

WOLFVILLE AREA INTERCHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of Executive Meeting
Manning Chapel 10 March 2004

1. President Roger Prentice called the meeting to order at 7.35 PM, after noting that the secretary had finally arrived.

Members present: Nancy Burbidge, Margaret Burton, Roger Cann, Neil Cloghesy, Bruce Dienes, Rodger Forsman (acting secretary), Sean Lombard, John Mercer, R. Prentice, Diana Shelley, Maurice Tugwell, Helen Whidden.

Regrets: Cathy Lee Cunningham, Barry Morrison, Ralph Winter.

2. Helen Whidden led a meditation on the theme "Service is an expression of the search for God, with reference to Henri Nouwen.
3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as circulated.
4. Correspondence: from R. Cann, deferred to New Business.
5. Business arising

(a) Diana Shelley: plans for the Spring general meeting are well advanced. Bishop Champagne will speak on ecumenism in relation to the world's religions. The meeting will be held on 28 April in the auditorium of the K. C. Irving Centre.

(b) Diana Shelley: about 60 attended the World Day of Prayer. A program prepared by the women of Panama was used. Gene Trites was the speaker.

6. Treasurer: M. Tugwell

Moved that the treasurer's report be accepted as circulated. [M. Tugwell/ D. Shelley]. Carried

7. Committee reports

(a) AEC: Bruce Dienes

Preparations continue for the 2004 conference on Ecumenism in the Post-Modern Age.

(b) Clergy: a meeting is to be held next week

(c) Interchurch Housing: no report

(d) Ministries Committee: R. Cann

(i) R. Cann and M. Burton have met with the Wolfville Town Council as further follow-up to the September consultation, to discuss help for the needy.

(ii) Suicide prevention: a meeting at Greenwood to determine how to set up a suicide hot line. There is some low-key consciousness-raising on the Acadia campus about the issue.

(e) Meals on Wheels: no report

(f) EKM Health Centre; no report

(g) Nominating Committee: Roger Cann: will report at the annual general meeting

(h) Website Committee

(i) Good pictures of supporting churches have been posted.

(ii) churches have to be more active in updating their respective parts of the WAICC calendar, especially information about public events.

8. Church reports

(a) St Francis:

---Lent observances are beginning

---There was a good workshop on being a two-church parish.

---A planning exercise in "looking back/looking forward" is proceeding.

---The development theme for this year is "water".

(b) St John's (Helen Whidden)

--- The Shrove Tuesday pancake supper went well.

---a Youth service has been held

---There is a Bible study

---The Spiritual Development committee is doing a series on "Transformation and Renewal"

---The Parish Council is focusing on assessment of future needs.

(c) St Andrew's (Nancy Burbidge)

--- The variety night went well.

--- The young people are preparing a Good Friday evening event.

--- The Wolfville Pastoral Charge Ash Wednesday service will be at Greenwich

(d) Wolfville Baptist Church (R. Cann)

--- A search committee has been struck to examine the need for addition to the pastoral staff.

--- M. Tugwell expressed thanks to the church for its hospitality to the pickets during the recent faculty strike at Acadia University.

(e) Society of Friends: (Bruce Dienes)

--- Every second Sunday there is an open question period for new people.

(f) Port Williams: no report

(g) Manning Chapel (R. Prentice)

- Services continued during the strike. The Chapel was declared common ground, which permitted striking faculty access to services.
- March 30, 31, April 1, 2: performances of the Passion Play. There is a cast of 35, and rehearsals are in progress.
- The Chapel Choir will hold a recital in the Chapel on 24 March, 8:00 PM.

9. New business

(a) The Spring business meeting will be on 12 May, at Port Williams Baptist Church

(b) The Fall program

There was general discussion of possible topics.

Moved [R. Cann/J. Mercer] that the WAICC sponsor a program including a hymn sing, and involving the choirs of member bodies, to be held in early November.

Carried.

(c) Caregivers of Wolfville: communication from Roger Cann

2004.03.10

To: The Wolfville Area InterChurch Council

From: Caregivers Group, Wolfville Baptist Church

We request an endorsement from the WAICC for the following project proposal. We will apply to the EKM Health Foundation for a grant of \$12,000.00 to employ a part time worker for two days a week for twelve months. Without the grant, the program would be greatly reduced in scope and limited to 60 family units in our congregation.

Roger Cann, Jennifer Longley, Heather Taylor, Howard Taylor

TIME FOR CAREGIVERS

A ministry of the Wolfville United Baptist Church to those providing regular assistance to another individual in need of care, as part of a team of formal and informal caregivers.

This will be a pilot project for a single congregation. Our primary focus is on the informal caregiver who in a volunteer capacity provides care for a family member.

It is our understanding that unpaid caregivers themselves are at risk while caregiving for another, and require understanding, encouragement and companionship.

Objectives over the next twelve months:

1. In the first instance to identify informal caregivers in the community, and carry out an interview with them to discover and document their needs. The scope of the interview would be holistic, and the needs recorded would include those physical, emotional and spiritual.
2. To partner the VON, the EKM Community Health Centre, the Mental Health department of the Annapolis Valley Health Authority, and the Family Caregivers Association of Nova Scotia, in providing resources to caregivers in our congregation.
3. To propose to our partners specific service programmes and personnel support for informal caregivers in our midst.

Discussion:

The intent is to be ecumenical and community-based in this venture. The committee needs to act immediately in order to apply for funding from the Eastern Kings Health Foundation. The basic aim is to provide spiritual direction to those receiving care. This requires caring for the caregiver (as distinct from care providers), who is usually an unpaid family member.

What is desired from the WAICC is endorsement. The WAICC is not assuming responsibility for the program. Endorsement means that the WAICC believes that the program is a worthy venture because of the large need for it in the community.

Moved [N. Burbidge/J. Mercer] that the WAICC endorse the program.

Carried

- (d) M. Tugwell reported that there is no government support for operating funding for the hospice.

10. Date of next meeting: 14 April, at Manning Memorial Chapel

11. The meeting adjourned at 8:56.

12. Helen offered a prayer and benediction

VOLUNTEERS FOR OPENING MEDITATION:

2004

14 April: Nancy Burbidge

12 May: (annual general meeting: Roger Prentice)

9 June: Rodger Forsman