

**WOLFVILLE AREA INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday 12 December 2007**

**7:30 pm**

**Manning Memorial Chapel**

1. Meeting called to order by President, Neil Cloghesy. Agenda circulated

Present: Neil Cloghesy, Liz Vermeulen, Penni Burrell, Nancy Burbidge, Gene Trites, Allison Trites, Keith Churchill, Diana Shelley, (8)

Absent with regrets: Maurice Tugwell, Helen Whidden

2. DEVOTIONS

Penni Burrell – spoke of the Quaker tradition of observing Christmas. Emphasis is on simplicity and integrity. In terms of the birth of Christ, they were aware from the beginning that the 25<sup>th</sup> of December was inaccurate and based on pagan influences. Everyday life reflects an awareness of a relationship to Christ which is personal and individual.. The emphasis on purity leads to simple dress and simple lifestyle. This has kept Quakers out of the mainstream of celebrating Christmas in a secular manner. Penni suggested a few minutes of silence to reflect ways in which we can celebrate Christmas in ways that honour Christ.

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of 14 November 2007 had been circulated. Moved AT/PB Minutes be accepted as circulated. Motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE:/COMMUNICATIONS

Letters of thanks for contributions to food programmes received from Port Williams and Gaspereau Elementary Schools

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Liz Vermeulen (Acting Treasurer) reported balance-on-hand 12 December 2007 \$27,595.13.

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report moved LV/AT. Motion carried

She reported that to date almost \$18,000 had been received in response to the Christmas letter.

She said that it might be necessary to review best way to make money available in the event that the balance in Current account runs low, bearing in mind that Revenue Canada does not permit money to be retained for a "rainy day"

There has been good response to letters sent to member congregations re annual dues: \$1050 received to date and only three member churches have still to send in their cheques

6. BUSINESS ARISING

Discussion re emergency accommodation – meeting of the committee suggested for January to establish guidelines

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Clergy Committee – No report
- (b) Food Bank Management Committee – Nancy reported Food Bank going very well. Excellent support within the community, for example to date Wolfville Market has raised over \$900 and will be collecting food items on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 29<sup>th</sup>. Hamper programme is in full production, over 100 hampers expected to be prepared. Distribution will take place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Programme Committee – A committee was struck consisting of Keith Churchill (chair), Neil Cloghesy, Diana Shelley and Gene Trites. Keith will call a meeting early in the New Year. Allison Trites mentioned that the Rev'd Wayne MacArthur District Secretary of CBS will be retiring at the end of April. He does excellent seminars on a "Walk through the bible"

## 9. NEWS OF MEMBERS

- (a) Greenwich United – Young people's variety show to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> December
- (b) St. Andrew's - *Longest Night of the Year* service planned for 21<sup>st</sup> December. On Christmas Eve there will be a service at the Covenanters Church with Michael Bawtree and Stephen McClare taking part
- (c) Friends – Christmas Pot-Luck supper on 16 December with "Re-gifting" as a fund raiser
- (d) Wolfville Baptist – Seniors' Tea on 15<sup>th</sup> December; Christmas visitation by Deacons to take baskets to shut-ins
- (e) Port Williams Baptist – usual Christmas services including a Christmas intergenerational service. The congregation will be participating in the "In from the Cold" programme from January to March – an outreach programme for homeless people
- (f) St. John's Wolfville is planning a series of weekly programmes entitle "Whither Religion". to take place on successive Tuesday evening commencing on 8<sup>th</sup> January in the Fountain Commons at Acadia. More information will be circulated to all member churches
- (g) St. John's, Cornwallis – usual Christmas services
- (h) St. Francis RC – Introduction to St. Matthew's gospel held on 12<sup>th</sup> December. Reconciliation Service to take place at St. Francis of Assisi on 17<sup>th</sup> December for the whole of King's county

## 11. NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 9 January 20 2008 at 7:30 pm.

Diana moved adjournment of meeting

Penni closed with prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Trites  
Diana Shelley

Secretaries