is on the Ministry & Personnel Committee reported that Wade received his vacation pay and they also tried very hard to deal with all the other issues that were at hand.

Lucinda who is on the camp committee is going ahead with fund-raising;

Brunswick Street United Church
Regular Meeting of Church Council
Wednesday, May 21, 2003



Minutes
030521regBSUCC
page 03-05r-2

Scott is also thinking up some possible fund-raiser to hold -1- would like to host a throw-a-thinned fundraiser for BSUC...another possibility would be to sell pottery bowls for \$12.00 that have been filled with rice. He would like to make and sell at least 365 of these bowls which represents the days in the year. He estimates a that over \$3000.00 would be made for BSUC. Scott has made connections with Nova Scotia Pottery Association.

Lorna is to get a brochure on the go for the camp fundraiser. Right now, the camp's funds are doing well. However, funds are needed to hire a councillor, life guard and a cook. The CIT program (Councillor In Training) program to commence when funds are available.

Bert went over the Camp Brunswick proposal, their goal, is for the camp to operate on a "Break Even" Basis and to be self sufficient----(see proposal)

Jim gave a brief history about what may have happened as to why the camp committee & council parted.
History 1) endowment to operating costs, cc given authority-need to bring discussion to church.

2) now committee is looking for a way to resolve these issues.
3) re: separate bank accounts. savings were overspent and therefore the church had to pay. Church can not be in that position!
4) so long as there are separated bank accounts for the church and the camp, each will then have to be accountable and responsible for their own affairs.

HOWEVER: 1) camp committee to be responsible and there should be improvements with regards to communication between the camp and the church!

2) connections with youth and basketball.

3) there should be improvement with their efficiency.

Jim asked if the camp has the \$25,000.00 Burt said that they should be able to raise it. Don mentioned that the mattress at the camp were donated.....Burt mentioned it again that **"there must be 2 separate bank accounts so that the camp and the church has an accurate account of what money is the camp's and what belongs to the church!"** Scott pointed out that the camp needs to have accurate statements of who paid for what and who owes for what. Hugh made a suggestion that Burt set up a general ledger; set it up and that this should also be reported in the church's books as well.

Gus mentioned that our history tends to be very one sided by Presbytery's views. It was Presbytery that set up the bank account for both the church and the camp.

Lindley suggested that the Holy Spirit has spoken to Burt and that we must pray to God; as he mentioned, God does perform miracles!

Beverly sees the many positive changes that has happened so far.

Lorna mentioned that about 1yr ago, BSUC had put a proposal so that a landscaper could come in and cut down the trees that posed a threat, were dying or were up rooted by heavy winds. She suggested that 10 from the drop-in centre would go out o the camp site to cut the trees. The grant was approved but then Lorna thought better of is saying that the liabilities were too great should someone get hurt who was not licenced to do this kind of work. Unfortunately, the trees in questions are still there and have not been dealt with as yet. Lorna spoke to a company who went out to see how they can remove these trees and make the property environmentally safer. This effort should also cut down on the bug problem. Scott would like to see the property healthy for the wildlife that lives there as well.

Lorna received a call from Lynn Ferguson saying thanks for not allowing some large company to come in and destroy the property by ripping up the forest and building a mall or some other kind of commercial property.

Scott suggested that we should have weekly meetings until June 10/03 when Presbytery will be voting on wether or not to keep our church open. With this time, we should be coming up with some strategies to present to

**Brunswick Street United Church
Regular Meeting of Church Council
Wednesday, May 21, 2003**



**Minutes
030521regBSUCC
page 03-05r-3**

Presbyter. He strongly suggested that we all learn to keep the lines of communication open and to communicate to Presbyter how very important it is for BSUC to remain open.

Beverly expressed how uplifting this new is and we all gave ourselves a round of applause.

Scott read the rest of the letter that he had sent to Catherine Gaw of Presbyter filling her in about a group calling themselves the Friends of Camp Brunswick is in no way working or speaking on our behalf. Our next meetings until June 10th should be on May 28 and June 4th, 2003 at 7 pm.

A vote was taken and was approved regarding these new meeting times. Another vote was put to us regarding the 2 bank accounts and was approved that we have 2 separate bank accounts for the camp and the church.

Hugh suggested that a journal entry be produced by the camp committee and another entry be made in the church's books as well. All purchases and disbursements must have receipts which must be kept for proof for the books. This account must be managed by the camp committee with multiple signatures. This too was approved by a vote by council.

Lorna told us that James Bartula came to BSUC and did some work on the computer. He would like to use the church to teach computer classes. He would teach 8 - 12 students; he would give the church a percentage of his revenue to our church. Further, he would do any work that needed to be done to our computers at the church (i.e...repairs & updates); what is now the youth room would be transferred into the computer room. **Bonus to us....the extra income & technological expertise!**

Beverly asked what line of work was this gentleman in? He is an entrepreneur who is just starting out in this line of work. The classes would be given in the evenings and on weekends. Hazel wanted to know who would secure the building while classes were on, and it is estimated that he would be charging \$40.00 per class. It was suggested that Gus and at least 2 other people attend this meeting to negotiate the contract with Mr. Bartula.

Scott moved that Lorna continue the discussions and to clarify any outstanding issues. Seconded by Vengency, Approved.

Lisa moved that we vote on the camp's repayment schedule for April 30, 2004. Seconded by Lucinda. Approved.

Jim received a letter of appreciation from Ms. Catherine Mercer; he would like to tell her that the letter was read to Presbyter. Scott read that letter to council.

Information/Announcements

Adjourned:

Prayers

Appendix

Signed: _____(Secretary) _____(Chair)