

WOLFVILLE AREA INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday 13 December 2006

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

Present: Roger Prentice, Gary Dunfield, Neil Cloghesy, Penni Burrell, Keith Churchill, Ann Watson, Liz Vermeulen, Gene Trites, Diana Shelley

Absent with regrets: Kurt Bowen, Allison Trites, Nancy Burbidge, Helen Whidden, Maurice Tugwell

2. DEVOTIONS

Led by Roger Prentice - reflections on the two messages of Advent – the First and Second Coming of Christ – a mysterious concept which is the basis of our hope in the covenant we have with God. He read the story of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26 ff). The deep mystery of the Incarnation was accepted by Mary and Elizabeth and has been accepted by billions of people since. He read a hymn about Advent from the new Scottish Hymnal, written by John Bell. He said we tend to ignore the ugliness of both the realism of the birth (as opposed to the sentimental version) and the fact that Jesus' birth was the first day on the road to Golgotha. Advent should start us thinking, cause us to examine our own faith and life and unite us as we journey together towards the Cross. Roger concluded by reading a moving poem entitled Innocent Song written by Charles Crossly.

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of 8 November 2006 were accepted as circulated

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

(a) From Claudia Tugwell on behalf of Pastoral Care Committee of St. Andrew's. The committee, identifying a great need, hope to hold a day and a half of workshops, possibly during March Break for teens, preteens and parents to discuss the topic of drug awareness. Claudia is looking for people who might be interested in serving on a steering committee in the planning of the workshop. Roger Prentice suggested that WAICC might offer a nominal sum in support of the project. Neil will forward an email to all members and suggested that comments and ideas could then be forwarded direct to Claudia.

(b) An application from Glen Donnellan for membership of New Life Ministries in WAICC. Motion to recommend to Annual Meeting acceptance of this application DS/PB. Motion carried. Meanwhile representatives of NLM are welcome to attend and to speak at the WAICC meetings.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of current Financial Statement circulated and one or two items highlighted and explained. Acceptance moved by Gary Dunfield, seconded by Ann Watson and carried. (Copy of financial report attached with minutes)

Several local businesses/organizations, such as The Royal Bank and WACCY, have made monetary contributions to WAICC earmarked for the Food Bank.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- (a) Letter accompanying the donation from WACCY indicated that they planned to donate the proceeds from their Christmas performance to WAICC next year.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Clergy Committee – Roger Prentice reported that at the last meeting in November the Week of Prayer, Good Friday services, etc. had been discussed. He reiterated what a sense of strength members of this committee were to each other – meetings were always an occasion for fellowship and mutual support. The Christmas Luncheon is to be held on 14th December hosted at the Chapel.
- (b) Food Bank Management Committee – Vicky Brown of FNS attended the meeting of the committee on 17th November following the official acceptance of the Wolfville group by Feed Nova Scotia. She was reportedly very pleased with the set-up at the Baptist Church. It is the plan that the food bank in Wolfville will go into operation on 1 February 2007. Currently, work is in hand to make the necessary changes to the electrical system at the Baptist church, install a handrail, etc. Training of the volunteers will soon be under way. Next meeting of the committee 14 December 2006.

It was noted “Motion E” passed at the special General Meeting (re Food Bank) held on 25th October, stated that “The Committee shall elect two co-chairs who shall act jointly” and that since the Food Bank Management Committee (FBM) was not currently functioning under this structure, the matter needed to be addressed. The question generated considerable discussion. It is the preference of the current FBM committee to function with a chair and a vice-chair as it has been doing and it was noted that Vicky Brown had informed the committee that Feed Nova Scotia prefer the chair/vice chair model. Gary Dunfield clarified the historical position and noted that it is the committee that does the work and the chair only guides the way. There was concern expressed that stability be maintained at all times in such an important committee and that perhaps this might be better achieved with co-chairs rather than chair and vice-chair where the latter might assume a passive role. However, it was the view of FBM committee members present that the committee functions very well under the current system and that co-chairs might be a more cumbersome way of operating: No one on the committee, it was felt is in a “passive role” and all enjoyed a very “seamless” relationship with one another.

At the November WAICC meeting (see Minutes 7 (b)), Penni Burrell and Nancy Burbidge were requested to meet to discuss the matter of committee leadership. Penni reported that she and Nancy had indeed met and that while they were aware that there was a legitimate concern regarding the stability of a “chair and vice-chair” arrangement, they had agreed that the current model was working very well and at this point was preferable to a co-chair arrangement. It is fully understood by all concerned that the vice-chair must be well informed, active and able to take over should the need arise.

It was moved by Keith Churchill/Penni Burrell that the FBM Committee be asked to bring a recommendation to the WAICC meeting in March defining the management structure of the committee. Motion carried.

8 NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Training of volunteers for Food Bank – Penni reported on the *Poverty Game* – a game modeled on *Monopoly* which attempts to create awareness and sensitivity and help volunteers have the right attitude towards clients. It can be obtained for the cost of shipping. Penni Burrell and Nancy Burbidge are already trained in its use as a teaching tool. It was agreed that the game be ordered, the shipping costs paid and an honorarium of \$100 given to the suppliers. It will be used when the training of volunteers begins early in the New Year. There was some further discussion regarding payment of ongoing food bank expenses. It was felt at this time that the matter was covered under “Motion C” of the Special Meeting (25 October) but that the FBM committee should prepare a budget for the next fiscal year.
- (b) Terry Waite DVD – will not be available until the New Year
- (c) In compliance with “Motion E” of the Special Meeting (25 October 2006), it was moved by Liz Vermulen/Gary Dunfield that Maggie Kennie (representing St. Vincent De Paul Society) and Marilyn VanBuskirk (representing WBC) be added to the FBM Committee. Motion carried
- (d) Devotions for 2007 as follows: January – Neil Cloghesy; February – Helen Whidden; March – Penni Burrell; April – Nancy Burbidge; May – Keith Churchill; June – Ann Watson

9. NEWS OF MEMBERS

- (a) St. John’s Wolfville – Usual Christmas events coming up including a pageant and a service for the Longest Night of the Year. It was announced that Ann Watson has completed her period of discernment to become a deacon in the Anglican Church and that her ordination will take place in the New Year. Congratulation extended to Ann by WAICC
- (b) Wolfville Baptist – have their pageant coming up, a Christmas Cantata has been performed and they will have their “Seniors Tea” on 16th December
- (c) Port Williams Baptist – Advent service held, and they are also participating in various community seasonal events
- (d) Friends – Annual Christmas Pot Luck and Children’s Christmas programme
- (e) St. Andrew’s and Greenwich Pastoral Charge – Longest Night of the Year service being held in Greenwich and also, once a month in Greenwich they have a special visit by various musicians from Horton High School
- (f) Chapel – Roger announced that he is retiring as Chaplain of Acadia University at the end of the academic year. The Advent service had taken place and was well attended despite the unfortunate conflict with Performing Arts series ballet performance.
- (g) St. Francis – usual Christmas events planned although masses will be somewhat diminished in number this year due to the heavy parochial duties of Fr. Larry Pitcher

There being no further business, Penni moved adjournment.

Roger closed with the Benediction

Next regular meeting of WAICC will be on Wednesday, 10 January, 2007 at 7:30 pm in Manning Memorial Chapel.

Gene Trites
Diana Shelley

Secretaries